

**Minutes of the Meeting  
of the  
Bergen County Board of Social Services  
January 23, 2014**

**PRESENT:** William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson  
Randi Duffie, Vice Chairperson  
Tom Toronto, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
Freeholder Joan Voss, Board Member  
Freeholder Tracy Zur, Board Member  
Leah Puzzo, Board Member  
Mayor Vincent Barra, Board Member (Via-Teleconference)  
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  
John M. Carbone, Esq., County Adjuster

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was held on January 23, 2014 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 January 23, 2014 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2014, 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 13, 2014 and to the Herald News, which was published on January 13, 2014.

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 January 10, 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:**

**Flag Salute**

Chairman Connelly led those present in a salute to the flag.

**Roll Call**

A Roll Call was taken for Open Session:

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
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 (Via-Teleconference)	
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	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 Freeholder Voss, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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 (Via-Teleconference)			
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			

There being no public comments, a motion to close the Open Public Comment Period was offered by Freeholder Zur, seconded by Mr. Toronto, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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 (Via-Teleconference)			
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			

**Action Items:**

**Resolutions:**

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board will go into Closed Session to discuss items as set forth on the agenda to discuss litigation, office lease negotiations, and location. The Board will be in Closed Session for approximately 45 minutes. Official action may be taken by the Board once they exit Closed Session and reopen the meeting. The doors will reopen when they resume in Open Session and may take further action. The minutes from the Closed Session will be available to the public once the items have been resolved or no longer requires the minutes to be held and not distributed to the public. A

motion to approve Resolution 2014.1.23 (1) and to go into Closed Session was offered by Freeholder Zur, seconded by Mr. Toronto, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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 (Via- Teleconference)			
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			

The Board went into Closed Session.

**OPEN SESSION:**

The Board reconvened in Open Session.

A motion to approve the lease subject to the revisions requested by the Board in response to the landlord was offered by Freeholder Voss, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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 (Via- Teleconference)			
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X		X (Recusal)	

**Next Board Meeting Date – Tuesday, February 4, 2014 @ 4:30 p.m.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

With no further business to conclude, a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:36 p.m. was offered by Freeholder Zur, seconded by Freeholder Voss, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Calocino  
Acting Director