



JERLENE H. WORTHY, CLERK
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

COUNTY OF MERCER
McDADE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
640 SOUTH BROAD STREET
P.O. BOX 8068
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08650-0068
(609) 989-6584
Fax: (609) 392-0488

LISA M. VENA
DEPUTY CLERK

MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

FORMAL MEETING OF MAY 28, 2020

MINUTES

Freeholder Chair Andrew Koontz called the Formal Meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. on May 28, 2020.

The following members of the Board answered the Roll Call of the Clerk to the Board:

Present - Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

The Clerk to the Board read the Invocation.

Chair Koontz led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag.

The Clerk to the Board announced that in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, notice of this Formal Meeting had been mailed to The Trenton Times, The Trentonian and The Princeton Packet newspapers as well as having been posted in both the County Administration Building and Courthouse at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

At this time, Chair Koontz invited members of the public to comment on any item listed on the Agenda.

The following residents spoke about various matter of concern regarding the Trenton-Mercer Airport. They also discussed their opposition to proposed Resolution R-9, which authorized the execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Volaire Aviation, Inc., to provide airline and airport marketing consulting services for the Trenton-Mercer Airport and R-10 which authorizes a Grant Application with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for On-Airport Obstruction Removal (Design and Permitting) at the Trenton-Mercer Airport. **(See Schedule A, attached hereto; and made a part hereof)**

Ms. Suzanna McGee, 5 Rutledge Avenue, Ewing NJ, addressed the Board regarding her concerns with proposed Resolution R-10. Ms. McGee was extremely concerned with the removal of trees located around the grounds of the airport. She felt the public was improperly informed of this matter and requested maps to see the location of where said trees would be removed.

Chair Koontz explained that there were several maps attached to Communication, C-2 and he would forward those to Ms. McGee for her information.

Mr. Glenn Reitmeier, 1124 South Houston Road, Yardley PA, addressed the Board. He referred to proposed Resolution R-9, and felt it was not prudent to market the expansion of the Trenton-Mercer Airport during a pandemic. Mr. Reitmeier felt the Board should postpone all expenditures of taxpayer money at the airport and in return use those funds to help residents in need.

Ms. Ann Chmielewski, 49 Sunset Avenue, Ewing, NJ addressed the Board. Ms. Chmielewski spoke of the wonder sounds of nature she has been listening to since the absence of flights occurred at the airport. She was pleasantly surprised to hear sounds she had missed for so long. Ms. Chmielewski added that removing trees would only be detrimental to the surrounding areas and the existing wildlife. She was extremely concerned with the full environmental impact this could have and felt an outside firm should be hired to complete a wetlands analysis.

Ms. Chmielewski felt the funding of this project could be better used to help the residents of Mercer County. She thanked the Board for their time and informed them of the untimely passing of Ms. Terry Krulick a known Mercer County resident, who often spoke about her apprehensions regarding the airport.

Ms. Sue Herman, PO Box 285 Newtown, PA, addressed the Board. She expressed her concern with the proposed Resolutions and felt the residents of that area were going to be greatly impacted. Ms. Herman spoke of significant issues regarding water runoff and climate change and suggested an environmental impact study be completed before any trees were removed.

Ms. Deborah Basemen, Vankirk Road, Princeton NJ addressed the Board. She was concerned with the possible expansion efforts occurring at the airport and said more information should be obtained before any tree removal happens. Ms. Baseman spoke about the possibility of significant flooding and water contamination. She was concerned about the effects this could have on the surrounding environment in the future.

Chair Koontz explained that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) were the leading force in having the County remove obstructions from airport grounds.

County Administrator, Lillian Nazzaro, Esq., added that the Resolution was only limited to removal of obstructions, such as trees, and not the expansion of the airport's terminal.

Ms. Baseman stated that a terminal expansion was previously submitted to the FAA for review and budgeted for.

County Administrator Nazzaro explained that she has not seen that designation for the expansion project.

Ms. Baseman asked who would be designing the terminal expansion.

Chair Koontz explained that the expansion project would be mentioned in a different Resolution that would have to be approved by the Freeholder Board. He reiterated that no Resolution was on tonight's Agenda dealing with the airport expansion.

