# **NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

County Government with a Unified Voice!

MARY H. MELFI NJAC President Hunterdon County Clerk JOHN G. DONNADIO Executive Director

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

January 26, 2018
Senate Chambers of the State House
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

The meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m. by 2017 NJAC President and Gloucester County Freeholder Heather Simmons. The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders led the flag salute prior to a moment of silence for those civil servants no longer with us and the men and women of armed services who provide us with freedom as well as those who lost their lives fighting for it. Afterwards John G. Donnadio, NJAC Executive Director, called roll and a quorum was present.

## **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mary H. Melfi, Hunterdon County Clerk

Brendan W. Gill, Essex County Clerk

E. Marie Hayes, Cape May County Freeholder

John Cimino, Mercer County Freeholder

Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Freeholder

Frank Formica, Atlantic County Freeholder Chairman

Gerald M. Thornton, Cape May County Freeholder Director

Joseph Derella, Cumberland County Administrator

Jerry Walker, Hudson County Freeholder

John King, Hunterdon County Freeholder

Teri O'Connor, Monmouth County Administrator

Douglas R. Cabana, Morris County Freeholder Director

John Kelly, Ocean County Freeholder

Anthony DeNova, Passaic County Administrator

Melissa DeCastro, Salem County Freeholder Director

Brian Levine, Somerset County Freeholder Deputy Director

Greg Poff, Sussex County Administrator

Bette Jane Kowalski, Union County Freeholder Vice Chairwoman

Richard D. Gardner, Warren County Freeholder

Brian M. Hughes, Mercer County Executive

George Strachan, Executive Director for Gloucester County Improvement Authority

John G. Donnadio, NJAC Executive Director

Allen Weston, NIAC Legislative Director

Loren Wizman, NJAC Director of Business Development

Kimberly Nolan, NJAC Office Manager

Joe Hannon, Esq., Member of Genova Burns LLC and NJAC Labor Relations Counsel

Paul Anzano, Esq., Partner of Pringle Quinn Anzano and NJAC General Counsel

Bob Werkmeister, Sr. Consultant of Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. & NJAC Transportation Consultant

# **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Honorable Christopher "Kip" Bateman, Senator - NJ Legislative District 16

Honorable Kristin Corrado, Senator - NJ Legislative District 40

Honorable John DiMaio, Assemblyman – NJ Legislative District 16

Honorable Patricia Egan-Jones, Assemblywoman - NJ Legislative District 5

Caren L. Fitzpatrick, Atlantic County Freeholder

Christine Brown, Burlington County Assistant Public Information Officer for Freeholder Board

Katie Gibbs, Burlington County Freeholder Director

Wade Hale, Burlington County Deputy Clerk

Linda Hughes, Burlington County Freeholder Deputy Director

Tom Pullion, Burlington County Freeholder

Mildred Scholtz, Burlington County Warden for the Department of Corrections

Jason Tosches, Burlington County Public Information Officer for Freeholder Board

Charlene Webster, Burlington County Director of Strategic Planning & Marketing

Gina Wheatley, Burlington County Clerk of the Board

Susan Shin Angulo, Camden County Freeholder

Karen Taylor, Camden County Warden for the Department of Corrections

Michael Laffey, Cape May County Director of Operations

Jeffrey Pierson, Cape May County Freeholder

Diane Wieland, Cape May County Director of Tourism & Public Information

Robert Austino, Cumberland County Sheriff & COANJ President

Kimberly Wood, Cumberland County Deputy Administrator

Celeste Riley, Cumberland County Clerk

Omarey Williams, Cumberland County Deputy Clerk

Eugene J. Caldwell II, Gloucester County Warden for the Department of Corrections

Selina Pulliam, Gloucester County Sqt. for the Department of Corrections

Daniele Spence, Gloucester County Confidential Aid to Freeholder Simmons

Abe Antun, Hudson County Administrator

Frederick Brown, Hunterdon County Sheriff

Kevin Davis, Hunterdon County Administrator

Edward Davis, Hunterdon County Chief Warrant Officer for the Sheriff's Department

Susan Hoffman, Hunterdon County Surrogate

Anthony Kearns, Hunterdon County Prosecutor

John Lanza, Hunterdon County Freeholder

Lisa Mena, Hunterdon County Deputy Clerk

Carrie Moore, Hunterdon County IT Division Manager/County Webmaster

Brad Myhre, Hunterdon County Director of Human Resources

Tony Porto, Hunterdon County Tax Administrator

Janet Previte, Hunterdon County Chief Financial Officer

Raymond Rule, Hunterdon County Director of Purchasing

Shana Taylor, Hunterdon County Counsel

Beth Thompson, Hunterdon County Election Supervisor

Robert Thurgarland, Hunterdon County Division Manager of Information Technology

Shaun Van Doren, Hunterdon County Freeholder

George Wagner, Hunterdon County Chief of Staff

Ann Cannon, Mercer County Freeholder

Diane Gerofsky, Mercer County Surrogate

Chris Markley, Mercer County Road Supervisor

Paula Sollamo-Covelli, Mercer County Clerk & COANJ Clerk/Register Section

John Carroll, Middlesex County Director for the Office of Public and Government Affairs

Zusette Dato, Middlesex County Deputy Clerk

Elaine Flynn, Middlesex County Clerk

Charles Kenny, Middlesex County Freeholder

Christopher Marion, Monmouth County Deputy Administrator

Geoffrey Perselay, Monmouth County Deputy Administrator

John Bonanni, Morris County Administrator

Deena Leary, Morris County Deputy Administrator

Scott Colabella, Ocean County Clerk & COANJ Secretary

Michael Fiure, Ocean County Deputy Administrator & Director of the Finance Department

