

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in Regular Session at the Hackettstown Municipal Building, 215 Stiger Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey on March 27, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Sarnoski and upon roll call, the following members were present: Freeholder Jason Sarnoski, Freeholder Edward Smith and Freeholder Richard Gardner. Also attending were County Engineer William Gleba, County Counsel Joseph J. Bell and County Administrator Steve Marvin. CFO Charles Houck was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Sarnoski.

Director Sarnoski read the following statement: **“ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2013 WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT BY FORWARDING A SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY CLERK, THE STAR-LEDGER, AND DAILY RECORD AND BY POSTING A COPY THEREOF ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS. FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AT THIS MEETING. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED. IN ORDER TO ASSURE FULL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, THOSE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE MEETING SHOULD SUBMIT ANY REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE.”**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the Minutes of the Regular Session held on March 13, 2013 were approved.

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Minutes of the Executive Session held on March 13, 2013 were approved.

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**PROCLAMATION 167-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following proclamation was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH “HELP FOR TODAY, HOPE FOR TOMORROW”, APRIL 2013**

**WHEREAS**, alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States; 17.6 million people, or one in every twelve adults, suffers from alcohol abuse or dependence; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol is a major contributing factor in the death of persons ages 10-24 in: motor vehicle crashes, unintentional injuries, homicide and suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 10% of the population is in need of alcohol and substance abuse treatment in Warren County; and

**WHEREAS**, health and social problems arising from alcohol and substance abuse can be

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prevented through education and adoption of healthy attitudes and lifestyles; and

**WHEREAS**, responsibility rests with both public and private sectors for assuring reductions of alcohol and substance abuse related problems and for providing access to treatment for all individuals and family members affected by alcohol and substance abuse.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren does hereby proclaim the month of April as **ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH** and calls upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in Warren County to support efforts to end underage drinking, increase awareness of alcohol use disorders and the success of prevention and treatment. Through these efforts together, we can provide "Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow" for those in our community who are facing challenges with alcohol use and abuse.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a proclamation adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

Mr. Gardner said the Board endorses Alcohol Awareness Month on an annual basis which is necessary when you consider the statistics. Probably most of us know someone that needs help dealing with addiction. It's a societal problem that can cause great upheaval in families. Anything we can do to promote awareness is well worth it. The Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (LACADA) does outstanding work, said Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Smith said obviously, this is a huge problem; however, there are solutions and many people have turned their lives around.

Mr. Sarnoski noted with concern the effect on young people who become involved with alcohol and drugs before the age of 21. He urged everyone to be aware of any warning signs among friends and family.

Colleen Baylor of LACADA accepted the proclamation on behalf of the committee under the auspices of the Department of Human Services, Division of Administration. She thanked the Freeholders for their continued support.

Mr. Sarnoski took a few moments to welcome everyone to the Board of Chosen Freeholders' first travelling meeting in 12 years. He intended to hold one meeting each quarter in various locations throughout the county to reach out to more constituents. Perhaps having meetings in locations more convenient for people, they will take advantage of the opportunity to come out and see how these meetings are conducted. Mr. Sarnoski acknowledged that many attendees had probably come out to comment on the agenda items relating to Warren Haven. He welcomed public comments, but requested each person try to limit their comments to three minutes.

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**Public Comments (Agenda Items Only)

Joseph Steele of Mount Bethel, Pennsylvania said he has worked for the County for almost 20 years and highly respected his job and the community he serves. He said Warren Haven has been caring for the elderly and indigent for close to 200 years. For many of those years, Mr. Steele said that care was provided without the help of tax dollars and actually generated revenue that supported many programs. Now that Warren Haven is in need of help, who is helping? Why should dedicated employees have to lose their jobs due to the trickle-down effect of federal and state budget cuts to Medicare and Medicaid? "Warren Haven never stopped giving to others within Warren County throughout the years in times when they needed financial assistance," said Mr. Steele. "Why are the Freeholders giving up on the employees of Warren Haven when now financial times are tough?"

He suggested the Board take a closer look at how the facility is managed at the top and investigate the many grievances voiced by the public and employees about what is wrong. He urged the Freeholders to consider the heritage of Warren Haven employees who have served their community. Mr. Steele concluded his statement by saying, "Please keep this community heritage strong for the next 200 years by not privatizing service departments at Warren Haven Nursing Home."