Ms. Judy Hopener, Shiloh Road, Yardley PA, asked if the Administration was applying for \$480,000.00 in funds from the FAA to design and permit obstruction removal and if so, why were residents not notified sooner. She asked if they would have to OPRA request that information.

Chair Koontz answered that Mr. Nicholas McLaughlin from C&S Engineers was present tonight and available to answer any questions or concerns.

Ms. Jackie Malone, 531 Lafayette Avenue, Hamilton NJ addressed the Board. She expressed her feelings about the importance of trees in the surrounding neighborhoods and felt the money should be used to help residents who live in Mercer County.

Ms. Kristen McGarty, 12 Vankirk Road, Lawrence NJ, addressed the Board. She spoke about many trials and tribulations people were dealing with and felt that any money should be made available to aid residents in need.

Dr. Robin Karpf, 64 Vankirk Road, Princeton NJ, addressed the Board. Dr. Karpf stated that she agreed with her fellow citizens and disagreed with any monies being expended at the airport. She felt removing the trees would have a grave impact on the environment and surrounding areas. Dr. Karpf asked the Board to reconsider the Resolution.

PRESENTATIONS

The Freeholder Board presented Ms. Sara Cooper with a proclamation recognizing her for spreading awareness about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) disease.

Ms. Cooper, a resident of Titusville, was diagnosed with ALS, a progressive neurodegenerative disease. After receiving her diagnosis, she decided to become an outspoken advocate for the disease and help spread awareness. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, which is one of her many passions, so much so, that she chose to leave her career in real estate lending and enroll in culinary school. Ms. Cooper went on to speak about her many accomplishments and expressed her gratitude for being recognized for innovating policy regarding ALS.

Freeholder Cannon thanked Ms. Cooper for her very moving story. She spoke of their mutual friend Ms. Wendy Sturgeon and how blessed she was to have a friend in Ms. Cooper. Freeholder Cannon praised Ms. Cooper and thanked her for her many contributions.

Chair Koontz explained that some of the Freeholders were wearing orange in honor of another presentation this evening. He recognized Ms. Teska Frisby, an advocate of Moms Demand Action.

Ms. Frisby thanked the Board for allowing her to be present this evening and commented that the Board looked lovely in orange. She explained that Moms Demand Action consisted of Americans across the Country fighting for stricter gun laws to help alleviate gun violence. Ms. Frisby said that the 1st Friday of every June is when orange is worn to honor those affected by gun violence. She spoke about the work that is done throughout communities and in conjunction with business leaders to encourage responsible gun ownership. Ms. Frisby thanked the Board for recognizing this cause once again.

Chair Koontz read the proclamation into the record and said that on June 5th everyone should wear orange recognizing gun violence awareness day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On the motion of Freeholder Walter, seconded by Freeholder Cannon, the Minutes of the following meetings were approved:

Reorganization Meeting of January 3, 2020
Formal Meeting of January 9, 2020

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes – 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

On the motion of Freeholder Cannon, seconded by Freeholder Frisby, the Minutes of the following meeting was approved:

Formal Meeting of January 23, 2020

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes – 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

On the motion of Freeholder Walter moved, seconded by Freeholder Frisby, the Minutes of the following meeting was approved:

Formal Meeting of February 13, 2020

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes – 6. Nays - 0. Abstain - 1. Absent -0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz
Abstain – Freeholder Cannon

COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was received from Suzannah Givone, Clerk Pro Term, Sussex County Freeholder Board, dated May 14, 2020, RE: Support for COVID-19 At-Home Testing.

A communication was received from Lillian L. Nazzaro, Esq., County Administrator, dated May 26, 2020, RE: Freeholder Questions for May 26, 2020 Meeting.

