

**MINUTES OF THE CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 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 Barr, Bulakowski, Morey, and Desiderio (4)

**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 Commissioner Morey

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSIONS: None.

- 634-23 Resolution authorizing the Board to recess and enter executive session excluding the public on September 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible or as practicable.  
Matters falling within pending or anticipated litigation, 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. Barr	X					X
Mr. Bulakowski	X				X	
Mr. Morey	X					
Mr. Pierson				X		
Mr. Desiderio	X					

**DIRECTOR’S CALL OF MEETING TO ORDER**

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

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

FLAG SALUTE- led by General Pierson

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE 09/12/2023 MEETINGS**

Commissioner Bulakowski moved/Commissioner Barr seconded.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 (CONTINUED)

1. Leslie Gimeno & Scott Mullen-Open Space Funding Recommendations

Ms. Gimeno began by thanking the volunteer board, a group of dedicated individuals who spend a significant amount of time working with the applicants, for the projects that are being brought before the Board this afternoon. There are a total of six projects falling into two categories: Historic Preservation and Parks & Recreation Development. The 2 Historic Preservation projects are the Tuckahoe Train Station Roof Replacement and the Historic Allen AME Church Bell Tower and **Façade** Restoration. The projects in the Parks and Recreation category are Phases II & III of the Woodbine Eco-Park and Jake's Law Playground, Wildwood Crest Arts Pavilion Park, Diamond Beach Park, and Sea Isle City Dog Park. Ms. Gimeno and Mr. Mullen provided a brief overview of each of the projects, including proposed improvements and recommendations as to funding, as well as providing a copy of the power point presentation highlighting these details and conceptual site plans. The total recommendation for funding of the Historic Preservation projects is \$276,500 and \$5,696,257.88 for the Parks and Recreation projects. The 45 day public comment period is now open. Ms. Gimeno concluded the presentation by explaining to the public that the Open Spaces Program is funded through a dedicated tax which was approved by voter referendum in 1989, and that these monies cannot be used to fund anything else.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

REPORTS:

- 1) ENGINEER: Mr. Church reported that night repairs to the 96<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge in Stone Harbor have started and should take about a week to complete. There was a virtual public meeting held regarding the Navigational Impact Report for the bascule replacement of the bridge. Mr. Church is happy to report there are no objections to the existing opening of the width and this portion of the project will be satisfactory to the Coast Guard. Resurfacing improvements to Beach Drive and Lafayette Street are resuming and will be completed by Memorial Day. The Fishing Creek Pump Station repairs are underway and the contract for the resurfacing of Fishing Creek Road will be awarded at today's meeting. Finally, the advertisement for resurfacing of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Stone Harbor will be done next week. This is the County's Federal Aid project for the year.
- 2) COUNTY COUNSEL: Special Counsel, William Blaney, sat in for Jeff Lindsay today. He advised those in attendance that the RFPs for Crest Haven have been received and are being reviewed. There may or may not be an award, as Mr. Lindsay and union representatives are in the process of having discussions. This is a collective bargaining issue and Mr. Blaney advised the Board not to respond to any comments this evening.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

- 1) COMMISSIONER MOREY: Commissioner Morey recognized the Open Spaces staff and Board for the outstanding job they have done in bringing these projects to fruition. He is especially pleased to see the Jake's Law Playground project and knows it will draw visitors from all over the County. Mr. Morey also recognized the participation of the municipalities in the development of the projects, as they are very engaged in the process as well. These 6 outstanding projects will be very beneficial to the County and the community, and he thanks the team that has been assembled to move these projects along.
- 2) COMMISSIONER PIERSON: Vice Director Pierson commented on Resolution No. 642-23 on today's agenda which recognizes October 6, 2023, as "Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day." He reminded everyone there are 16 drop-off locations for medications in the County, including the local police departments, the State Police Barracks in Woodbine and Village Pharmacy in Marmora. He stated it is a good time to go through your medicine cabinets and get rid of any expired medications.

