

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Bergen County Board of Social Services
May 7, 2013**

PRESENT: William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson
Tom Toronto, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Leah Puzzo, Board Member
Mayor Vincent Barra, Board Member
Bob Nyman, Board Member
John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel
Robert W. Calocino, Acting Director
Alex Morales, Interim Management Consultant
Michele Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

ABSENT: Randi Duffie, Vice Chairperson
Deborah Viola, Ph.D., Secretary-Treasurer
John M. Carbone, Esq., County Adjuster
Freeholder Joan Voss, Board Member
Freeholder Tracy Zur, Board Member

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was held on May 7, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Bergen County Board of Social Services, 216 Route 17 North, Building A, Rochelle Park, New Jersey.

PUBLIC SESSION:

John L. Schettino, Esq., called the meeting to order. General Counsel read the notice required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting scheduled for May 7, 2013 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2013, including a notice of the scheduled time, scheduled date, and location of this meeting at the Bergen County Administrative Building, One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey.
2. The mailing of this notice of the time, date, and location of this meeting to "The Record", which was published on March 8, 2013 and to the Herald News, which was published on March 8, 2013.

3. By filing of the notice of the time, date, and location of this meeting with the Bergen County Clerk, said filing having taken place on March 6, 2013.

The notice required by the “Open Public Meeting Act” was read as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, the Bergen County Board of Social Services shall now exclude members of the public from the meeting for the following reason:

1. The Board shall discuss property matters involving individuals who have received assistance from the Bergen County Board of Social Services. The identification of such individuals or their property may result in a violation of their rights to privacy and may result in the loss of public funds by this agency.
2. The Board shall discuss matters which are covered pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b)(1,2,3) involving individuals who have received assistance from the Bergen County Board of Social Services or who have applied for assistance. To disclose the names of such individuals would work an unwarranted invasion of their rights to privacy.
3. The Bergen County Board of Social Services shall discuss personnel matters which are specifically exempt from public meetings pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b)(8).
4. The Board shall discuss matters with Counsel to the Board which matters shall fall within the attorney-client privilege and are therefore excluded from the public meeting.
5. The Board may discuss other matters pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.

Please be advised that at the conclusion of this session, the Board shall return to a public session and the members of the public are invited to return in order to observe. Thank you.

A quorum being achieved, the Board met in Public Session.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Flag Salute

Bob Calocino led those present in a salute to the flag.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was taken for Open Session:

MEMBERS	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X	
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON		X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER		X

TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X	
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER		X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER		X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER		X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X	
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X	
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X	

Open Public Comment Period

A motion to open the Open Public Comment Period, for a three-minute limit with the option of speaking again, was offered by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

There being no public comment, a motion to close the Open Public Comment Period was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Open Session Minutes April 2, 2013

No discussion. A motion to adopt the Open Session Minutes of April 2, 2013 was offered by Mrs. Puzzo, seconded by Mayor Barra, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			

JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Treasurer’s Report:

(a) Bills List:

A discussion ensued. A motion to approve the Bills List was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Mr. Nyman, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(b) Schedule of Vouchers:

A discussion ensued. A motion to approve the Schedule of Vouchers was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Acting Director’s Report:

(a) Monthly Reports – Statistical & Financial:

A snapshot of caseload and expenditures was provided to the members for the month of March. A discussion ensued.

A motion to table the regular order of business and to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel, leases, litigation, negotiations and the minutes will be made available at the conclusion of the items that are under the Closed Session once all final action has been taken was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

General Counsel advised that the Board would be approximately one-half hour and the Board would re-open because there was other business that had to be addressed. The Board would re-open to take further action with respect to items on the agenda. Once the doors open, the public will be notified that the Board has returned to Open Session.

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 4:48 p.m.

OPEN SESSION:

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Chairman Connelly requested a Roll Call:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(b) Memoranda to the Board (Alex Morales)

No discussion.

Chairman’s Report:

No report.

Committee Reports:

(a) Welfare, Fraud, and Abuse Committee

A cost benefit analysis to hire one (1) Fraud Investigator was included in everyone’s packet. This analysis was also provided to the Freeholders because they had a lot of questions at the Budget Hearing about what the cost would be and how it could be recouped. A discussion ensued regarding fraud and abuse.

(b) Finance Committee

Mr. Toronto reported that on behalf of the Finance Committee, he and Mr. Nyman attended the County Budget Hearing. He expressed Mr. Modery and Mr. Morales did a fantastic job in running through the agency’s complex budget.

(c) Building & Grounds Committee

This item was previously discussed.

Chairman Connelly complimented each of the committees for all their hard work.

OLD BUSINESS:

(a) Update regarding Budget Hearing

This item was previously discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Approval of Customer Service Training *

In response to the Board’s request, Mr. Morales obtained quotes from four (4) providers and the lowest quote was from Sharon Vogel, which was included in everyone’s packet. Ms. Vogel has provided training to the County in the past. The training is managing disruptive people and the course would consist of two and one half hours for all staff and the total cost for the agency is \$1,400. A motion to approve training was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(b) Disposition of Chairs **

Mr. Morales requested authorization to dispose old, torn, and soiled chairs in the third-floor waiting room. A motion to remove and dispose chairs was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC.-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(c) Request to provide authorization for Lifeline

This item was pulled from the agenda.

(d) Discussion regarding contract with third-party Energy Provider

This item was previously discussed.

(e) Next Board Meeting Date – Tuesday, June 4, 2013 @ 4:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

Action Items:

Resolutions:

General Counsel advised that the Resolutions would be approved by consent. Chairman Connelly requested a motion approving the following Resolutions by consent:

- (a) 2013.05.07 (1) – Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12
- (b) 2013.05.07 (2) – Resolution Approving George A. Koteen Associates and Allan Rotto Consultants, Inc. as Utility Auditing Consultant
- (c) 2013.05.07 (3) – Resolution Approving George A. Koteen Associates and Allan Rotto Consultants, Inc. as Utility Auditing Consultant – Approval of Professional Services Agreement
- (d) 2013.05.07 (4) – Resolution Approving Acting Temporary Director
- (e) 2013.05.07 (5) – Resolution Authorizing the MOA between BCBSS and Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO
- (f) 2013.05.07 (6) – Resolution Approving Fixed Electric Rate with Liberty Power
- (g) 2013.05.07 (7) – Resolution Authorizing the Acting Director to appoint Temporary Employees
- (h) 2013.05.07 (8) – Resolution Approving Outside Legal Counsel
- (i) 2013.05.07 (9) – Resolution Approving Customer Service Training * (Approved under New Business (a))
- (j) 2013.05.07(10) – Resolution Approving Disposition of Chairs ** (Approved under New Business (b))

A motion to approve Resolutions (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h), by consent, was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to approve resolutions (b) and (c), by consent, was offered by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON		X		
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER		X		
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER		X		
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER		X		

Closed Session Minutes April 2, 2013

A motion to adopt the Closed Session Minutes of April 2, 2013 was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Mr. Nyman, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER				X
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

With no further business to conclude, a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:05 p.m. was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. W. Calocino". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Robert W. Calocino
Acting Director