A communication from Lillian L. Nazzaro, Esq., County Administrator, dated May 26, 2020, RE: Freeholder Questions for May 26, 2020 Meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

With the exception of Resolution Nos. R-9 and R-10, the Clerk to the Board called for a Motion to Vote in Block on the following Resolutions listed on the Agenda:

Freeholder Cannon moved, seconded by Freeholder Colavita, that:

RESOLUTIONS NO. R-1 THROUGH R-8, ON THE AGENDA “BE VOTED ON IN BLOCK”

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes - 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent - 0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Freeholder Cannon offered the following Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Frisby:

- NO. 2020-265** MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AUTHORIZES PAYMENT TO SIRSIDYNIX FOR THE PROVISION OF MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE SYMPHONY LIBRARY COMPUTER SYSTEM. PERIOD: JUNE 1, 2020 THROUGH MAY 31, 2021. AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED: \$108,000.00 (LIBRARY FUNDS)
- NO. 2020-266** COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CLERK TO THE BOARD AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE A GRANT AWARD FOR THE COUNTY INNOVATION PROJECT CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES. PERIOD: JUNE 30, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 29, 2021. AMOUNT: \$140,490.00 (STATE FUNDS) (NO COUNTY FUNDS)
- NO. 2020-267** COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CLERK TO THE BOARD AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE A REVISED CONTRACT MODIFICATION FORM FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE HOMELESS (SSH) CONTRACT, WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (NJ DHS), DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (DFD). PERIOD: JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020. AMOUNT: \$1,980,500.00 ([STATE SSH FUNDS]; [TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) FUNDS]; AND INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT (ICM) FUNDS) (NO COUNTY FUNDS)

NO. 2020-268

AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 2020-84, ADOPTED FEBRUARY 13, 2020 AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CLERK TO THE BOARD TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE 2020 INITIAL AREA PLAN CONTRACT GRANT AWARD FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF AGING SERVICES, "AMEND RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$255,077.00 AND TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT PERIOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 FOR THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING ONLY." REVISED TOTAL AMOUNT: \$2,104,420.00 (\$662,652.00 [FEDERAL TITLE IIIB, C1, C2, D, AND E FUNDS]; \$57,835.00 [STATE MATCH FUNDS]; \$38,385.00 [STATE WEEKEND HOME DELIVERED MEALS FUNDS (SWHDM)]; \$45,409.00 [SAFE HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDS (APS)]; \$561,167.00 [SOCIAL SERVICE BLOCK GRANT FUNDS SSBG)]; \$20,993.00 [MEDICAID MATCH FUNDS]; \$32,654.00 [NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM FUNDS (NSIP)]; \$209,419.00 [SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS]; \$23,810.00 [CARE MANAGEMENT QUALITY ASSURANCE FUNDS (CMQA)]; AND \$255,077.00 [FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT FUNDING (FFCRA) - \$84,798.00 [FFCRA C1 FUNDS]; AND \$170,279.00 [FFCRA C2 FUNDS]) (NO COUNTY FUNDS)

NO. 2020-269

COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CLERK TO THE BOARD AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT (AWARDED THROUGH A NON-FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS) WITH THE FIRM OF MCMANIMON, SCOTLAND & BAUMAN, TO DEFEND THE COUNTY IN CERTAIN LITIGATION INVOLVING THE SOLAR PANEL FIELD AT MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE. AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED: \$10,000.00. PERIOD: JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020. (COUNTY FUNDS)

NO. 2020-270 AWARD OF BID RECEIVED MARCH 4, 2020 TO ADVANCED AIR SERVICE GROUP FOR DUCT CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF MERCER AND THE MERCER COUNTY PARK COMMISSION. PERIOD: MAY 1, 2020 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2022. TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED: \$98,245.00 (AB2020-16)

NO. 2020-271 REJECTION OF BID FROM ACTION TARGET, INC., FOR PHASE ONE FOR THE FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION FOR A MODULAR STEEL BULLET TRAP FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE (AB2020-03)

NO. 2020-272 REJECTION OF BID FROM APEX APPLIANCE REPAIR & SERVICE, INC., FOR DUCT CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE MERCER COUNTY PARK COMMISSION (AB2020-16)

VOTE ON RESOLUTIONS:

Ayes -7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -- 0.

