

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Bergen County Board of Social Services
December 22, 2017**

PRESENT: William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson
Freeholder Tracy S. Zur, Board Member (Arrived Late)
Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, Board Member
John E. Ten Hoeve, Jr., Esq., County Adjuster (Via-Teleconference)
Elaine K. Meyerson, Board Member (Via-Teleconference)
John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel
Robert W. Calocino, Acting Director
Michele M. Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

ABSENT: Randi Duffie, Vice-Chairperson
Ritzy A. Moralez-Diaz, Secretary Treasurer
Erin N. Delaney, Assistant Secretary Treasurer

A special meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was held on December 22, 2017 at 12:00 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 December 22, 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 December 20, 2017 and to the Herald News, which was published on December 20, 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 December 18, 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.

For the record, Eric Bernstein, Esq., Labor Counsel, was present via-teleconference.

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	
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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 Mary J. Amoroso, seconded by Elaine K. Meyerson, 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			

Jenelle Blackmon – National CWA Staff Representative

Jenelle Blackmon who is bargaining this contract for CWA Local #1089 spoke about Resolution 2017.12.22 (1). She advised the Board that the membership ratified the agreement but they are not happy. They have not resolved all the language issues in the Memorandum of Agreement and even up until this morning certain things that they thought they had an understanding on is not what the understanding is. On behalf of the union, they are not happy with the agreement but the membership has ratified it. She expressed that they felt pressured into reaching an agreement by the end of the year because they were told they wouldn't get a raise in 2017. She also expressed that they felt bullied into getting an agreement. Nevertheless, she wants to move forward and is hopeful the union and management can work through these issues going forward.

Dolores Phillips, President of CWA Local #1089

Dolores Phillips reiterated what Jenelle Blackmon talked about. Dolores Phillips discussed that she has negotiated contracts for health care workers, law enforcement officers, and for county employees and this was absolutely the worst that she has ever gone through. She expressed that it saddens her that labor has come to this in Bergen County.

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 Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, 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			

Chairman's Report

Chairman William E. Connelly discussed that he has also been involved with negotiations for some time. Not everybody is happy when they leave the negotiation table. He hasn't seen it yet. He has negotiated for Local 32BJ in New York and others. He expressed the Negotiations Committee that is comprised of Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, Elaine K. Meyerson, and Erin N. Delaney worked very hard on negotiations. He expressed there had been a lot of back and forth and a lot of time spent on negotiations. The outcome is there has to be an agreement. He congratulated the union and the committee. He understands the process was not easy.

Action Items:

Resolutions:

- (a) 2017.12.22 (1) - Resolution Approving Ratification of Union Contract with CWA Local #1089
- (b) 2017.12.22 (2) - Resolution Relieving In-House Counsel
- (c) 2017.12.22 (3) - Resolution Appointing Per Diem In-House Counsel
- (d) 2017.12.22 (4) - 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

Chairman William E. Connelly advised that the Board would go into Closed Session for discussion before voting on Resolution (c) 2017.12.22 (3).

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (a) was offered by Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, 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			

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (b) was offered by Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, 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			

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (d) 2017.12.22 (4) 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 Mary J. Amoroso, 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			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 12:18 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel to the Board, stated the Board will go into Closed Session to discuss matters involving personnel, litigation, contracts, and negotiations. The Board will be in Closed Session for approximately 5 minutes at which time the meeting will then resume and reopen the meeting to the public. The Board will take further public action with respect to the resolution that were pulled. The Board will take further public action in 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 12:32 p.m.

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (c) 2017.12.22 (3) and appoint Michael Sluka, Esq. as pier diem attorney from now until February 1, 2018 at a rate of \$150.00 per hour 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			

A motion to cancel the December 26, 2017 Special Meeting 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			

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 12:34 p.m. was offered by Freeholder Mary J. Amoroso, 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			

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Calocino
Acting Director