

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN
FREEHOLDERS HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020 AT 4:30 P.M.
IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
4 MOORE ROAD
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, NEW JERSEY**

The meeting convened with Deputy Clerk Doyle presiding and the following members answering roll call:

Freeholders Desiderio, Morey, Pierson and Thornton via remote access (4)
Absent- Hayes (1)

STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR

“This is a notice read pursuant to the requirements of the “Open Public Meetings Act.” At least 48 hours advance notice of this meeting has been provided by posting of the same in writing on the bulletin boards in the County Administration Building, and the County Clerk’s Office and mailing a copy of the notice to the Cape May County Herald and the Atlantic City Press and filing the same with the County Clerk, all being done on Friday, January 3, 2020.”

MOMENT OF SILENCE

FLAG SALUTE-Led by Freeholder Pierson.

MINUTES – MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE 05/12/20 MEETING
FH Desiderio moved/ FH Pierson seconded

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X				X	
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					X
Mr. Thornton	X					

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

REPORTS:

1) COUNTY ENGINEER:

Mr. Church updated the Board on road projects. The Gateway Project had final surface paving last week and the roadway was in its final configuration; it was striped. A necessary part used to put up the traffic light signals came in the wrong size and had to be reordered. It was expected that they would begin installation of the lights starting tomorrow, May 27, 2020. The signals at Susquehanna Avenue and Park Boulevard were expected to be up and operational by weeks end.

The Woodbine Roundabout was about fifty percent complete. The contractors finished the interior circle and was working on the sloping concrete curb on the outside perimeter. They expect to pour the apron that goes between those two circles this week. After that just the roadwork would be left to do the paving expansion.

On Corsons Tavern Road they had started the drainage work today. That project would be picking up in the next few weeks and would be going throughout the summer with a completion date of September 4, 2020.

Next, he reported on the bridge projects. Today, the contractor for the Ingrams Thorofare Bridge Re-decking Project was also doing some supplemental work on the southwest abutment at the Graven’s Thorofare Bridge. There was a scour and slope stabilization problem that was reported to be a priority, as a result, he felt while

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 26, 2020 (CONTINUED)

they were out there, they could work on that issue at the same time. They were also going to be doing some deck spalls repairs on those approach bridges because they had not been done in fifteen years. This would focus on catching the worst of the worst to prevent any issues from coming up during the summer months. The work would be done this week during the day with an alternating traffic pattern.

The emergency work on the 96th Street Bridge would begin, starting next week. The final plans and specifications were just delivered to the Engineer's Office, so they were ready to go on the project.

For drainage projects, Public Works had the ongoing Pacific Avenue drainage project. There was a Shared Services Agreement on the agenda for that. It was continuing and was the prerequisite drainage for the road project that would be done in the fall. There had been a federal aid application submitted for authorization. They were also doing miscellaneous drainage throughout the county which was part of the county wide contract he finished.

Freeholder Pierson had been questioned by constituents living near the Woodbine Roundabout, whether lighting would be installed on the approach as well as inside the circle. He asked the engineer for an answer. It was already part of the plan for lighting to be installed for both, Bob responded.

2) COUNTY COUNSEL: Jeff Lindsay stated no report.

3) COUNTY TREASURER: Brittany Smith stated no report.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS:

1) FREEHOLDER MOREY:

Mr. Morey reported that he was continuing to work with Mr. Desiderio, Mr. Donohue and other members of the team relative to the Recovery Initiative Task Force. There was a follow-up call last week with the state to go over various aspects of the re-opening table. As far as the state's guidance, he was concerned that not much had changed, even with the provision of timelines produced by the county. The County's timeline was generally like Phase II of the governor's plan. Businesses seemed to be struggling with that aspect, expecting more predictability, to be able to plan accordingly. The freeholder did not think they were that far off, and dialogue would be kept open internally and externally he stated.

Freeholders Pierson and Morey connected briefly on COVID-19 testing, to make sure they had a good understanding of the level of the testing currently being done in the county, and where that might be going. Also, they wanted to be sure there was awareness by all segments of the health sector.

Messaging was another area being covered. There had been a fair amount done along those lines so far, which was great, he noted. The "social distancing ambassadors" had been out and about and that had been a positive. Good work on the Health Department's part. There was still a lot more work to be done. He felt there were a few areas that the mayors would seek clarity on, such as the question of swimming pools and whether they were in fact included within private pool use, or condominium/indoor hotel use. Some people seemed to think they were included within the framework of what was permitted by the county. The attorneys would have to take it up with the state, because they did not agree necessarily.

The freeholder commended Bob and team for the Rio Grande Avenue Project and the timely finish to the project, except for the lights. The project really looked great, the roadway was elevated, safer and more functional with the turning lanes, he commented. We have already seen investment in the area with all out it.

In closing, he reported that down at the Tech Village, Cellular Tracking was moving in last week. They were very happy with the new space. The EDA wanted to continue to be supportive for additions to that project. He mentioned that Cellular

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 26, 2020 (CONTINUED)

Tracking had managed to take on a few more staff despite some of the difficulties encountered at the beginning with supply chain, etc.