**RESOLUTION 168-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS**

**Be and it is hereby resolved** that Master Voucher Certificate **For Certification / Ratification for Payments No. 2013-11 and 2013-12, dated March 27, 2013,** in the amount of **\$2,844,684.77** including payrolls, allowances, bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

2013-11	3/20/13	\$656,146.19	
2013-12	3/27/13	694,108.42	
TOTAL		<hr/>	\$1,350,254.61
Payroll	3/21/13	\$1,493,830.16	
Subsistence	3/21/13	600.00	
TOTAL		<hr/>	<u>1,494,430.16</u>
GRAND TOTAL			<u><u>\$2,844,684.77</u></u>

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I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 169-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION TO THE VICTIM & WITNESS ADVOCACY SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM BETWEEN THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,625.00 FEDERAL SHARE FOR A TOTAL OF \$9,625.00 FOR THE PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 1, 2012 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2013**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the Director of the Board is authorized to execute an application for the Victim & Witness Advocacy Fund Supplemental Grant Program between the NJ Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law And Public Safety and the Warren County Prosecutor's Office in the amount of \$9,625.00 Federal Share for a total of \$9,625.00 for the period of November 1, 2012 through October 31, 2013.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 170-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN THE VICTIM & WITNESS ADVOCACY FUND SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Prosecutor's Office wishes to apply for funding for a project under the Victim & Witness Advocacy Fund Supplemental Grant Program and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders has reviewed the accompanying application and has approved said request, and

**WHEREAS**, the project is a joint effort between the Department of Law and Public Safety and the Warren County Prosecutor's Office for the purpose described in the application;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders that

- 1) As a matter of public policy the Warren County Prosecutor's Office wishes to participate to the fullest extent possible with the Department of Law and Public Safety.
- 2) The Attorney General will receive funds on behalf of the applicant.

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3) The Division of Criminal Justice shall be responsible for the receipt and review of the applications for said funds.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 171-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION GRANTING APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A DEVELOPMENT EASEMENT ON THE MCCONNELL FARM, BLOCK 25, LOTS 10 & 11 IN OXFORD TOWNSHIP CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 56 ACRES**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren has determined that the property known as the McConnell Farm, owned by Edward and Patricia McConnell, located on Block 25 Lots 10 & 11 in Oxford Township, consisting of approximately 56 acres has available for purchase a development easement in accordance with the requirements of the farmland preservation programs; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9A(b) on July 12, 2012 it was determined by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) that the application for the sale of a development easement was complete and accurate and satisfied the criteria contained in N.J.A.C. 2:76-17A.9(a); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17A.11, on January 24, 2013 the State Agricultural Development Committee has certified a development easement value of \$6,200 per acre based on zoning and environmental regulations in place as of 1/1/04 and \$6,200 per acre based on zoning and environmental regulations in place as of the current valuation date of October 5, 2012 with an estimated total value of \$347,200; and

**WHEREAS**, the property is part of the approved Warren County Planning Incentive Grant application and is funded by the Warren County Open Space, Farmland, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, final approval for the purchase of development rights on this farm has been granted by the Warren County Agriculture Development Board at its March 21, 2013 meeting and preliminary approval of the purchase by the SADC is dependent upon that approval and the approval of this Board; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 20, 2013 the Oxford Township Committee approved by resolution the owner's application for sale of the development easement, but is not participating financially in the easement purchase; and

**WHEREAS**, the SADC is expected to grant final approval for funding amount on said application at its April 26, 2013 meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the tract would encourage the survivability of production agriculture in Oxford Township, and said tract falls within a predetermined County Agricultural Development Area and is in the West Project Area and is located in the Highlands Planning Area; and

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**WHEREAS**, the property is part of the approved Warren County Planning Incentive Grant application and is funded by the Warren County Open Space, Farmland, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost share break down is as follows:

Cost-Share Breakdown at CMV of \$6,200/acre (56 acres):

SADC	\$4,000/acre	\$224,000	(64.52%)
WC	\$2,200/acre	\$123,200	(35.48%)
Total:		\$347,200	

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17A.15 the County shall hold the development easement since the County is providing funding for the preservation of the farm.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren as follows:

1. The Board hereby grants permission for the purchase of the development easement on the above described property based on an easement value of \$6,200 per acre as certified by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC). Cost to be shared with the SADC as follows: SADC \$3,400, Warren County \$2,200.
2. This approval includes the following conditions
  - a) One existing single family dwelling with detached garage on premises
  - b) No existing agriculture labor housing on premises
  - c) One barn, one Morton building, one garage, one milk house and one shed on existing premises
  - d) No exception areas
  - e) No Residual Dwelling Site Opportunities (RDSO's)
  - f) No preexisting non-agricultural uses on premises
  - g) No preexisting access easements or proposed trails
  - h) SADC funding from Base grant, competitive round or both
  - i) Warren County is requesting SADC funding for a 3% buffer on the final surveyed acreage
3. The County's share in regard to the purchase of said easement is estimated at \$123,200. The Freeholder Director or Administrator of Warren County is authorized to sign the Assignment of Deed of Easement, the Cost Share Agreement, and any and all documents necessary for the acquisition of the development easement on the above property in the Township of Oxford, County of Warren, State of New Jersey under the terms outlined above.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that adequate funds in the amount of \$123,200 in account #03895-5067-8951303-5067 have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013****RESOLUTION 172-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CLOSING OF COUNTY ROUTE #601 (HIGH STREET) AND COUNTY ROUTE #521 (STILLWATER ROAD), BLAIRSTOWN AND HARDWICK TOWNSHIP ON SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2013 FOR A PAWS TO PAVEMENT RUN/WALK FOR THE BLAIRSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHERS GROUP**