Kimberly Gallagher, Ocean County Supervisor of Clerk's Office

Barbara Lanuto, Ocean County Deputy Clerk

Scott Waters, Ocean County Road Supervisor

Assad Akhter, Passaic County Freeholder

Louis Imhof II, Passaic County Clerk of the Board

Maureen Coxwell, Somerset County Deputy Clerk

Steve Peter, Somerset County Clerk

Bruce Bergen, Union County Freeholder

Joanne Rajoppi, Union County Clerk

Amy Wagner, Union County Deputy Manager

Edward Smith, Warren County Freeholder Director

Donald W. DeLeo, NJAC Foundation President & Hudson County Surrogate (retired)

M. Claire French, NJAC Foundation Member & Monmouth County Clerk (retired)

## **BOARD MEETING**

- Retired Hudson County Surrogate Donald W. De Leo provided the invocation and later the benediction.
- Honorable Christopher "Kip" Bateman Senator of New Jersey Legislative District 16, administered the oath of office to NJAC's 2018 Board of Directors, executive officers and 2018 President Mary Melfi.

#### **OFFICIAL REPORTS**

1. NJAC NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT - NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio presented the 2018 slate of executive officers to the board members. The board unanimously approved the slate of officers on a Warren/Cape May County motion.

NJAC President - Mary H. Melfi, Hunterdon County Clerk

NJAC 1st Vice President - Brendan W. Gill, Essex County Freeholder

NJAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - E. Marie Hayes, Cape May County Freeholder

NJAC Secretary-Treasurer - John Cimino, Mercer County Freeholder

NJAC Immediate Past President - Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Freeholder

2. President's Report - NJAC President Melfi reviewed the following routine business items and resolutions, which were passed as general consent matters on a Morris/Executive County vote:

- a. December 8, 2017 Meeting Notes to File
- b. Financials, dated December 31, 2017
- c. Resolution NJAC 2018 Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule
- d. Resolution NJAC 2018 Annual County Dues
- e. Resolution NJAC 2018 Annual Budget

NJAC President Melfi reviewed the following resolutions for professional appointments, which were passed as general consent matters on an Ocean/Warren County vote:

- a. Resolution NJAC Labor Relations Counsel
- b. Resolution NJAC Accountant/Auditor

NJAC President Melfi recognized special guests and thanked her family, friends and those in attendance for being so supportive. President Melfi informed the audience that as she begins her leadership, NJAC's short term goals include supporting and advocating for county fair share of fees for 9-1-1 services, use of electronic procurement of goods and services and providing input to help regulate commercial entities from abusing OPRA. Long term goals for NJAC include assisting Governor Murphy and his administration in reducing costs associated with operating and maintaining county court facilities, streamlining Civil Service laws, rules and regulations, establishing a source of grant funding as seed money for the regionalization of services, modernizing the Local Public Contracts Law and finally establishing a dedicated source of revenue to promote economic development and tourism.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - NJAC Executive Director John G. Donnadio thanked Freeholder Simmons for her tremendous leadership and support to NJAC as President in 2017 and presented her with an award.

Outgoing officials in 2017 were recognized and thanked for their dedication to public service and support of NJAC. Among the 2017 outgoing officials that attended were Somerset County Freeholder Peter S. Palmer, Somerset County Clerk Brett Radi, Union County Freeholder Vernell Wright, and Warren County Clerk Patricia Kolb. Each were awarded with a certificate of recognition.

Additionally, Mr. Donnadio thanked those who attended and supported the December 8, 2017 Summit on Opioid Crisis and Resources for Recovery. Nearly 200 county and business leaders from across the State attended the event. This was a successful one day event in which former NFL wide receiver and recovering addict, Vance Johnson, served as the keynote speaker.

Mr. Donnadio informed members and guests that the NJAC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization affiliated with the New Jersey Association of Counties. It is committed to providing innovative educational opportunities for county vocational-technical school and county college students of New Jersey. The Foundation has partnered with business leaders such as Investors Bank, PSEG, NJM Insurance Group, Wells Fargo, and Verizon. Through the generosity of these prominent companies, the Foundation has had the opportunity to provide some much needed financial assistance to an impressive group of hardworking students. During the past five years, NJAC

Foundation has donated more than \$243,000.00 in scholarships to over 435 county vocational-technical school graduates.

NJAC's Conference Committee met on January 19th to discuss this year's 68th annual celebration of county government scheduled to take place from May 9th through May 11th at Caesar's in Atlantic City. This year's event includes the 7th annual county vocational-technical school cook-off challenge, acapella performances by county college students, a former NJ governors briefing, 24 accredited workshops, keynote speech by invited Governor Phil Murphy, and of course, the opportunity to network with county and business leaders from across the State.

Kathy Forsyth, Communications Director for the NJ Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools, discussed the rules and selection process of the 2018 cook-off challenge. Automatic entries for 2018 include: Hunterdon County as the County of the 2018 NJAC President and Camden County as the as the 2017 People's Choice Gold Award. Schools from Atlantic, Burlington, Ocean, Somerset, Sussex and Warren counties are automatic entries since they did not participate last year and met the required application deadline. Gloucester, Middlesex, and Monmouth counties were selected from a drawing to compete for the remaining three slots.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 4 of the NJ State House Annex.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

The board adjourned on a Cumberland/Atlantic County motion at 11:53 a.m.

Members and guests were invited to attend the lunch reception catered by the Hunterdon County Polytech High School students and staff. The reception was held at the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple and sponsored by Election Systems & Software.

Respectfully submitted by:

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John G. Donnadio, Esq. NJAC Executive Director