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 (CONTINUED)

- 3) COMMISSIONER BARR: As someone just learning the process, Commissioner Barr wants to commend Leslie and Scott for their presentation today and to thank them for the great projects they presented. Mr. Barr attended a meeting with the ARC of Cape May County along with Director Desiderio and Assistant Administrator Ron Simone. It was a good meeting, and they have some exciting news to share at a later date.
- 4) COMMISSISONER BULAKOWSKI: Commissioner Bulakowski has had the pleasure of working with Leslie, Scott, Barbara and Lauren and commends them for the outstanding job they do. Mr. Bulakowski gave a shout out to the Parks and Zoo staff for receiving ZAA and AZA accreditations all in one year which makes them 1 of 10 zoos in the country with this distinction.
- 5) COMMISSIONER DESIDERIO: No report.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to open Public Comment for Consent Agenda

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

Motion to close public comment for Consent Agenda and approve Resolution Nos. 635-23 through 670-23

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

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- 635-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Cape May, Cape May County Sheriff’s Office and Policemen’s Benevolent Association Local 59.  
(This Resolution authorizes the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Cape May, Cape May County Sheriff’s Office and PBA Local 59 for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026.)
- 636-23 Resolution authorizing execution of an Agreement between the County of Cape May, Prosecutor of the County of Cape May and the Cape May County Assistant Prosecutors’ Association.  
(This Resolution authorizes a labor contract with the Cape May County Assistant Prosecutors’ Association for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026.)
- 637-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Administrative District Council of New Jersey, Locals 4 and 5.  
(This Resolution authorizes an agreement with the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union for the provision of certain skilled labor on a project-by-project basis.)
- 638-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 351.  
(This Resolution authorizes an agreement with the IBEW, Local 351 for the provision of certain skilled labor on a project-by-project basis.)
- 639-23 Resolution granting and amending various Leaves of Absence to County Employees.

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 (CONTINUED)

(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).)

- 640-23 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 for the Department of Human Services.)
- 641-23 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.)
- 642-23 Resolution recognizing October 6, 2023 as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day in Cape May County.  
(This Resolution recognizes October 6, 2023 as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day in Cape May County.)
- 643-23 Resolution appointing certain County employees to their permanent position in their respective offices. (Human Services)  
(This Resolution is appointing County employees to a permanent title from the New Jersey Civil Service Commission based upon a qualifying action.)
- 644-23 Resolution certifying the Board of County Commissioners has reviewed and accepted the Annual Audit for the year 2022.  
(This Resolution certifies that each of the five County Commissioners has reviewed the recommendations and general comments prepared by the auditing firm pertaining to the County's 2022 audit.)
- 645-23 Resolution approving Collective Action Plan for the 2022 Audit.  
(This Resolution accepts the Corrective Action Plan for the Audit Report Year December 31, 2022 with no recommendations being made by the County's Auditing Firm.)
- 646-23 Resolution approving the recommendations of the Homelessness Trust Fund Advisory Board.  
(This Resolution adopts the recommendations of the Homelessness Trust Fund Advisory Board for 2023 expenditures.)
- 647-23 Resolution authorizing an Application and Indemnification Agreement with Cape May County Department of Health to hold a NJCEED Walk at the Cape May County Park, Cape May Court House location.  
(This Resolution permits use of a portion of the Cape May County Park, on October 29, 2023, beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 12:00 p.m.)
- 648-23 Resolution authorizing payment to the Travelers Insurance Company for various claims in the total amount of \$10,765.00.  
(This Resolution authorizes payment to the Travelers Insurance Company, Property-Casualty Department, for various claims.)
- 649-23 Resolution granting permission to the Cape May Running Company to close a portion of Beach Avenue (CR604) for their annual Hollowed Half Marathon and 5K on October 27, 2023 and October 28, 2023.  
(This Resolution gives permission to the Cape May Running Co. to close a portion of Beach Avenue (CR604) for their Annual Hollowed Half Marathon on October 27, 2023 and October 28, 2023.)
- 650-23 Resolution awarding contract to South State, Inc. in the amount of \$2,165,208.11 for Fishing Creek Road (CR639) Phase I Resurfacing Improvements, Township of Lower.  
(This Resolution awards the contract for Fishing Creek Road (CR639) Phase I Resurfacing Improvements, Township of Lower.)
- 651-23 Resolution authorizing application for road opening permit to New Jersey American Water for Bay Avenue (CR619), City of Ocean City.  
(This Resolution authorizes New Jersey American Water to replace a sanitary sewer main on Bay Avenue (CR619), City of Ocean City. Work will be completed promptly.)