**WHEREAS**, the Blairstown Elementary School Parent Teacher Group has requested permission to close County Route #601, (High Street), from Cross Street to County Route #521, and County Route #521 (Stillwater Road) from the Blairstown/Hardwick Line to East Crisman Road, in Blairstown Township and Hardwick Township, on June 01<sup>st</sup> from approximately 9:00 A.M. to approximately 11:30 A.M. to host a Paws to Pavement Run/Walk for the Blairstown Elementary School.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren does hereby approve the closing of County Route #601, (High Street), and County Route #521 (Stillwater Road) from the Blairstown/Hardwick Line to East Crisman Road, in Blairstown and Hardwick Township from approximately 9:00 A.M. to approximately 11:30 A.M. on Saturday, June 01, 2013, with the following conditions:

1. Approval of the event by Blairstown Township and Hardwick Township.
2. All barricades, detours, and traffic control signs shall conform to the Manual on Uniform Control Devices.
3. Police supervision of the barricading of the roads and handling of safety shall be provided.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 173-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING S2364/A3553 AND REQUESTING THAT GOVERNOR CHRISTIE VETO THE PROPOSED EARLY VOTING LAW**

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill S2364 and Assembly Bill A3553 propose to create a system of early voting in the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, while the goal of accommodating voters in pursuit of greater participation in the democratic process is a worthy goal, these bills would in reality increase workloads, add more costs to the election process and ultimately serve to confuse voters;

**WHEREAS**, these bills would require for each Primary and General Election in Warren County, three facilities except public schools to be open and available to registered voters starting 15 days before an election for early polling, possibly conflicting with if not pushing out other important uses for these buildings and causing inconvenience to residents; and

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**WHEREAS**, these bills will require retraining of poll workers and dramatically increased hours as well as chain of custody requirements to protect the voting process, despite the fact that recruiting and training poll workers is already a difficult process; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills will increase costs to Warren County including costs for poll workers, overtime pay for various County employees and other unforeseen costs which will be incurred in implementing this unnecessary initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, although these bills allow counties to request reimbursement for extra costs and provide an appropriation, the appropriation does not outline a specific amount or dedicated funding, only that which the State Treasurer and the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting deem necessary and they do not outline the procedure for a County to appeal those reimbursement requests which may be denied; and

**WHEREAS**, the opportunity for "Early Voting" already exists in the State of New Jersey through the Vote by Mail ballot process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders does hereby oppose S2364 and A3553 and requests that Governor Chris Christie veto same should they be forwarded to the Governor for consideration.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

Regarding the resolution opposing the proposed Early Voting Law (Agenda Item E5), Mr. Gardner expressed his disappointment in the editorial board of The Express-Times for endorsing the measure. He thought the Legislature's reaction to an abnormal storm and abnormal circumstances was unconscionable. "It's utterly ridiculous the kind of money they continue to waste in Trenton. It's absurdity," Mr. Gardner said, adding that he hoped the governor would veto it.

Mr. Smith agreed, noting the two percent CAP imposed by Trenton. This is another example of an increase in expenses to the County as there would be a significant cost associated with compliance. An additional 15 days of payroll costs would be incurred.

Mr. Sarnoski said we're making hard decisions to try to cut costs and the Legislature passes laws that increase costs to the County. Extended voting is not necessary. People are able to vote early by mail and at the County Clerk's Office. No one is being prevented from exercising their right to vote.

"This is not a partisan issue; it's a basic common sense issue," Mr. Gardner said.

**RESOLUTION 174-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

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**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT WC1295C FOR DIETARY SERVICES AT WARREN HAVEN FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014 WITH THE RIGHT TO EXTEND FOR TWO ADDITIONAL ONE YEAR PERIODS AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW 40A:11-15(10) TO HEALTHCARE SERVICES GROUP, INC. IN THE CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$1,515,586.00**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Warren County Contract WC1295C for dietary services for Warren Haven is hereby awarded to . . . Healthcare Services Group, Inc., Bensalem, Pennsylvania In the amount of . . . \$1,515,586.00 as per their proposal submitted . . . February 20, 2013 and reviewed and recommended by the Director of Purchasing as the lowest responsible and responsive bid received.

