

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Bergen County Board of Social Services
June 2, 2015**

PRESENT: William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson (Arrived Late)
Randi Duffie, Vice Chairperson
Tom Toronto, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
John E. Ten Hoeve, Jr., Esq., County Adjuster
Freeholder Tracy Zur, Board Member (Arrived Late)
Freeholder Thomas J. Sullivan, Board Member (Arrived Late)
Mayor Vincent Barra, Board Member
Joseph A. Barreto, Board Member
John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel
Robert W. Calocino, Acting Director
Alex Morales, Interim Management Consultant
Michele Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

ABSENT: Deborah Viola, Ph.D., Secretary-Treasurer
Ritzy Moralez-Diaz, Board Member

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was held on June 2, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the 5th Floor Break Room of the Bergen County Board of Social Services, 218 Route 17 North, 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 June 2, 2015 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2015, 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 January 2, 2015 and to the Herald News, which

was published on January 2, 2015.

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 December 30, 2014.

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:

In Chairman Connelly's absence, Vice-Chairwoman Duffie chaired the meeting.

Flag Salute

Vice-Chairwoman Duffie 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	
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X	
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER		X
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER		X
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X	
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X	
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER		X

Oaths of Office were administered together to Board Members Randi Duffie and Joseph A. Barreto by General Counsel.

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. Toronto, seconded by County Adjuster Ten Hoeve, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER				X
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

Maria Aberasturi – Teaneck, NJ

On behalf of Bergen County’s Mental Health Board, Ms. Aberasturi congratulated the BCBS for walking the walk when it comes to creating a stigma-free Bergen County. She discussed next Tuesday and Wednesday staff will begin Mental Health First Aid training. The Mental Health Board appreciates the investment of money, time, and staff. The county and the BCBS will benefit by having staff that are trained in Mental Health First Aid.

A motion to close the Open Public Comment Period was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Mr. Toronto, 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			

COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER				X
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER				X
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

For the record, Freeholder Zur arrived at approximately 4:40 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Open Session Minutes of May 5, 2015

A motion to adopt the Open Session Minutes of May 5, 2015 was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by County Adjuster Ten Hoeve, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER				X
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER			X	
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER			X	
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

Treasurer’s Report:

(a) Bills List:

A discussion ensued. Mr. Modery reported that the Auditors from the Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo, & Cuva firm are currently at the BCBSS working on the yearly audit. A motion to approve the Bills List was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Freeholder Zur, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER				X
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	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 Freeholder Zur, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER				X
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

Administration Report:

(a) Monthly Reports – Statistical & Financial:

A snapshot of caseload and expenditures was provided to the members for the month of April. A discussion followed.

For the record, Chairman Connelly arrived at approximately 4:45 p.m. At this point, Vice-Chairwoman Duffie turned over the gavel to the Chairman and he proceeded to chair the meeting.

(b) Memoranda to the Board

Mr. Morales reported another delegation from South Korea visited and toured the agency. Pictures were posted on the agency’s website and circulated amongst the Board. The first Mental Health First Aid Training class will be held on June 9 and 10 as part of the BCBSS moving toward a stigma-free environment. Mr. Morales thanked Ms. Aberasturi and Mr. Oserin for their lead. He also thanked Dr. Mangieri from the county for providing a second trainer for the BCBSS. The BCBSS is teaming with Bergen Promise who has agreed to host the training at their facility on the Third Floor because they have the space; which we do not, and the BCBSS has the trainers; which they do not. BCBSS will coordinate the training for BCBSS and Bergen Promise staff. In addition to the June class, six additional classes are scheduled to take place in July, August, and September. Ms. Yacoub and Mr. Yi continue outreach efforts. They met with the Adult Services Committee at the County on April 13, 2015 where County employees, providers of homemaker services, and other senior services agencies were in attendance. Mr. Morales discussed Medicaid timeliness. This is the area that the agency is prioritizing in 2015. In 2014, the agency was able to come into full compliance with TANF, GA, Adult Blind Disabled Medicaid, and Food Stamps. This year, the backlog of pending applications over 45 days was 2,400 in September. The agency is currently down to 410 today. The agency continues to work on redeterminations to make sure they are timely. The agency hopes to be up-to-date in the fall.