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 (CONTINUED)

- 652-23 Resolution authorizing Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$76,211.29 to KMA Consulting Engineers, Inc. for Professional Engineering Services for Goshen Road (CR615) Improvements, Township of Middle.  
(This Resolution increases the ceiling amount for additional work to be performed by KMA Consulting Engineers, Inc. under their professional engineering services agreement for Goshen Road (CR615) Improvements, Township of Middle.)
- 653-23 Resolution authorizing execution of Agreement Modification No. 2 to Federal Agreement No. 20-DT-BLA-826 for Pacific Avenue (CR621) from Madison Avenue to Rambler Road, Township of Lower and Borough of Wildwood Crest.  
(This Resolution is to increase the available reimbursement to cover additional construction costs deemed to be participating costs in excess of the modified grant allotment for Pacific Avenue (CR621) Resurfacing, Township of Lower and Borough of Wildwood Crest, County of Cape May.)
- 654-23 Resolution authorizing acquisition of interest in real estate known as Block 119 Lot 4 in the Borough of West Wildwood for use in connection with county road system.  
(This Resolution authorizes the acquisition by the County of Cape May of 400 sq. ft. portion of County Road No. 641 pursuant to the County Planning Act, NJSA 40:27-1, et seq.)
- 655-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Cape May County Park and Zoo and Monmouth University.  
(This Resolution authorizes the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Cape May County Park and Zoo and Monmouth University for an Education Field Program.)
- 656-23 Resolution establishing a new bank account with New Jersey Asset & Rebate Management Program (NJARM) and authorizing signatories for the account.  
(This Resolution establishes new bank account with New Jersey Asset & Rebate Management Program and authorizes signatories for said Bank Account.)
- 657-23 Resolution applying to New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Juvenile Justice Commission for CY2024 Comprehensive County Funding Allocation Grant in the amount of \$363,189.00 for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.  
(This Resolution authorizes application to the State of New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission for CY2024 Comprehensive County Funding for the period 1/1/24 to 12/31/24.)
- 658-23 Resolution accepting Grant Award from New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General NJ CARES for FY 2022 Overdose Data to Action Operation Helping Hand Grant No. FYOHH-5-2022 for the period of September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023 in the amount of \$50,000.00.  
(This Resolution authorizes the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office to participate in a State Grant No. FYOHH-5-2022 and accept State funds for Operation Helping Hand.)
- 659-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for the FFY 2022 Overdose Data to Action Operation Helping Hand Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00.  
(This Resolution amends the 2023 budget in the amount of \$50,000.00 for FFY 2022 Overdose Data to Action Operation Helping Hands Grant.)
- 660-23 Resolution rescinding Resolution No. 603-23 for Area Plan 2023 Mid-Year Allocation.  
(This Resolution rescinds Resolution No. 603-23 for amending the 2023 budget for Area Plan 2023 Mid-Year Allocation due to clerical error.)
- 661-23 Resolution accepting Award Agreement No. S00040 with the State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families for the Human Services Advisory Council 2024 Grant for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$53,562.00.  
(This Resolution accepts funds for the Human Services Advisory Council 2024 Grant for the period of 7/1/23 to 6/30/24 in the amount of \$53,562.00 with a County cash match of \$12,595.00.)
- 662-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for the 2024 Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) Grant in the amount of \$53,562.00.

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 (CONTINUED)

(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$53,562.00, with County cash matching funds of \$12,595.00 and County Supplemental Funds of \$32,712.00, for a total of \$98,869.00 for the Human Services Advisory Council Grant.)