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account 013501/5029 – Warren Haven Contracted Services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders be authorized and directed to execute the necessary contract.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 175-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT WC1296C FOR HOUSEKEEPING AND LAUNDRY SERVICES AT WARREN HAVEN FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014 WITH THE RIGHT TO EXTEND FOR TWO ADDITIONAL ONE YEAR PERIODS AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW 40A:11-15(32) TO HEALTHCARE SERVICES GROUP, INC. IN THE CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$845,000.00**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Warren County Contract WC1296C for housekeeping and laundry services for Warren Haven is hereby awarded to . . . Healthcare Services Group, Inc., Bensalem, Pennsylvania In the amount of . . . \$845,000.00 as per their proposal submitted . . . February 20, 2013 and reviewed and recommended by the Director of Purchasing as the lowest responsible and responsive bid received.

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account 013501/5029 – Warren Haven Contracted Services

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders be authorized and directed to execute the necessary contract.

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I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

Mr. Smith said this is the hardest thing he has had to deal with in public service. The budget process has been very challenging. Federal and State mandates keep being imposed, yet they take away revenues we're supposed to be doing our job with. Further, there are restrictions on how much the County can adjust its tax levy. The losses at Warren Haven alone put us in a situation that would have made balancing the budget all but impossible were it not for being able to utilize funds in a medical reserve account from a prior insurance scenario. There have been indications that there will be reductions in Peer Grouping in the future. Mr. Smith said it was with the greatest reluctance that he was taking this action, but this is a very difficult issue and he didn't see how else the Board would be able to balance its budget.

Mr. Gardner said while he has enjoyed many challenges faced during his Freeholder career, this is one challenge he despised. He wrestled with this dilemma in a number of ways. He worked with the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) in an effort to gather all county-run nursing homes under one umbrella to try and garner some buying power. "But that's a small Band-Aid for a major problem," Mr. Gardner said.

He appreciated Mr. Steele's comments; he found it gut-wrenching that the County could not continue to take care of its own in the same manner it had for so many years, but the whole paradigm has shifted and we can't continue to operate in a deficit or else we'll lose the whole facility. "That's the bottom line. That's the decision that we're faced with," said Mr. Gardner. If we want to maintain the facility, there are certain things we're going to have to do. He expressed appreciation for every employee there and he hoped most of them would stay.

Mr. Sarnoski concurred with his fellow Freeholders. This is not an easy decision and is not being taken lightly. A lot of deliberation has taken place, both in the public venue and in our own hearts. Warren Haven was established to care for residents who couldn't care for themselves. We need to find ways to cut costs so this mission can be continued and capital improvements can be implemented. This change is conservatively projected to save about \$1.4 million over the next 18-24 months which is significant.

The organization being awarded the contracts is highly regarded. It is already operating in at least 5 of the 11 government run nursing homes left in New Jersey. Mr. Sarnoski emphasized the significance of there being only 11 nursing homes out of more than 350 statewide still being publicly owned and operated. That is due to the costs being unmaintainable. Privatization of these divisions has already taken place at the others still being publicly operated. He felt optimistic that the quality of these services would be maintained and perhaps, even improve in some areas due to new equipment and techniques. He promised to keep his eye on it.

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While it is to be expected that some jobs may be lost, Mr. Sarnoski was hopeful that the new group would hire from within the pool of established employees based on background checks and employee records. If we don't make changes now, in a couple of years, that facility won't be there and then those losing out would be the residents of Warren County and the residents of Warren Haven. That's not what we want to see, Mr. Sarnoski said.

**RESOLUTION 176-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT WC1314 FOR COLLECTION SERVICES FOR RECOVERING MEDICAL COSTS OF FORMER WARREN COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER INMATES FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2014 WITH THE RIGHT TO EXTEND FOR ONE ADDITIONAL ONE YEAR PERIOD AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW 40A:11-15, TO LJ ROSS ASSOCIATES, INC. WITH A COMMISSION RATE OF 27%**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Warren County Contract WC1314 for collection services for recovering medical costs of former inmates of the Warren County Correctional Center is hereby awarded

to . . . L J Ross Associates, Inc., Jackson, Michigan

In the amount of . . . contractor to receive 27% commission of collected fees

as per their proposal submitted . . . March 19, 2013

and reviewed and recommended by the Director of Purchasing as the lowest commission responsible and responsive bid received.

No County Funds are required for this contract.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders be authorized and directed to execute the necessary contract.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 177-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT WC1319FO FOR ELECTION BALLOT PRINTING FOR THE WARREN COUNTY CLERK TO RELIANCE GRAPHICS FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2013 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2014 AT THE RATE OF \$.24 PER SIDE PER BALLOT AND \$.24 PER SIDE PER SAMPLE BALLOT FOR AN ESTIMATED TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that contract WC1319FO for Election Ballot Printing for the Warren County Clerk is hereby awarded

to . . . Reliance Graphics, Verona, New Jersey

in the estimated amount of . . . \$100,000.00

as per their proposal submitted . . . March 14, 2013

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and reviewed and recommended by the Director of Purchasing as the lowest responsible and responsive proposal received price and other factors considered through the Fair and Open Process in accordance with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4. Award based upon experience and familiarity with providing ballot printing services under the direction of the Warren County Clerk, and quality of past services rendered.

