

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Bergen County Board of Social Services
November 9, 2017**

PRESENT: William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson
Ritzy A. Morales-Diaz, Secretary Treasurer
Erin N. Delaney, Assistant Secretary Treasurer
Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, Board Member
Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, Board Member
John E. Ten Hoeve, Jr., Esq., County Adjuster
John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel
Robert W. Calocino, Acting Director
Michele M. Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

ABSENT: Randi Duffie, Vice-Chairperson
Elaine K. Meyerson, Board Member

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was held on November 9, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the 4th Floor Board Room of the Bergen County Board of Social Services, 218 Route 17 North, Rochelle Park, New Jersey.

PUBLIC SESSION:

John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel to the Board, called the meeting to order and 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 November 9, 2017 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2017, 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 August 4, 2017 and to the Herald News, which was published on August 4, 2017.
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 August 2, 2017.

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:

Chairman William E. Connelly chaired the meeting.

Flag Salute

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

Roll Call

A Roll Call was taken for Open Session:

MEMBERS	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X	
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON		X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X	
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X	
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X	
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X	

FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X	
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER		X

Open Public Comment Period

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to open the meeting for public comment. A motion to open the Open Public Comment Period, for a three-minute limit with the option of speaking again, was offered by Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, seconded by Ritzy A. Morales-Diaz, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

Dolores Phillips – Montvale, N.J.

Dolores Phillips, President of CWA Local #1089, discussed that she represents all the people present who were dressed in “red” supportive of CWA. She discussed that they are present today because contract negotiations were never going good but now they are nonexistent and the members are frustrated. It has been almost a year since they have had a contract. She asked the Board for their help in moving things along. She thanked the Board Members.

Jenelle Blackmon – National CWA Staff Representative that is bargaining this contract for CWA Local #1089

Jenelle Blackmon discussed the eroding matter before their contract, which is their relationship. CWA Local #1089 has been trying to get a contract since April. They have not reached an agreement for several reasons, but primarily, because they feel that the Board’s Labor Attorney and the Board at this point in time are trying to erode the contract and gut it. The agency has asked for several thousands of dollars in givebacks. They have also asked for a 1% across the board wage increase although the Board already approved a 2.5% increase last year for the supervisors. The agency has also asked for retirement givebacks and several other things including changes in hours of work. Many of the staff that CWA Local #1089 represents has families, as well as, two and three jobs. The change in hours is going to severely hurt their membership. CWA Local #1089 asked that the agency come to a compromise on their proposal. They asked for a fair wage increase and fair economics throughout this contract. Jenelle Blackmon discussed that they worked years to put this Collective Bargaining Agreement in place. She asked that the Board try not to gut the contract. She discussed that several members of the bargaining team on management’s side have been wonderful to work with but the firm that the Board hired to bargain this contract has implemented a number of anti-union tactics including gutting this contract, taking away the union’s ability to bargain, their

ability to represent their members, and trying to pit supervisors against their subordinates by putting contract language in that is very different amongst bargaining units. She asked that the Board help them. She appealed to the Board that they speak with the Board’s labor firm and work with them in trying to get a Collective Bargaining Agreement that supports the working class. Jenelle Blackmon discussed that most of the people here work in Bergen County, pay taxes, and are the middle class of Bergen County. She asked that the Board support them and their democratic principles here in Bergen County and help them get a fair and liberal wage increase. She thanked the Board Members.

Chairman William E. Connelly thanked both individuals that spoke during the Open Public Comment Period.

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to close the Open Public Comment Period of the Open Session. A motion to close the Open Public Comment Period was offered by Ritzy A. Morales-Diaz, seconded by Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Open Session Minutes of October 3, 2017

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to adopt the Open Session minutes. A motion to adopt the Open Session minutes of October 3, 2017 was offered by Erin N. Delaney, seconded by Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER			X	
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER			X	
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

Treasurer’s Report:

(a) Bills List:

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to approve the Bills List. A motion to approve the Bills List was offered by Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, seconded by Ritzy A. Morales-Diaz,

and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

(b) Schedule of Vouchers:

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to approve the Schedule of Vouchers. A motion to approve the Schedule of Vouchers was offered by Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, seconded by John E. Ten Hoeve, Jr., Esq., and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

Administration Report:

(a) Monthly Reports – Statistical & Financial:

A snapshot of caseload and expenditures were included in each of the Board Member’s packet for the month of September. Robert W. Calocino reported that there was a decrease in TANF, Food Stamp, General Assistance, and Medicaid cases. He further reported that the downward trend in cases continues statewide.