Ayes -- Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

At this time, Chair Koontz recognized Freeholder Walter on her Motion to table the following Resolution:

Freeholder Walter felt that spending this amount of money with everything going on in the world did not make sense. She said many smaller airlines may unfortunately be forced to go out of business. Freeholder Walter said she would feel more comfortable considering this Resolution at a different time when there was more clarity and when the airline industry bounced back. She felt strongly about offering a motion to table this Resolution.

Freeholder Walter offered the following Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Melker that:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CLERK TO THE BOARD AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (AWARDED THROUGH A NON-FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS) WITH VOLAIRE AVIATION, INC., TO PROVIDE AIRLINE AND AIRPORT MARKETING CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE TRENTON-MERCER AIRPORT. PERIOD: APRIL 1, 2020 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2021. AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED: \$54,000.00; **BE TABLED ON THE AGENDA**

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes – 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Freeholder Frisby offered the following Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Cannon; that:

NO. 2020-273 COUNTY EXECUTIVE AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) FOR ON-AIRPORT OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL (DESIGN AND PERMITTING) AT THE TRENTON-MERCER AIRPORT. FAA GRANT APPROXIMATE AMOUNT: \$480,000.00

Freeholder Cimino asked the Administration if there was a deadline on the Grant Application.

County Administrator Nazzaro believed there was a deadline that needed to be adhered to.

Mr. McLaughlin answered that the deadline for submission was June 16, 2020.

Freeholder Cimino asked if the Board would meet before that deadline.

Ms. Jerlene H. Worthy, Clerk to the Board, answered that the next set of meetings were scheduled for June 9th and 11th.

Freeholder Cimino asked if the maps that pertain to R-10 could be uploaded to the County website allowing the public to view them.

Ms. Nazzaro stated that those maps were made part of the record as back-up to Communication C-2.

Ms. Worthy added that Resolutions would be posted online after tonight's meeting.

Freeholder Frisby felt that the community posed a lot of questions and understood their concerns but explained that this Resolution was merely an application applying for funding. He explained that if the funds were granted a Resolution would still have to come before the Board for final approval.

Ms. Nazzaro agreed with Freeholder Frisby; and asked Mr. McLaughlin to add to the discussion.

Mr. McLaughlin explained that this project and Grant dealt only with the removal of obstructions to critical pre-existing surfaces present at Trenton-Mercer Airport. He explained that nothing new would be added.

Freeholder Cimino asked if these maps were already made available on the airport's website.

County Administrator Nazzaro explained that all documents are available for review on the airport's website.

Freeholder Cimino understood the process and felt comfortable moving forward with the adoption of the Resolution.

Freeholder Walter said she was fully aware of what a Grant Application entails but was extremely concerned with the environmental impacts this could cause the surrounding areas. She explained that healthy trees should not be removed because of the beneficial factors they provide. Freeholder Walter said that one healthy 50-foot tree has roughly 100,000 leaves and takes on 500 gallons of water in just one season. She explained that tree would continue to do that through every season and its roots acts as a filter for harmful substances. Freeholder Walter felt strongly that these trees did not need to be removed and because of this reason was voting no. She hoped her fellow colleagues would do the same and not allow this project to move forward at this time.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION

Ayes – 6. Nays - 0. Abstain - 1. Absent -0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, and Koontz

Abstain – Freeholder Walter

2020 MERCER COUNTY BUDGET

Chair Koontz announced the opening of the Public Hearing on the Amendments to the 2020 Mercer County Budget.

Chair Koontz asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Freeholder Cannon moved to close, **“To Close the Public Hearing”**, seconded by Freeholder Walter.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Ayes -7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent – 0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Freeholder Walter offered the following Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Frisby:

NO. 2020-274 - AMENDMENT TO THE 2020 APPROVED BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED:

Ayes -7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent – 0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Chair Koontz announced the opening of the Public Hearing on the Amendment to the 2020 Approved Budget of the County of Mercer, New Jersey:

Chair Koontz asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Freeholder Cannon moved to close, **“To Close the Public Hearing”**, seconded by Freeholder Walter.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Ayes -7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent – 0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Freeholder Cannon offered the following Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Frisby:

NO. 2020-275 – AMENDMENT TO THE 2020 APPROVED BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED:

Ayes -7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent – 0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Chair Koontz announced the opening of the Public Hearing of the 2020 Mercer County Budget as Amended.