Funds will be provided in budget account 011200/5100 – County Clerk Program Operating Expenses.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders be authorized and directed to execute the necessary contract.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 178-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT TO NORMAN J. GOLDBERG, INC. OF CLINTON, NEW JERSEY FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES ON THE CZAR FARM PROPERTY, POHATCONG TOWNSHIP, BLOCK 111, LOT 6, APPROXIMATELY 94 ACRES PROPOSED FOR ACQUISITION AS LISTED IN THE PROPOSAL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,175.00**

**WHEREAS**, The Warren County Agricultural Board has developed a list of Property for preservation for the year 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren County is interested in obtaining appraisals on various properties as listed in the proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, land appraisals are required by the State Agricultural Development Board prior to negotiations for acquisitions in order to be eligible to receive Cost Share Funding for Farm Easement Purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, said appraisals will be in accordance with the Agriculture Retention Program Appraisal Handbook, and the Uniform Standard of Professional Appraisal Practice;

**WHEREAS**, this contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4, as a fair and open contract; and

**WHEREAS**, Norman J. Goldberg, Inc., was pre-qualified as an appraiser by WC1284FO on November 20, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate funds are available in account 03895/5067, – Open Space – Preliminary Expenses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Chosen Freeholders as follows:

1. The agreement between the County of Warren and Norman J. Goldberg, Inc., in the amount of \$2,175.00 to prepare an appraisal on the land listed be accepted.
2. The Freeholder Director is hereby authorized to execute said agreement.

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3. Notice of this action shall be published in THE STAR-LEDGER, as required by law, within ten (10) days of adoption.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 179-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT TO LANDMARK I APPRAISAL, LLC OF CHESTER, NEW JERSEY FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES ON THE CZAR FARM PROPERTY, POHATCONG TOWNSHIP, BLOCK 111, LOT 6, APPROXIMATELY 94 ACRES PROPOSED FOR ACQUISITION AS LISTED IN THE PROPOSAL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,250.00**

**WHEREAS**, The Warren County Agricultural Board has developed a list of Property for preservation for the year 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren County is interested in obtaining appraisals on various properties as listed in the proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, land appraisals are required by the State Agricultural Development Board prior to negotiations for acquisitions in order to be eligible to receive Cost Share Funding for Farm Easement Purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, said appraisals will be in accordance with the Agriculture Retention Program Appraisal Handbook, and the Uniform Standard of Professional Appraisal Practice;

**WHEREAS**, this contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4, as a fair and open contract; and

**WHEREAS**, Landmark I, Appraisal, LLC, was pre-qualified as an appraiser by WC1284FO on November 20, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate funds are available in account 03895/5067, – Open Space – Preliminary Expenses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Chosen Freeholders as follows:

1. The agreement between the County of Warren and Landmark I, Appraisal, LLC, in the amount of \$2,250.00 to prepare an appraisal on the land listed be accepted.
2. The Freeholder Director is hereby authorized to execute said agreement.
3. Notice of this action shall be published in THE STAR-LEDGER, as required by law, within ten (10) days of adoption.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013****RESOLUTION 180-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WC1024FO FOR CORRECTIONS DOCUMENTS MANAGEMENT ABSTRACT & MUNICIPAL SHARED SERVICES IMAGING FOR THE WARREN COUNTY INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT TO CHENOA INFORMATION SERVICES, INC. FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2014 FOR THE FOURTH YEAR OF A FIVE YEAR CONTRACT AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACT LAW 40A:11-15.5 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$70,000.00**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that contract WC1024FO for Corrections Documents Management Abstract & Municipal Shared Services Imaging for the Warren County Information Systems Department is hereby extended for the fourth year of a five year contract as provided by the Local Public Contract Law 40A:11-15.5 said contract is hereby extended for the period of May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014

to . . . Chenoa Information Services, Inc., Edison, New Jersey  
in the amount of . . . not to exceed \$70,000.00  
as per their proposal submitted . . . April 5, 2010