(b) Memoranda to the Board

Robert W. Calocino reported that employees raised \$760.00 for both the Florida and Puerto Rico hurricane relief. The agency participated by sending down food to the County by the 31st. The final thirteen (13) office chairs were replaced the week of October 16, 2017. Staff attended and represented the agency at the Bergen County Children’s Interagency Coordinating Counsel workshop on October 20, 2017. Contract negotiations were held on October 2 and October 24, 2017 with CWA Local #1089. A meeting was held on October 17, 2017 with GHP Building Management on construction dollars available. An Assistant Administrative Supervisor of Social Work was a panelist on “Recognizing, Reporting, and Intervening in Elder Abuse” training organized by the New Jersey Foundation on Aging held on October 5, 2017. An Administrator & Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Supervisor went to Hudson County to meet with Work First New Jersey staff and explore how they identify and rectify issues that hinder client participation. A Medicaid Unit Specialist held

two training sessions for Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) members. Two employees attended Domestic Violence Training on October 24, 2017.

Chairman's Report

Chairman William E. Connelly welcomed the union people who respectfully came and attended this afternoon's Board Meeting. He discussed that the Board heard what the people said and do take it under advisement.

Committee Reports:

(a) Welfare, Fraud, and Abuse Committee

Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso reported from October 1 to October 31, 2017 the agency received Medicaid recoveries in the amount of \$10,302.23. No new cases were referred to the Prosecutor's office during the month of October.

(b) Audit & Budget Committee

No report.

(c) Building & Grounds Committee

Robert W. Calocino reported that a parking gate is currently being installed. Administration is working with the building owner in regard to obtaining information from staff for parking stickers. To date, parking spaces have not been marked for the Bergen County Board of Social Services.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.** in the 4'th floor Board Room.

Action Items:

Resolutions:

- (a) 2017.11.09 (1) - Resolution Authorizing Advertisement for the Position of Personnel Officer
- (b) 2017.11.09 (2) - Resolution Approving Settlement of Tax Appeal of the Property located at 216 Route 17 North, Rochelle Park, New Jersey
- (c) 2017.11.09 (3) - Resolution Authorizing Application for Grant from the State of N.J. Department of Community Affairs in Connection with the Universal Service Fund CWA Administration 2018 Program
- (d) 2017.11.09 (4) - Resolution Approving 2016 Financial Audit Report

- (e) 2017.11.09 (5) - Resolution Approving Debt Certification Agreement for Federal Non Tax Debts
- (f) 2017.11.09 (6)- Resolution Approving Additions, Elimination, and/or Changes to Positions within the Bergen County Board of Social Services
- (g) 2017.11.09 (7) - Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of Employment for Multiple Openings
- (h) 2017.11.09 (8) - Resolution *Revising* Resolution 2017.10.03 (3) Authorizing the Hiring of One (1) Part-Time Clerk 1
- (i) 2017.11.09 (9) - Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement and Offer of Employment for One (1) Full-Time Clerk 1
- (j) 2017.11.09 (10)- Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement and Offer of Employment for One (1) Part-Time Human Services Aide
- (k) 2017.11.09 (11)- Resolution Authorizing an Extension of Two Months in Employment for One Temporary Record Support Technician 1
- (l) 2017.11.09 (12)- Resolution Authorizing an Extension of Two Months in Employment for One Temporary Record Support Technician 1
- (m) 2017.11.09 (13)-Resolution Authorizing a Change in Employment from Part Time to Full Time for One Human Services Aide
- (n) 2017.11.09 (14)-Resolution Authorizing a Change in Employment from Part Time to Full Time for One Human Services Aide
- (o) 2017.11.09 (15)-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

A motion to discuss and approve Resolutions (a) through (n) was offered by John E. Ten Hoeve, Jr., Esq., seconded by Erin N. Delaney, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (o) 2017.11.09 (15) 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 Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, seconded by Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X

RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 4:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel to the Board, stated the Board will go into Closed Session to discuss the Closed Session minutes of October 3, 2017 and matters involving personnel, litigation, contracts, and negotiations. 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 Board will be in Closed Session for approximately 30 minutes at which time the meeting will then resume and reopen the meeting to the public. The Board may take further public action with respect to matters dealing with the Bergen County Board of Social Services and will finish the rest of the business on the agenda.

OPEN SESSION:

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 5:40 p.m.

For the record, Erin N. Delaney left during Closed Session and was no longer present for the Board Meeting.

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to adopt the Closed Session minutes. A motion to adopt the Closed Session Minutes of October 3, 2017 was offered by Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, seconded by Ritzy A. Moralez-Diaz, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. With no further business to conclude, a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:42 p.m. was offered by Ritzy A. Moralez-Diaz, seconded by Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			

RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON				X
RITZY A. MORALEZ-DIAZ	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
ERIN N. DELANEY	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
JOHN E. TEN HOEVE, JR., ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY S. ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER MARY J. AMOROSO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	BOARD MEMBER				X

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Calocino
Acting Director