Chair Koontz asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion to recess the Public Hearing.

Freeholder Colavita moved, "To Recess the Public Hearing", seconded by Freeholder Cannon.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Ayes -7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent – 0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

ON-GOING BUSINESS

Freeholder Cannon thanked Chair Koontz's aide, Mario Laurenti, for his hard work and dedication regarding the Freeholder Board's Scholarship program. She said during this unprecedented time she felt proud knowing that the Board would still be able to acknowledge the young recipients throughout the County.

Freeholder Walter asked if the Administration had any updated numbers related to the 2020 Census.

Mr. Terry West responded that some preliminary numbers were in. He explained that Mercer County moved from a category which was coming in under 50 to now over 63.5 response rate. He stated that the response rate in the City of Trenton was performing slowly but added that 20,000 postcards were mailed to residents who were both registered and non-registered voters. Mr. West said they wrapped up the digital campaign and were now focusing on the postcard campaign throughout the month of June. He was hopeful that this would encourage residents to fill out the census and said that fliers were printed in both Spanish and English.

NEW BUSINESS

Freeholder Colavita congratulated Freeholder Board Clerk, Ms. Jerlene H. Worthy, for being honored by the YWCA Princeton. Ms. Worthy was one of thirteen honorees recognized for their mission of "Eliminating Racism. Empowering women." The Board collectively congratulated Ms. Worthy for her outstanding work in the community.

ADJOURNMENT

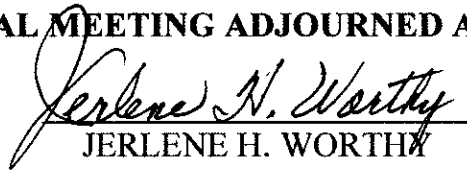
A motion to adjourn the Formal Meeting was offered by Freeholder Frisby and seconded by Freeholder Cimino, which was adopted by the unanimous vote of the members of the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes – 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

FORMAL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00 PM



JERLENE H. WORTHY
CLERK TO THE BOARD

Susan Herman's FIRST Public Comment (on behalf of Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.) at the May 28, 2020 Formal Meeting of the Mercer County Freeholders

Good evening. Susan Herman, President of Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc. (a.k.a. RRTS; P.O. Box 285, Newtown, PA 18940).

As you know, we are not trying to shut down Trenton-Mercer Airport (TTN). Affected residents in Mercer and Bucks Counties are becoming increasingly alarmed by the RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO TTN that the Freeholder Board has been approving. These RESOLUTIONS result in the continued irresponsible large-scale expansion of TTN. **The cumulative environmental impacts of the many segmented projects (that have either already taken place OR are planned) have not been adequately considered and studied.** The health, safety and welfare of residents in Mercer County and Bucks County is in jeopardy.

You continue to be cavalier about the grave environmental concerns that exist at the former Naval Air Warfare Center site, which is adjacent to and overlapping the TTN property.

- The public report titled *Final Fourth Five Year Review Report NAWC TRENTON NJ (Public Document) dated 12/31/2018* shows significant ongoing harmful contamination issues. (See attached Title Page.) With increased rainfall and runoff due to climate change, this contamination poses ongoing harm to our water system sources, local streams, and rivers. These contaminated sites are too close to planned expansion, renovation and demolition work planned by the TTN Projects.
- In PA Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick's 11/12/19 letter of concern to the U.S. Department of Transportation [a letter that you have received many times during RRTS public comment at this meeting] he states,

"...the DoD (Department of Defense) monitored groundwater wells around the Naval Air Warfare Center Trenton and found that the majority tested near above the EPA LHA for PFOS/PFOA...Considering the proximity of the wells to TTN, and how quickly PFOS/PFOA contaminations bioaccumulate, it is likely that the contaminates have spread to neighboring wells and ground water. Given the health risks associated with PFOS/PFOA exposure, it is critical that the environmental assessment for any project at TTN take these risks into account..."

Congressman Fitzpatrick's 11/12/19 letter is attached to these comments.