Funds will be provided in budget account 011400/5028 – Information Systems Consulting Services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders be authorized and directed to execute the necessary contract.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 181-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WC1107 TO CR SERVICE CO., INC. FOR AIR CONDITIONING MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE AT WARREN HAVEN FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2014 FOR THE THIRD AND FINAL YEAR OF A THREE YEAR CONTRACT AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACT LAW 40A:11-15(7) IN THE BASE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00 WITH UNSCHEDULED MAINTENANCE TO BE BILLED AT FIXED LABOR CHARGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$72.00, \$93.00 AND \$115.00 (REGULAR, OVERTIME AND HOLIDAY RATES) AND PARTS AT 19% ABOVE COST, APPROXIMATE TOTAL CONTRACT \$35,000.00**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Warren County Contract WC1107 for heating and air conditioning maintenance and service for the third and final year of a three year contract as provided by the Local Public Contract Law 40A:11-15(7) said contract is hereby extended for the period of May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014

to . . . CR Service Co., Inc., Columbia, New Jersey

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

In the approximate amount of . . . \$35,000.00  
as per their bid submitted . . . February 23, 2011

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account 013504/5024 – Warren Haven Maintenance Facility – Maintenance Repair and Cleaning.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 182-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WC1108 TO CHE MECHANICAL SERVICES, INC. FOR HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2014 FOR THE THIRD AND FINAL YEAR OF A THREE YEAR CONTRACT AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACT LAW 40A:11-15(7) IN THE BASE AMOUNT OF \$4,640.00 WITH UNSCHEDULED MAINTENANCE TO BE BILLED AT FIXED LABOR CHARGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$88.00, \$132.00 AND \$176.00 (REGULAR, OVERTIME AND HOLIDAY RATES) AND PARTS AT 25% ABOVE COST, APPROXIMATE TOTAL CONTRACT \$80,000.00**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Warren County Contract WC1108 for heating and air conditioning maintenance and service for the third and final year of a three year as provided by the Local Public Contract Law 40A:11-15(7) said contract is hereby extended for the period of May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014

to . . . Che Mechanical Services, Inc., Easton, Pennsylvania

In the approximate amount of . . . \$80,000.00  
as per their bid submitted . . . March 3, 2011

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account 013100/5024 – Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Facility – Maintenance Repair and Cleaning.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 183-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WC1216 TO TUWAY WIRELESS FOR MICROWAVE RADIO MAINTENANCE FOR THE WARREN COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2014 FOR THE SECOND YEAR OF A THREE YEAR CONTRACT AS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACT LAW 40A:11-15(7) IN THE APPROXIMATE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$33,942.00**

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Warren County Contract WC1216 for microwave radio maintenance for the Warren County Communications Center for a second year of a three year contract as provided by the Local Public Contract Law 40A:11-15(10) said contract is hereby extended for the period of May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014 to . . . TuWay Wireless, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania  
In the approximate amount of . . . \$33,942.00  
as per their bid submitted . . . February 22, 2012

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account 012500/5031 – Communications Center Repair and Maintenance.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 184-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO DIVERSIFIED STORAGE SOLUTIONS INC. FOR A SPACESAVER MOBILE FILE SYSTEM UNIT UNDER THE NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #A79829 COVERING HIGH DENSITY MOBILE FILING SYSTEMS FOR THE WARREN COUNTY BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DEPARTMENT IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$22,722.48**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the purchasing department is authorized to issue a purchase order for the above listed mobile storage system unit for the Warren County Buildings & Grounds Department and is hereby awarded to . . . Diversified Storage Solutions Inc., Norristown, Pennsylvania  
in the amount of . . . \$22,722.48  
at the prices established under New Jersey State Contract #A79829

Funding for this contract has been provided in capital account #0411B701/5061 – Village Square II Building.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 185-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO ZETRON INC. UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #A69908 COVERING 9-1-1 TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES FOR SILVER PLAN MAINTENANCE ON TELEPHONE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE WARREN COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$54,376.92**

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the purchasing department is authorized to issue a purchase order for Silver Plan Maintenance on Telephone System Equipment and accessories for the Warren County Communications Center and is hereby awarded to . . . Zetron Inc., Redmond, Washington in the amount of . . . \$54,376.92 at the prices established under New Jersey State Contract #A69908

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account 012500/5026 – Public Safety Contracted Equipment.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 186-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION RE: APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR CONTRACT WC1239 FOR ATLANTIC SALT INC. FOR AN INCREASE OF 2,400 TONS AND A NET INCREASE OF \$131,856.00 AND A REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$791,136.00**

**WHEREAS**, Contract WC1239 was awarded to Atlantic Salt Inc., of Lowell, Massachusetts for 12,000.00 tons of Rock Salt in the contract amount of \$659,280.00; and

**WHEREAS**, additional Rock Salt is needed for all County Routes to be used for salting county roadways when icy etc.; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate funds have been established in budget account 012900/5125 – Road Department M & R Materials and certified by the County C.F.O.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren do hereby approve Change Order #1 for the above contract for a net increase of \$131,856.00 and a final Contract in the amount of \$791,136.00.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 187-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT MEMBERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL AND CHARITABLE CONSERVANCY TRUST FUND COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted the Warren County Open Space Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Procedures and Rules on June 26, 1996; and