- 663-23 Resolution accepting Grant Award from New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General for the FFY21 Victims of Crime, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)/Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE) Grant Program VS-05-21 for the period of October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024 in the amount of \$58,700.00.  
(This Resolution accepts grant award from New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General for FFY21 SART/FNE Program in the amount of \$58,700.00 and in-Kind matching funds of \$17,306.00 to support sexual assault victims.)
- 664-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for the Victims of Crime, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)/Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE) Grant Program in the amount of \$58,700.00.  
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$58,700.00 for Victims of Crime, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)/Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE) Grant Program.)
- 665-23 Resolution authorizing application and execution of the contract between the County of Cape May and the State of New Jersey Department of Corrections (NJDOC) for the County Reentry Coordinators (CRC) Program for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$100,000.00.  
(This Resolution authorizes application and execution of contract of County Reentry Coordinators (CRC) Program for the period of 7/1/22 through 6/30/23 in the amount of \$100,000.00.)
- 666-23 Resolution amending the 2023 Budget for the 2023 County Reentry Coordinators (CRC) Program Grant in the amount of \$100,000.00  
(This Resolution amends the 2023 Budget in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the 2023 County Reentry Coordinators (CRC) Program.)
- 667-23 Resolution authorizing Proprietary Software Agreement with Signet Technologies, Inc. for Department of Information Technology in the amount of \$34,866.42.  
(This Resolution authorizes Contract No. C3-141 with Signet Technologies, Inc. for renewal of proprietary software agreement, for a term of one (1) year, commencing September 27, 2023, through September 26, 2024, in the amount of \$34,866.42 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(dd).)
- 668-23 Resolution awarding Contract No. C3-137 to Cape Regional Medical Center for Peer Recovery Center Program for the Department of Human Services.  
(This Resolution awards Contract No. C3-137 to Cape Regional Medical Center for Peer Recovery Center Program for the Department of Human Services, commencing October 1, 2023, for a term of one (1) year, with three (3) additional one-year options.)
- 669-23 Resolution awarding Contract No. C3-138 to Cape Regional Medical Center for a Substance Use Disorder Program for the Department of Human Services.  
(This Resolution awards Contract No. C3-138 to Cape Regional Medical Center for a Substance Use Disorder Program for the Department of Human Services, commencing January 1, 2024, for a term of one (1) year, with three (3) additional one-year options.)
- 670-23 Resolution awarding Contract No. C3-139 to Acenda, Inc. for Intensive In-Home Supervision Program for Department of Human Services.  
(This Resolution awards Contract No. C3-139 to Acenda, Inc. to provide an intensive in-home supervision program for the Department of Human Services, commencing on January 1, 2024, for a term of one (1) year with two (2) additional one-year options.)

**REGULAR AGENDA**

- 671-23 Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters.  
(This Resolution authorizes an agreement with the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters Union for the provision of certain skilled labor on a project-by-project basis.)

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

MINUTES OF CAUCUS AND REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 (CONTINUED)

Mr. Desiderio	X					
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MOTION TO PAY BILLS AND CHECKS BE TRANSFERRED TO THE COUNTY

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

Mrs. Cheryl Spaulding of Cape May Court House was happy to attend the meeting because on September 15<sup>th</sup>, as she and her husband slept, a young man fell asleep at the wheel and crashed into their bedroom. The house has been in her husband’s family for 70 years, and this is the second time a vehicle has crashed into it. They live on a curve of Shunpike Road

which has been the site of numerous accidents. The house is unlivable and has been scheduled for demolition. Mrs. Spaulding implores the Board to consider putting a guardrail on that curve as it is very dangerous. She provided pictures to County Engineer, Mr. Church.

Once again, numerous members of the public, including employees of Crest Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, AFSCME representatives and concerned citizens spoke to the Board regarding the decision to issue an RFP for the privatization of Crest Haven. They again asked the Board to consider alternatives to privatizing the center and questioned the decision to do so. The quality of care in private facilities and the impact on the lives of the employees that will potentially lose their jobs are the two main concerns. They implore the County to pause for 12 months in order to engage with the Union and try some of the options they have suggested to keep Crest Haven county-run.

Motion to Close Public Comment and Adjourn

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

**5:05 P.M.** time

APPROVED

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DIRECTOR

ATTEST:

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CLERK OF THE BOARD