The Freeholder Board's continued unchecked and irresponsible expansion of TTN at the expense of the health, safety and welfare of NJ and PA residents **MUST BE STOPPED**. It is apparent that, when it comes to this issue, you are indifferent toward the tragic consequences of your actions.

Tonight we ask three (3) things:

- 1) We ask that you separate out RESOLUTION #9, as well as, RESOLUTION #10 from the other RESOLUTIONS.

R9: is (per Freeholder Koontz at the 5/26/20 Freeholder agenda meeting) the execution of a professional services agreement to hire "an agency that would go out and recruit airlines to use TTN". Amount not to exceed: \$54,000.00

R10: is "COUNTY EXECUTIVE AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) FOR ON-AIRPORT OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL (DESIGN AND PERMITTING) AT THE TRENTON-MERCER AIRPORT. FAA GRANT APPROXIMATE AMOUNT: \$480,000.00."

- 2) We ask that you deny both RESOLUTION #9 and RESOLUTION #10.

- 3) WE MAKE A CALL FOR ACTION TO THE MERCER COUNTY FREEHOLDERS AND TO NEW JERSEY POLITICIANS UP THE LINE THROUGH THE FEDERAL LEVEL. We ask that the Freeholders place this topic on their Formal Meeting Agenda in the near future: "TRENTON - MERCER AIRPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION DISCUSSION". We ask that during that agenda item you...

(a) educate residents about the toxic effects that unleashed PFOS/PFOA contamination will have on our water supply and the health of our families, and

(b) that you have New Jersey AND Pennsylvania politicians up through the Federal level attend and outline the strategy for preventing such toxic contamination to our water supply.

We will submit tonight's public comment in writing in an email to Freeholder Koontz, and respectfully request that you include that email in the public record for tonight's meeting.

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TRENTON_NAWC
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**FINAL FOURTH FIVE YEAR REVIEW REPORT NAWC TRENTON NJ (PUBLIC
DOCUMENT)
12/31/2018
TETRA TECH**

Page 3/6

Approved for public release: distribution unlimited.

BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK
1ST DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



1722 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20516
(202) 225-4276

1717 LANGHORNE-NEWTOWN BLDG.
SUITE 400
LANGHORNE, PA 19047
(215) 575-8102

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

November 12, 2019

Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing today in response to the letter I received from the Federal Aviation Administration dated August 6, 2019 regarding Trenton-Mercer Airport (TTN). In the letter, Acting Administrator Daniel K. Elwell indicated that the FAA has reviewed the projects at TTN and believes that the airport has not engaged in segmentation and has properly evaluated cumulative impacts. As stated in my letter addressed to the U.S. Department of Transportation dated May 9, 2019, I continue to be concerned that TTN has chosen to segment these projects to reduce the level of environmental study required. Additionally, I am greatly concerned that the TTN has overlooked potential existing ground water contamination while conducting their Environmental Assessment (EA). Therefore, I am requesting that the FAA review the mechanisms used by TTN to complete their Environmental Assessment to ensure that all environmental impacts, including threats to the safety of ground and drinking water, be evaluated.

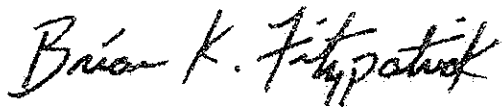
The FAA, following the NEPA process, issued a FONSI/ROD for the TTN Runway Protection Zone and Obstruction Mitigation project after evaluating the Environmental Assessment. The TTN EA indicates that the proposed project will result in the clearing of 2.3 acres of trees within 100 feet of contaminated groundwater associated with the Naval Air Warfare Center (C&S Companies Environmental Assessment for Runway Protection Zones and Obstruction Mitigation page 3-24, July 2019). Although several contaminants are listed in the EA, there is no mention of the presence of PFOS/PFOA. However, according to a 2018 Congressional Brief by Maureen Sullivan, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, the DoD monitored groundwater wells around the Naval Air Warfare Center Trenton and found that the majority tested near above the EPA LHA for PFOS/PFOA. Of the 38 wells tested, 23 tested above the EPA LHA with readings in the range of 178 – 27,800 PPT. (FY18 HASC on PFOS-PFOA, page 36) Considering the proximity of the wells to TTN, and how quickly PFOS/PFOA contaminations bioaccumulate, it is likely that the contaminants have spread to neighboring wells and ground water. Given the health risks associated with PFOS/PFOA exposure, it is critical that the environmental assessment for any project at TTN take these risks into account.