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

**WHEREAS**, recommendation for membership on the Committee has been received from the Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners whose previous term expires on March 25, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, recommendation for membership on the Committee has been received from the Warren County Agriculture Development Committee whose previous term expires on March 25, 2013.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby re-appoints the following persons to the Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Committee:

**Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners:**

Michael Helbing  
502 Townsbury Road  
Great Meadows New Jersey 07838  
Term: March 26, 2013 – March 25, 2015

**Warren County Agriculture Development Committee:**

Sam Race  
388 Hazen Oxford Road  
Belvidere, New Jersey 07823  
Term: March 26, 2013 – March 25, 2015

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 188-13**

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gardner, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MEMBER TO THE WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL AND CHARITABLE  
CONSERVANCY TRUST FUND COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted the Warren County Open Space Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Procedures and Rules on June 26, 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, recommendation for membership on the Committee has been received from the Township of Harmony of the Municipal Region 2 whose previous term from the Township of Greenwich expires March 25, 2013; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby appoints the following person to the Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Committee:

**Region 2:** Desiree Denker  
1247 Harmony Station Road  
Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865  
Term March 26, 2013 to March 25, 2015

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**RESOLUTION 189-13**

On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION CREATING A FULL-TIME POSITION OF KEYBOARDING CLERK 2, CLASSIFIED AND ABOLISHING A FULL-TIME POSITION OF KEYBOARDING CLERK 1, CLASSIFIED WITHIN THE WARREN COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders that a full-time position of Keyboarding Clerk 2, classified, is created within the Warren County Planning Department to insure the effectiveness and efficiency of operations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a full-time position of Keyboarding Clerk 1, be abolished; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that a full-time position of Keyboarding Clerk 2 is created and established on AFSCME Local 3287, Range 0540 and made effective April 11, 2013.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held on March 27, 2013.

Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**Reports and Comments**

County Counsel Joe Bell had no report.

County Engineer Bill Gleba informed the Board that signage and guiderail contracts are out for safety improvements and that the Bridge Department will be getting down to business now that the nice weather is upon us.

Neither County Planner Dave Dech or County CFO Charles Houck was in attendance.

County Administrator Steve Marvin noted that the latest Vacancy Report was before the Freeholders for their review. There was nothing unusual therein and the Board made no comments.

Mr. Marvin then reminded the Board of the dedication for the new Library Headquarters and Human Services Buildings is set for Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. The road at Village Square really needs a name. Mr. Gardner said he was planning to meet with the Library Commission the following day to discuss the name of Shotwell.

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One more thing for the Freeholders to consider was that the NJAC Conference is being held earlier than usual this year and conflicts with the Board's meeting scheduled for May 8. Mr. Marvin suggested the Freeholders look at their calendars and consider rescheduling that meeting for Tuesday, May 7. Mr. Sarnoski thought perhaps the meeting could be cancelled. Attending NJAC is important.

Freeholder Comments

While Mr. Gardner didn't wish to rehash everything already discussed, he reiterated that the Warren Haven action was a painful decision. He said he highly regarded those employed there and the contributions they have made, but he said we're boxed into a corner.

Mr. Smith said he had attended a County Planning Board Meeting earlier in the week and there's nothing happening. "We need to have growth in Warren County and we're not getting it," he said. Part of the problem is the Highlands Act and part is the economy, but we're facing big challenges. He thanked everyone for their service and hoped they could find opportunities as the changes moved forward.

Mr. Sarnoski thanked his colleagues on the Freeholder Board for their careful consideration and leadership. Through this change, he urged them to keep foremost in mind the Warren Haven residents and their care. He again expressed hope that the majority of current employees continue to serve at Warren Haven and wished them continued success in their careers.

Regarding the Village Square move, Mr. Sarnoski thanked Alex Lazorisak for all of his hard work coordinating everything.

Next was a brief presentation by Warren County Special Services School District Superintendent Joe Flynn. He is new to the job and due to a scheduling conflict, unable to attend the Board of School Estimate Meeting being held the following week. Mr. Flynn introduced himself and provided a brief synopsis of his background. He was very grateful to have the opportunity to address the Board this evening and apologized for being unavailable next week.

He provided some specifics on students currently enrolled and partnerships with other schools. He said the district needs to operate like a business and its tuition rates are highly competitive. The operating budget of WCSSSD is about \$5 million. A small portion, about 12 percent or \$186,000, comes from the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Mr. Flynn hoped to be able to count on that same contribution this year.

Mr. Sarnoski thanked Mr. Flynn for coming and for keeping the budget request flat.

