

MINUTES OF THE CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 AT 2:00 AND 3:00 P.M. RESPECTIVELY IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 4 MOORE ROAD CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, NEW JERSEY

CAUCUS

The meeting convened with Director Desiderio presiding and the following members answering roll call:

Commissioners Bulakowski, Hayes, Morey, Pierson (Virtual) and Desiderio (5)

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 Thursday, January 5, 2023.”

MOMENT OF SILENCE

FLAG SALUTE-Led by General Pierson

290-23 Resolution authorizing the Board to recess and enter executive session excluding the public on May 9, 2023 at 2:00 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 County Commissioners 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.)

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					X
Ms. Hayes	X				X	
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

Commissioner Discussions:

Commissioner Pierson called to attention a couple of upcoming Coast Guard events. The first event, “Salute to the Coast Guard,” is being hosted by MudHen Brewing Company on May 12th from 5-9 pm. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Coast Guard Foundation. He reminded the Board about the Coast Guard Community Festival on May 20th at the Training Center in Cape May. The event runs from 10 am to 4 pm and will feature tours, demonstrations, vendors and performances. He hopes the community will come out to support those events. Finally, he wishes a Happy Mother’s Day to all the ladies in attendance, as well as to the public.

There were no further discussions.

REGULAR MEETING

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE 04/25/2023 MEETINGS
Commissioner Hayes moved/ Commissioner Bulakowski seconded.

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					X
Ms. Hayes	X				X	

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD MAY 9, 2023 (CONTINUED)

Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

PRESENTATIONS: Grassy Sound Pier - Colliers Engineering

County Administrator, Kevin Lare, began the presentation by giving a brief overview of the status of the Grassy Sound Pier, which was once the old North Wildwood Bridge. The County owns the pier and leases it to Middle Township, which in turn subleases it to Grassy Sound Marina. The pier was found to have numerous safety concerns during an inspection and was subsequently closed. The following presentation by Colliers Engineering is for informational purposes as to the County’s options moving forward with the pier.

From Colliers Engineering, Richard Maloney, Principal, and Ian Walczak, Senior Project Engineer, presented the concept planning for the Grassy Sound Pier. The original bridge was built in 1940 and was turned into a public fishing pier in the late 90s/early 2000s. During a safety inspection in March 2022, the pier was found to have a severely deteriorated substructure which did not make it feasible to repair. Following are the 3 options for reconstructing the bulkhead and/or pier presented to the Board:

1. Deconstruct the pier and bulkhead and replace the bulkhead. (\$1.3 million)
2. Deconstruct the pier and bulkhead, replace the bulkhead and rebuild the pier in the same configuration as it is currently. (\$2.76 million)
3. Deconstruct the pier and bulkhead, replace the bulkhead and rebuild the pier in a new configuration. (\$2.6 million)

The options for rebuilding the pier also include improvements to the parking area and lighting, as well as fish cleaning stations and benches. Commissioner Bulakowski inquired about the depth of the drop-off at the end of the pier. Commissioner Hayes asked about the size of the bulkhead. The depth is currently unknown, but the bulkhead will be roughly 100’ in length. It will be tied into the existing bulkhead on the adjacent property on one side and extended to mitigate flooding on the other end. Colliers Engineers state that it is a simple and straightforward project.

Mr. Lare finished the presentation by stating the project is a candidate for capital that was set aside in the budget. There is a 6-9 month permitting period and if everything falls into place, by next spring/summer, the project could be completed. There will be further discussion among the Board at the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

REPORTS:

- 1) ENGINEER: Mr. Church reported since the last meeting, quite a bit of paving has been completed. The 2 federal projects, Ocean Drive from 60th to 80th Streets, and Pacific Avenue in Wildwood Crest and Lower Township are finished. Dias Creek Road, Dennisville-Petersburg Road and Pittsburgh Avenue are paved, and striping will be completed by the end of the week. The rehabilitation project on the 104th Street bridge is completed, as are the abutment repairs on the 21st and 25th Street bridges. Lafayette Street in Cape May will be paved beginning May 17th.
- 2) COUNTY COUNSEL: No report.
- 3) COUNTY TREASURER: No report.
- 4) COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: No report.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

- 1) COMMISSIONER MOREY: Mr. Morey was invited and will be attending the groundbreaking ceremony of the General Aviation Terminal on May 18th. Commissioner Morey stated it is great to see as it’s been many years in the making. The terminal is one of 3 projects under construction at the airport.