Page 4/5

It is my understanding that the spirit of the NEPA process is to ensure that project impacts are reviewed in their totality to ensure that proper environmental protections are maintained. I share the concern of my constituents that the TTN master plan and RPZ project impact studies are not in keeping with the spirit of NEPA. I urge the TTN management, their consultants and the FAA to consider cumulative impacts of not only connected actions at the airport property, but also those off-airport factors that may impact the surrounding communities.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian K. Fitzpatrick". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Susan Herman's SECOND Public Comment (on behalf of Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc.) at the May 28, 2020 Formal Meeting of the Mercer County Freeholders

Susan Herman, President of Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, Inc. (a.k.a. RRTS; P.O. Box 285, Newtown, PA 18940).

What is Mercer County's contribution/match to **RESOLUTION 10** which states, " ...FAA GRANT APPROXIMATE AMOUNT: \$480,000.00"?

WE REITERATE OUR CALL FOR ACTION TO THE MERCER COUNTY FREEHOLDERS AND TO NEW JERSEY POLITICIANS UP THE LINE THROUGH THE FEDERAL LEVEL. We ask that the Freeholders place this topic on their Formal Meeting Agenda in the near future: **"TRENTON - MERCER AIRPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION DISCUSSION"**. We ask that during that agenda item you...

(a) educate residents about the toxic effects that unleashed PFOS/PFOA contamination will have on our water supply and the health of our families, and

(b) that you have New Jersey AND Pennsylvania politicians up through the Federal level attend and outline the strategy for preventing such toxic contamination to our water supply.

WILL YOU DO THIS? I'll now canvas the Freeholder Board members...

Mr. Koontz

Mr. Cimino

Ms. Walter

Ms. Cannon

Mr. Frisby

Mr. Colavita

Ms. Melker

We will submit tonight's second public comment, along with our first public comment, in writing in an email to Freeholder Koontz, and respectfully request that you include that email in the public record for tonight's meeting. Thank you.

May 28, 2020

Comments to the Mercer county Board of Chosen Freeholders

My Comments relate to Trenton Mercer Airport

Resolution Number 10 is the item of significant concern and I request that it be removed for consideration the following reasons:

Environmental Impact

With reduced air traffic due to the Pandemic there has been a noticeable increase in wildlife activity in the vicinity of 49 Sunset Avenue. In particular, there is a greater variety of birds seen and notably heard. The diversity of wildlife existing and depending on the trees in this woodland is significant. Due to the impact on the wildlife, the air quality and the water, I request that due to the major impact, an environmental impact study should be completed prior to removal or modification of the woodland.

I request that R-10 be removed and be reconsidered only after an EIS is complete.

Financial Impact

The FAA has higher priorities at this time due to the Pandemic. In consideration of their more pressing current issues, it not imperative that a grant be sought at this time. The trees are still serving their role within their environmental context. Consideration can be revisited in the future. To request monies at this time through the FAA grant process is a selfish endeavor when so many truly important issues exist. I request on behalf of this community and in consideration of the challenges facing our country that you do not pursue the grant at this time.

How many times can you turn your heads and pretend you just do not see?

Yes, and how many times must you all look up before you can see the sky?

And how many times can you cast a vote and ignore the wind in the trees?

The answer my friends is blowing in the wind, the answer is blowing in the wind.

Your consideration please,

Anne Chmielewski

49 Sunset Avenue

Ewing, New Jersey 08628

Bianchi, Gillian

From: Koontz, Andrew
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 3:44 PM
To: Bianchi, Gillian
Subject: Fw: Comment for May 28th Formal Meeting to be included in minutes

This is Ms. Karpf's email she sent Andrew

LAURENTI, Mario
Confidential Aide to Freeholder Andrew Koontz

From: Robin Karpf <rkarpf64@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 6:45 PM
To: Koontz, Andrew <akoontz@mercercounty.org>
Subject: Comment for May 28th Formal Meeting to be included in minutes

Please include my comments in the meeting minutes for May 28, 2020.