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**Closing Public Comments

Elisa Smith of Bangor said her mother was a resident of Warren Haven. She inquired as to how the Freeholders planned to monitor how things were working out. Mr. Sarnoski said surveys were to be conducted and performance would be constantly monitored. Ms. Smith advised against relying on Warren Haven's administrative team for feedback. She said they belittle people including her own family. "Something's wrong with that," she said.

Lorraine Bloom of Hackettstown said she worked for the Warren County Library and was very proud to be a County employee. She said she had formerly worked as a nurse for 20 years and in her experience, a lot of emphasis was put on advertising. Ms. Bloom said she felt terrible about what's going on, yet she understood. She too, thought the Freeholders should carefully consider who the status reports are coming from and their motivation. In any office, she thought it was wise to look at what management is doing.

Mr. Sarnoski said a lot of the data the Board took under consideration did not come from Warren Haven management, but rather how our facility compares to its peers throughout the state. Regarding the fact that Warren Haven used to have a waiting list and now has some empty beds, that is another sign of the way things have changed. No other county-run facilities have waiting lists either.

Mr. Gardner noted that it's not just a problem in New Jersey. The Federal Government has been pushing for people to be kept at home as long as they can. Up until 2009, there was a waiting list to get into Warren Haven. The reason that changed is that the economy tanked and the real estate market plummeted. Mr. Sarnoski said everybody's taking a hit. With Managed Care and Peer Grouping changes coming, it isn't going to get any easier. That's why it's important to make some changes now.

Karen Smith of Sussex County said she had done a lot of research prior to placing her mother in a nursing home and she heard negative comments about each one with the exception of Warren Haven. Among Hackettstown Hospital employees, EMTs and hospice nurses, Warren Haven is known for its residents being clean and in better shape than those that come from other facilities. Initially surprised at the age of the facility, she said upon entering, she was impressed with its cleanliness.

Ms. Smith asked what was being done to market Warren Haven. She was told it was being worked on by Janet Mahoney and others. Mr. Smith said that prior to losing his own father, he noticed the hospitals recommended certain places that are in their own network. There has been a shift in methodology in terms of institutional care overall in recent years and that's what we're up against.

Jacob Zack of Belvidere said he did not work at Warren Haven, but began talking about the trend of "lean thinking" in the healthcare industry and management's attention to sources of waste. He claimed that Toyota does not outsource. Mr. Zack thought the Freeholders could

**MINUTES****MARCH 27, 2013**

benefit from bringing in a consultant to benchmark against the best performing facilities in the industry and predicted they would find that they did not find that success through outsourcing. He said there should be a specific focus on the management system; that it should start at the top rather than the bottom.

Mr. Sarnoski said there have been multiple reports over the last 10 years that have made this recommendation. "Absolutely we're always looking at ways to cut costs and operate leaner, but this is a necessary step quite frankly, in my opinion," said Mr. Sarnoski.

Bonnie Tinsman of Liberty Township said she's been a public servant for 31 years at Warren Haven and has enjoyed it immensely. She said she was heartbroken. These people are her support staff that help her take care of the residents. Ms. Tinsman said the Freeholders didn't understand. The employees can be called upon to fulfill special requests for dietary needs. For example, "They're not just there to sweep the floors and clean the beds...and that's what we're going to get," she said. As for seeing how it goes, Ms. Tinsman wondered what would come next. Outsource one division after the next and eventually sell the whole package?

"That's what we're trying to avoid," said Mr. Gardner. Mr. Sarnoski said one of the problems is that for the last 10 years, there has been a lot of discussion, but we've been operating the same way, doing the same things and losing money. We are finally taking action, probably later than we should have. "We have to make changes now to protect the future," Mr. Sarnoski said.

Ms. Tinsman inquired about equipment and repairs. Mr. Marvin said the County owns the equipment and the contractor is to maintain it.

Mr. Smith said with the Affordable Healthcare Act being implemented, we are to experience a redefinition in terms of our entire healthcare program. There are so many unknowns that it is very challenging to plan for the future. There have been decisions made way above the power of this Board that determine what healthcare in the future is going to be. "I want to try to do everything that I can to make it to where we still have a County nursing home. "We're trying the best that we can to do that," said Mr. Smith.

There was mention of recent diversification of services offered at the facility. Ms. Tinsman said she had noticed, but hoped it wasn't too late. The employees have been saying for a long time that there was a need to get more proactive. She pointed out that Warren Haven did not have a promotional display in the Freeholders' Exhibit Building at the Warren County Fair. Mr. Gardner said that needs to change. Ms. Tinsman said she wanted Warren Haven to stay the same for the people of Warren County.

There were no further Public Comments.

There was no need for Executive Session.

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On motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Smith, and there being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Recorded Vote: Mr. Gardner yes, Mr. Smith yes, Mr. Sarnoski yes

**ATTESTED TO:**

**Steve Marvin, Clerk of the Board**