2) FREEHOLDER PIERSON:

Mr. Pierson began by sharing via the ZOOM a background picture of Veteran's Corner, the project located in the main lobby of the County Administration Building, still in preliminary stages. It was a picture of a table set for a missing comrade and the MIA chair. The project originally to be dedicated on Memorial Day had to be postponed.

He had published and sent out his new "Actions List" to the Board earlier in the day. He encouraged those who were interested to look at it. There were several new items mentioned.

Regarding the Memorial Day video, he praised Diane Wieland, Denis Brown and the contractor for putting the video together. It was loaded onto the County Facebook page, County website, and his personal Facebook page. It had reached approximately 2,460 people and was shared many times. It was a positive message and he received a lot of compliments and appreciation from people due to the fact the regular ceremony had to be cancelled this year.

Today, the freeholder had forwarded the Coast Guard Recertification Package to the Freeholder Board and the Coast Guard Foundation Board for approval, he stated. He would welcome comments. Hopefully, the package could get out quickly, time was of the essence. He hoped to be assisted by a local publishing company who would print up pamphlets to be attached to the application, due to the limited staff working at this time.

He gave kudos and thanks to Kevin Thomas and staff for putting together teams of "social distancing ambassadors". The project received a lot of attention and positive feedback regarding their performance and assistance out in the community. He would like to see the program continue next year even without a pandemic.

3) FREEHOLDER DESIDERIO:

Mr. Desiderio reported spending time on conference calls, ZOOM calls, and meetings. Last week he met, along with Mayor Gillian, with the Asbury Avenue Chamber of Commerce group and the Boardwalk Chamber of Commerce group in Ocean City. Meeting after meeting had taken place, trying to move forward. Freeholder Morey and Desiderio were working along with Michael Donohue to get some more businesses open, where people can go into the business he stated. Firm dates from the governor's office were needed so at least they could give businesses a heads up. Keeping everyone waiting was getting a lot of people frustrated he continued. They would continue to push forward to try to get some definitive answers he further stated.

5) FREEHOLDER THORNTON:

Director Thornton visited the Veteran's Cemetery on Memorial Day and watched the placement of the flags on the graves. He was happy about the turnout of kids and others to assist in the placing of hundreds of flags.

In follow-up to what Mr. Pierson said about the video in honor of Memorial Day, he too wanted to compliment the staff on doing a great job on it. It was outstanding and he received a lot of positive feedback. This year in May was the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the cemetery, which was another consideration, which made it even more disappointing not to be able to hold a live ceremony for the first time, he stated.

He reported participating in many conference calls with the governor's office for months now. Now that Mike Donohue was with the County, he was on the calls too.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 26, 2020 (CONTINUED)

Over the weekend he drove around the County and saw pretty good compliance with the regulations in place.

He commented too, that the “social distancing ambassadors” program was great and well done. If we get the proper signage up and information out to the businesses, it will help with the enforcement of health requirements.

Adding to Mr. Morey’s earlier comments regarding pools, he had asked three different times about commercial and private pools on his calls with the state and the response received was that a decision would be made shortly.

INTRODUCED BY MR. DESIDERIO, SECONDED BY MR. PIERSON

342-20 Resolution authorizing payment to the Travelers Insurance Company for various claims in the total amount of \$33,930.80.

(This Resolution authorizes payment to the Travelers Insurance Company, Property-Casualty Department for various claims.)

343-20 Resolution applying to U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY20 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant in the amount of \$17,600.00.

(This Resolution authorizes application for grant funding to provide law enforcement with protective armored vests for the period of 4/1/20 to 8/31/22 in the amount of \$35,200.00 (\$17,600.00 Federal and \$17,600.00 In-Kind match).)

344-20 Resolution accepting the work and closing Contract No. 16-156 with Arthur J. Ogren, Inc. for Lower Township Public Safety building and authorizing final payment in the amount of \$60,852.28.

(This Resolution authorizes final payments, accepts the work, and closes the contract with Arthur J. Ogren, Inc. in the amount of \$60,852.28.)

345-20 Resolution authorizing various Change Orders for construction, site-work, project management and design modifications at County Commons, 1127 Route 47 S., Rio Grande.

(This Resolution authorizing various change orders for construction, site-work, project management and design modifications for at County Commons, 1127 Route 47 S., Rio Grande.)

346-20 Resolution authorizing execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Wildwood Crest.

(This Resolution authorizes the County to execute a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Wildwood Crest for the reconstruction of Pacific Avenue from Rambler Road to Jefferson Avenue in the Borough of Wildwood Crest.)

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X				X	
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					X
Mr. Thornton	X					

INTRODUCED BY MR. PIERSON, SECONDED BY MR. MOREY

347-20 Resolution granting and amending various Leaves of Absence to County Employees.

(This Resolution authorizes County Employees to be placed on a Leave of Absence in accordance with the County Leave of Absence Policy and the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).)

348-20 Resolution approving the monthly disbursements from the Department of Human Services for the TANF, General Assistance and Clearing Accounts.