For the record, Freeholder Sullivan arrived at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Chairman’s Report:

Chairman Connelly apologized for being late. He welcomed new Board Member Joseph A. Barreto. For the sake of the new Board Members, the Chairman requested that Messrs. Calocino and Morales setup department head presentations at the next few Board Meetings. The Chairman reported that the roof has been installed. Mr. Morales advised that he sent a memo to all staff requesting that they let him know if there are any water leaks or if they have ceiling tiles that have been stained and need to be replaced. He never heard anything back from staff concerning any of these issues. Mr. Morales reported that work on the roof was a smooth process and a lot of the work was done after hours, rather than during work hours. Chairman Connelly congratulated Mrs. Duffie on her reappointment.

Committee Reports:

(a) Welfare, Fraud, and Abuse Committee

Vice Chairwoman Duffie reported from May 1, 2015 through May 31, 2015 the agency received Medicaid recoveries in the amount of \$29,658.76. There were no cases forwarded to the Prosecutor’s Office in May; however, the Grand Jury issued four indictments for individuals accused of illegally obtaining benefits. In each case the fraud exceeded \$75,000.

(b) Audit & Budget Committee

No report.

(c) Building & Grounds Committee

No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Next Board Meeting Date – Tuesday, July 7, 2015 @ 4:30 p.m.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 7, 2015** at 4:30 p.m. at the “218” building.

A motion to table Resolution (f) 2015.6.02 (6) on the agenda and discuss and approve Resolutions (a) (b), (c), (d), (e), (g), (h) and (i), was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Duffie, 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			

COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

Action Items:

Resolutions:

- (a) 2015.6.02 (1) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One Temporary HSS4
- (b) 2015.6.02 (2) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One Temporary HSS4
- (c) 2015.6.02 (3) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One HSS3
- (d) 2015.6.02 (4) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One HSS3
- (e) 2015.6.02 (5) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One Part Time Human Service Aide
- (f) 2015.6.02 (6) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One Part Time Human Service Aide
- (g) 2015.6.02 (7) –Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One Temporary Full Time Clerk 1
- (h) 2015.6.02 (8) –Resolution Approving One Year Agreement with LOGMEIN, Inc.
- (i) 2015.6.02 (9) –Resolution Authorizing Employee Dishonesty Insurance Policy
- (j) 2015.6.02(10) –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

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board will go into Closed Session for approximately one half hour to discuss matters involving the lease, closed session minutes, personnel matters, and litigation. The minutes from the Closed Session will be available to the public once the items have been resolved or no longer require the minutes to be held and not distributed to the public. The meeting will then resume and reopen the meeting to the public and the Board make take further action, specifically with respect to Resolution (f) 2015.6.02 (6).

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (j) 2015.6.02 (10) 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 and to go into Closed Session was offered by Mr. Ten Hoeve, seconded by Freeholder Zur, 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			

COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 5:00 p.m.

OPEN SESSION:

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 6:00 p.m.

The Oath of Office was administered to Chairman Connelly by General Counsel.

A motion to provide 60-day extensions to the Acting Director and the Interim Management Consultant were offered by Mr. Ten Hoeve, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Duffie, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

A motion to approve Resolution (f) 2015.6.02 (6) was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Freeholder Zur, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALES-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

A motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes was offered by Mr. Barreto, seconded by Freeholder Zur, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALEZ-DIAZ	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 Mr. Barreto, 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			
COUNTY ADJUSTER TEN HOEVE	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER THOMAS SULLIVAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOSEPH A. BARRETO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RITZY MORALEZ-DIAZ	BOARD MEMBER				X

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Calocino
Acting Director