# **New Jersey Association of Counties**

County Government with a Unified Voice

BETH E. TIMBERMAN NJAC President Salem County Freeholder JOHN G. DONNADIO Executive Director

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Friday - September 16, 2011
State House Annex - Committee Room 4
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

The meeting was called to order by 2011 NJAC President and Salem County Freeholder Beth E. Timberman at 10:13 a.m.

After saluting the American flag, John G. Donnadio, NJAC Executive Director, called roll and a quorum was present.

## **Members in Attendance:**

Stephen O'Connor, Cape May County Administrator
Carol Clark, Essex County Freeholder
Teri O'Connor, Monmouth County Administrator
Anthony DeNova, Passaic County Administrator
Beth Timberman, Salem County Freeholder
Peter Palmer, Somerset County Freeholder
Angel Estrada, Union County Freeholder
Richard Gardner, Warren County Freeholder Deputy Director
M. Claire French, Monmouth County Clerk
John G. Donnadio, NJAC Executive Director

### **Absent:**

Atlantic County
Bergen County
Burlington County
Camden County
Hudson County
Hunterdon County
Mercer County
Middlesex County
Morris County
Ocean County
Sussex County
County Executive
County Surrogate
County Sheriff

Christine Marion, Morris County Planner, and Louis Joyce, Salem County Planner, were in attendance as well as Planners from Passaic and Somerset Counties

The minutes of the June 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting were unanimously approved on a Passaic/Essex County motion.

### **Guest Speaker(s)**:

Commissioner Bob Martin of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection graduated from Boston College and received his MBA from George Washington University. He is an accomplished business and industry leader with an expertise in energy and utilities

## Official Reports:

1. **Secretary/Treasurer's Report -** NJAC Secretary/Treasurer and Warren County Freeholder Deputy Director Richard Gardner presented to the Board the financial

reports of NJAC and NJAC Benefits. The reports were unanimously approved on a Somerset/Union County motion.

- 2. **President's Report -** NJAC President Timberman asked for motions on the following:
  - a. <u>Resolution Appointment of NJAC Executive Director</u> This resolution was unanimously approved on a Surrogate/Mercer County motion.
  - b. <u>Resolution 2011 Annual Dues</u> NJAC Executive Director John G. Donnadio informed the board members that county membership dues were not being raised again this year. This resolution was approved on a Cumberland/Hudson County motion.
  - c. Resolution 2011 Budget Mr. Donnadio apprised the board members that the Finance Committee met over the past couple of weeks on formulating the budget for 2011. The budget will be posted on the organization's website. This resolution was unanimously approved on a Middlesex/Somerset County motion.
  - d. <u>Resolution NJAC Transparency</u> Cumberland County Freeholder Magazzu requested this resolution be amended to include budgets, resolutions, dues, meeting minutes and agendas on NJAC's website. On a motion by Cumberland County, seconded by County Surrogate, and carried by voice vote, it was approved to include the amendments.
  - e. <u>Resolution NJAC Committees and Chairs</u> Mr. Donnadio notified the board of the 2011 Committees and Chairs. A follow-up memorandum will be forwarded to County Clerks, County Administrators, and Freeholders inviting them to participate on the committees. On a Mercer/Monmouth County motion, this resolution was unanimously approved.
  - f. Resolution NJAC Legal Counsel The board decided to table this resolution until it had the opportunity to discuss general counsel in more detail at an executive session, which is to take place before the March 11, 2011 NJAC Board of Directors' Meeting. Hill Wallack was appointed general counsel for 90 days.
  - g. <u>Resolution Labor Relations Counsel</u> On a Passaic/Middlesex County motion this resolution was unanimously approved.
  - h. <u>Resolution Accountant/Auditor</u> This resolution was unanimously approved on a Cumberland/Hudson County motion.
  - i. <u>Resolution NJAC 2011 Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule</u> On a County Surrogate/Mercer County motion, this resolution was unanimously approved.
  - j. <u>Resolution National County Government Month (April 2011)</u> This resolution was unanimously approved on a Salem/Monmouth County motion.

3. Executive Director's Report - NJAC Executive Director John G. Donnadio thanked Freeholder Palmer for his leadership as President, support and dedication to NJAC. Mr. Donnadio also thanked the board members for the opportunity to work in the capacity of Executive Director for this organization and looks forward to working with each and every member. He individually recognized his staff of three for their dedication and support.

Board members were informed that a copy of a Strategic Action Plan for 2011 was enclosed in their board packets for their review. This plan reports the organization's goals for promoting county relations, enhancing advocacy, advancing communications, prudent financial management, leadership and organization structure, and providing progressive networking opportunities.

On February 11th from 10a.m. to 12p.m., NJAC will be hosting an Interest Arbitration Workshop at the Burlington County Vocational – Technical School in Westampton. Keynote speakers will be Brian Kronick of Genova, Burns, & Giantomasi; Robert Hackel of NJ PERC; and Lorraine Tesauro of NJ PERC. This workshop is free and county officials are encouraged to attend.

The 2011 NACo Legislative Conference is scheduled to take place March 5<sup>th</sup> through March 7th in Washington, DC. Board members were provided with conference registration and hotel reservation forms.

4. **Legislative Committee Report -** Monmouth County Freeholder Director Robert D. Clifton informed all Board members that a copy of the Legislative Update was enclosed in the provided packets and turned this portion of the meeting over to Mr. Donnadio. Mr. Donnadio apprised board members on the status of Pension and Health Benefits Reform as well as Civil Service Reform.

Also included in the Legislative Update Report were S-1248, S-2220, and A-3204.

## **Other Business:**

Freeholder Magazzu mentioned that NACo may be waivering membership dues or reducing the costs.

Sussex County Administrator John Eskilson and Morris County Administrator John Bonanni were appointed to the Public Employees Relations Commission.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2011 at 10a.m. in Committee Room 6 of the NJ State House Annex.

This meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m. on a Salem/Somerset County motion.

Board members and guests reassembled at 11:12 a.m. in the Senate Chambers for the Swearing-In Ceremony of NJAC President Timberman and Executive Officers. Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney presented the welcoming remarks and administered the Oath of Office. NJAC President Timberman and Executive Committee members were congratulated by the Senate President. NJAC President Timberman thanked everyone for their support and is looking forward to leading NJAC in an "open, transparent, and solution driven manner."

On behalf of the NJAC Board of Directors, NJAC President Timberman awarded Freeholder Palmer with a plaque for his leadership in 2010. NJAC President Timberman also recognized county officials, dignitaries and honored guests in the audience. Guests were invited to Room 103 for a reception catered by the culinary students of Salem County Vocational-Technical School.

The ceremony ended at 11:47a.m.

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Respectfully submitted by:

John G. Donnadio

NJAC Executive Director