(This Resolution accepts and approves the monthly disbursements for the TANF, General Assistance and Clearing Accounts as submitted by the fiscal Department of Human Services.)

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 26, 2020 (CONTINUED)

- 349-20 Resolution applying to New Jersey Department of Health for Cancer Education and Early Detection Grant for a total amount of \$198,389.00.
(This Resolutions authorizes submission of an application to New Jersey Department of Health for grant funds for the period of 7/1/20 through 6/30/21.)
- 350-20 Resolution waiving certain annual fees payable to the Cape May County Health Department in 2020.
(This Resolution authorizes the Cape May County Health Department to waive certain fees in 2020.)
- 351-20 Resolution supplementing the 2020 Salary Resolution and approving appointments and salaries.
(This Resolution authorizes the hiring of new County employees, temporary assignment pay, salary changes or corrections, title changes and promotions of County employees when applicable.)
- 352-20 Resolution authorizing the Board to hold a meeting excluding the public on May 26, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible or as practicable.
Matters falling within attorney-client privilege pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7).
(This Resolution authorizes the Board of Chosen Freeholders to conduct a meeting excluding the public at the stated time in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1, et seq.)
- 353-20 Resolution authorizing Cape May County Park and Zoo to process refunds for cancellations due to COVID-19.
(This Resolution is approving Cape May County Park and Zoo refunds for cancellations due to COVID-19.)

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X					
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X					X
Mr. Pierson	X				X	
Mr. Thornton	X					

INTRODUCED BY MR. MOREY, SECONDED BY MR. PIERSON

- 354-20 Resolution reappointing Maryanne K. Murphy to the Cape May County Bridge Commission.
(This Resolution authorizes the reappointment of Maryanne K. Murphy to the Cape May County Bridge Commission for a term of 3 years.)
- 355-20 Resolution authorizing Modification No. 2 in the amount of \$122,207.11 to Michael Baker International, Inc. for Professional Engineering Services for Rio Grande Avenue (CR661) Entrance Improvements, City of Wildwood.
(This Resolution increases the ceiling amount for additional work to be performed by Michael Baker International, Inc. under their professional engineering services agreement for Rio Grande Avenue (CR661) Entrance Improvements.)
- 356-20 Resolution authorizing Modification No. 10 in the amount of \$22,643.00 to the Professional Services Agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. for Professional Engineering and Licensed Site Remediation Services at the Cape May County Airport.
(This Resolution increases the ceiling amount of Tetra Tech, Inc. professional services agreement for remediation at the Cape May County Airport.)
- 357-20 Resolution granting permission to the Borough of West Wildwood to close a portion of Glenwood Avenue (CR614) in the Borough of West Wildwood on July 4, 2020 for a Fourth of July Parade.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 26, 2020 (CONTINUED)

(This Resolution gives permission to the Borough of West Wildwood to temporarily close a portion of Glenwood Avenue (CR614) for their Fourth of July Parade.)

358-20 Resolution declaring an emergency condition for the repair of the southwest bascule girder cover plate and various structural components at the 96th Street Bridge over Great Channel (No. 0500-006) in the Township of Middle and the Borough of Stone Harbor and to authorize the County to engage a contractor and construction engineer to make repairs.

(This Resolution declares an emergency repair to the Stone Harbor Boulevard (CR657) Bridge over Great Channel to South State, Inc. on a time and material basis and Maser Consulting, P.A. for the construction engineering services on a time and material basis.)

359-20 Resolution approving Modification of Bridge Operations for Ocean Drive (CR619) across Great Channel Bridge (No. 0500-028), Township of Middle and Borough of Stone Harbor.

(This Resolution approves restriction of bridge operations on Ocean Drive (CR619) across Great Channel Bridge (No. 0500-028), Township of Middle and Borough of Stone Harbor.)

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X					
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X				X	
Mr. Pierson	X					X
Mr. Thornton	X					

ADDITION:

360-20 Resolution amending County Resolution No. 317-20 to authorize Municipalities to determine a date to permit the lodging of transient guests or seasonal tenants at 60% of full capacity.

(This Resolution amends County Resolution No. 317-20 only insofar as it permits municipalities to select any date between May 26 and June 1 to begin lodging transient guests or seasonal tenants at 60% of full capacity.)

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X					
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X				X	
Mr. Pierson	X					X
Mr. Thornton	X					

Director Thornton recognized Mike Donohue, Acting Administrator and asked if he anything to bring before the Board. He did not have any comments but thanked the director for recognizing him. He did note that a lot of work was being done by the task force and people should be given credit for it. He looked forward to working with everyone he stated.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS: FH Desiderio moved/FH Pierson seconded

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X				X	
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					X
Mr. Thornton	X					

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURN: 5:00 P.M. FH Desiderio moved/FH Pierson seconded

Freeholders	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Desiderio	X				X	
Ms. Hayes				X		
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					X
Mr. Thornton	X					

APPROVED

DIRECTOR

ATTEST:

ADMINISTRATOR