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD MAY 9, 2023 (CONTINUED)

- 2) COMMISSIONER PIERSON: General Pierson attended the League of Municipalities meeting in Cape May along with Commissioner Hayes and County Clerk, Rita Rothberg. He also attended a ribbon cutting in Wildwood for Steven’s Restaurant and an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Chase Palermo in Ocean City. Finally, he attended the Coast Guard Community Foundation’s Ball, along with his wife and Commissioner and Mrs. Morey. The Vice Admiral of the Coast Guard was in attendance, as well as numerous retired service members in uniform. Commissioner Pierson stated it was a great event and thanked those in attendance.

- 3) COMMISSISONER BULAKOWSKI: Mr. Bulakowski attended the Lower Township Chamber of Commerce Business in the Community event at the Naval Air Station Wildwood following the last Commissioners’ Meeting. It was a very well attended event and he gave kudos to the organizers as well as the Lower Township Police and Fire Departments, and Cape May County Sheriff’s Office for their participation at the event. He is still waiting for the report regarding Fare Free and the next steps to streamline the program, but in the meantime visited their new center at the County Airport complex. He is happy to see that progress in the County.

- 4) COMMISSIONER HAYES: Vice Director Hayes is happy to report she has her voice back! She was privileged to attend the NJAC Conference in Atlantic City the previous week. She attended several of their workshops and passed on relevant information to the Department heads. Students from CMC Tech competed in a technical high school cook-off at the conference. Not only did students from the culinary program compete, but the students in the carpentry program designed and built the presentation area. Ms. Hayes stated all students did an excellent job in this “really tough” competition. The students prepared mini cheesesteaks and the theme of the presentation area was the Cape May County Zoo. Although they did not win, she is sure they all learned a lot from taking part in the competition. Other events Vice Director Hayes attended included the rededication of the James S. Cafiero Ecowalk at the County Chamber property and a tour of the new government building at the airport. She expressed Happy Mother’s Day wishes to all the mothers.

- 5) COMMISSIONER DESIDERIO: Director Desiderio began his remarks by wishing everyone a Happy Mother’s Day as well as a Happy Teacher’s Day. In addition to his normal director meetings, he attended a recognition ceremony in Avalon for retiring mayor, Martin Pagliughi. Former Director Thornton and Assemblyman McClellan were also in attendance. Finally, Director Desiderio had the privilege to greet and speak to members of the Law Enforcement NJ Division prior to the Police Unity Tour from Atlantic City to Washington, DC earlier today.

Motion to open Public Comment for Consent Agenda

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					X
Ms. Hayes	X				X	
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

Motion to close Public Comment for Consent Agenda

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X				X	
Ms. Hayes	X					X
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Resolution Nos. 291-23 through 313-23

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD MAY 9, 2023 (CONTINUED)

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					
Ms. Hayes	X					X
Mr. Morey	X				X	
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

RESOLUTIONS:

- 291-23 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).)

- 292-23 Resolution supplementing the 2023 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.)

- 293-23 Resolution authorizing release of Performance Guarantee funds in the amount of \$6,475.70 to Scott Peter for improvements to Pacific Avenue (CR #621), Lower Township.
(This Resolution authorizes release of the funds held as a performance guarantee for improvements within a County right-of-way to Scott Peter.)

- 294-23 Resolution declaring the month of May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Cape May County.
(This Resolution declares the month of May, 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Cape May County.)

- 295-23 Resolution authorizing amendments to various Memorandums of Understanding for Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Service Program Dental Grants.
(This Resolution authorizes amendments to various Memorandums of Understanding for Disease prevention and Health Promotion Service Program Dental Grants.)

- 296-23 Resolution authorizing renewal with TDC Specialty Insurance Company for General & Professional Liability for Crest Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in the amount of \$179,186.00.
(This Resolution authorizes renewal of General & Professional Liability Insurance for Crest Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for the term of May 1, 2023 through May 1, 2024.)

- 297-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, New Jersey, Local 3596.
(This Resolution authorizes a Memorandum of Agreement with AFSCME, NJ, Local 3596, for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025.)

- 298-23 Resolution authorizing Endorsement to Commercial Property Policy #025032496 with American Home Assurance Company increasing insured value limit effective 04/06/2023.
(This Resolution authorizes acceptance of a Policy Changes Endorsement to Commercial Property Policy #025032496, increasing the Insured Value Limit to \$175,000,000.00, effective 04/06/2023.)

- 299-23 Resolution authorizing payment to the Travelers Insurance Company for claims totaling \$346.06.
(This Resolution authorizes payment to the Travelers Insurance Company, Deductible Billing Department, for a claim in the amount of \$346.06 under Policy # 9159P846-810.)

- 300-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Lease Agreement between the County of Cape May and Precision Integrated Programs for use of an unmanned aerial vehicle.
(This Resolution authorizes execution of a Lease Agreement for use of an unmanned aerial vehicle for aeronautical research to enhance and further the ability to operate communications-deprived areas following natural disasters.)

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD MAY 9, 2023 (CONTINUED)

- 301-23 Resolution accepting additional grant funding from the State of New Jersey Department of Health for Special Child Health Case Management Grant No. DFHS23CSE016 for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$2,926.00.
(This Resolution accepts additional grant funds from the State Department of Health in the amount of \$2,926.00 funds for the period 7/01/22 through 6/30/23 for case management services.)
- 302-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for additional funding for Case Management (Special Child Health) Grant No. DFHS23CSE016 in the amount of \$2,926.00.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$2,926.00 providing appropriate services and support to children, birth to age three, in need of case management services.)
- 303-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for the 2023 Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$660,628.19.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$660,628.19, to include close out balance from 2021 contract in the current year's allocation.)
- 304-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for the FY23 Retired Senior Volunteer Program in the amount of \$62,523.00.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$62,523.00, with County matching funds of \$40,892.00, for a total \$103,415.00, funding to be utilized to cover administrative costs and the placement of volunteers within the community to meet specific needs related to health, independent living and transportation.)
- 305-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for Edward Byrne Memorial FY19 Justice Assistance Program for Multi-Jurisdictional Gang, Gun and Narcotics Task Force Grant in the amount of \$47,533.00.
(This Resolution amends 2023 Budget in the amount of \$47,533.00 for Multi-Jurisdictional Gang, Gun and Task Force Grant.)
- 306-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$22,478.00 for the FFY22 Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Program.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$22,478.00 for the FFY 22 Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Program.)
- 307-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for National Opioid Settlement in the amount of \$88,080.22.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$88,080.22 for National Opioid Settlement.)
- 308-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for FY23 FEMA Phase 40 Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in the amount of \$7,353.00.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$7,353.00 for the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.)
- 309-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for Carbon Reduction Program Cape May County Microtransit Feasibility Study in the amount of \$200,000.00.
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$200,000.00 for SJTPO Carbon Reduction Program Cape May County Microtransit Feasibility Study.)
- 310-23 Resolution applying to New Jersey Department of Health for funds to support Local Core Capacity for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (Lincs) for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$371,236.00.
(This Resolution authorizes grant application for funds to support Local Core Capacity for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (LINCS) for the budget period of 7/1/23 through 6/30/24 in the amount of \$371,236.00.)
- 311-23 Resolution applying to New Jersey Department of Health for Cancer Education and Early Detection Grant No. DCHS24CED013 for the period July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 for a total amount of \$88,450.00.
(This Resolution authorizes submission of an application to New Jersey Department of Health for grant funds for the period of 7/1/23 through 12/31/23.)
- 312-23 Resolution applying to the New Jersey Department of Health Office of Local Public Health for the 2024 Overdose Fatality Review Teams Grant No. OORP24OFR013 for the period July, 1 2023 to June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$75,000.00.

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD MAY 9, 2023 (CONTINUED)

(This Resolution authorizes application for funding for the period of 7/1/23 through 6/30/24 to support Overdose Fatality support offered to Cape May County residents through the Cape May County Health Department.)

313-23 Resolution amending Resolution No. 248-23 granting permission to the Borough of West Cape May to close Myrtle Avenue (CR606) on Saturday, June 3, 2023 for their Annual Strawberry Festival.

(This Resolution modifies Resolution No. 248-23 to change the event holder for the Strawberry Festival to the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cape May.)

MOTION TO PAY BILLS AND CHECKS BE TRANSFERRED TO THE COUNTY

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					X
Ms. Hayes	X				X	
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion to open Public Comment

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					X
Ms. Hayes	X				X	
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

Mr. Robert Diorio of 1 Lexington Court in Seaville shared his concerns with the Board regarding the Upper Township Committee, Beesley’s Point Redevelopment Group, LLC and Orsted aka Ocean Wind, LLC. Mr. Diorio provided the Board with an outline of dates and details describing actions taken by the Upper Township Committee revolving around the former B.L. England Plant which is owned by the Beesley’s Point Redevelopment Group, LLC, as well as actions he deems are beneficial to Orsted. He has previously voiced his concerns to the Upper Township Committee, and states he is being ignored. He has also reached out to Congressman Van Drew, State Senator Testa, the Associated Press and the Herald. He is asking the Board of County Commissioners to investigate what he considers unethical dealings among the 3 entities involved.

Motion to Close Public Comment and Adjourn

Commissioners	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Bulakowski	X					X
Ms. Hayes	X				X	
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson	X					
Mr. Desiderio	X					

3:52 P.M. time

APPROVED

DIRECTOR

ATTEST:

CLERK OF THE BOARD