With the continued airport expansion there will be increased flight patterns, greater fuel loads, and the planned removal of trees will have a combined impact of additional impervious coverage and greater pollution from stormwater runoff. In addition, increased contamination from jet fuel and firefighting foam into the nearby streams and River, and possible spread of PFOA chemicals and heavy metals from existing contaminated sites on and near the airport further into groundwater resources are not only possible but are likely. Increased flight traffic and associated noise will disrupt wildlife in nearby parks, preserved farmland and open spaces. Residents have noted an increase in bird and wildlife activities in recent weeks due to the decrease in flights with Covid 19 pandemic.

Our environment and local Scenery is an outstanding resource value for which our area is well known. Thousands of dollars have been spent in recent years enhancing these resources and the airport planned expansion with increased flights will significantly impact these areas and objectives. The scenic views associated with the Lower Delaware area are iconic and planning for the visual impact of greatly increased flight patterns over the River, combined with removal of trees for development, requires careful planning and possible mitigation efforts that have not been considered.

We understand that the expansion of the Trenton-Mercer Airport project has been long in the planning to meet the demands of a heavily travelled corridor and to support the economic growth of Mercer County. With that said, as the airport continues to pursue numerous separate projects which may have a cumulative impact, we request careful oversight as it pertains to our water resources. We ask that a comprehensive environmental and public health analysis be conducted to examine the collective impact of these expansion projects. This includes the terminal expansion itself, the runway protective zone, and the anticipated increase of traffic.

Thank you,
Robin Karpf, MD

Bianchi, Gillian

From: Vena, Lisa
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Bianchi, Gillian
Subject: FW: Statement for the Public Record

See email below.

From: Koontz, Andrew
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Worthy, Jerlene
Cc: Vena, Lisa
Subject: Fw: Statement for the Public Record

Cookie-

We received this message from Mr. Reitmeier asking for his comments (below) to be included into the public record.

Thanks.

LAURENTI, Mario

Confidential Aide to Freeholder Andrew Koontz

From: Glenn Reitmeier <glenn.reitmeier@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:45 PM
To: Koontz, Andrew <akoontz@mercercounty.org>
Subject: Statement for the Public Record

Dear Freeholder Koontz,

Thank you for the opportunity for public comment at this evening's Freeholders meeting. Please accept the text below as a transcript of my comment and enter it into the public record. Thank you for your consideration of the important points that I bring to your attention.

"Freeholders should reconsider all expenditures and plans related to the Trenton airport expansion in light of the Covid pandemic. The pandemic has resulted in a precipitous drop in commercial air travel and that impact may well be a long-term one. It is unimaginable that air traffic growth forecasts made before the pandemic could remain accurate in the post-pandemic world. Investing in an airport expansion at a time when air travel has experienced its most precipitous drop in history is unwise and not in the best interests of the county and its citizens. With all of the uncertainty about the future demand for air travel, there can be no urgency to airport expansion plans. All activities and plans should be stopped immediately, pending revised air traffic forecasts once the long term effects of the pandemic on air travel become clear. Current Trenton airport facilities may well be sufficient for a future with substantially less air travel. Blindly continuing an expansion plan that has been obsoleted by the unforeseen pandemic would be both unwise and irresponsible, especially in light of the concerning environmental and quality of life issues that have been raised by many residents of both Mercer and Bucks counties. It is Freeholders' responsibility to recognize this and act accordingly. Freeze all plans and stop all work on airport expansion NOW."



COUNTY OF MERCER
McDADE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
640 SOUTH BROAD STREET
P.O. BOX 8068
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08650-0068
(609) 989-6584
Fax: (609) 392-0488

JERLENE H. WORTHY, CLERK
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

LISA M. VENA
DEPUTY CLERK

MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

INFORMAL MEETING OF MAY 26, 2020

MINUTES

Freeholder Board Chair Koontz called the Agenda Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. on April 7, 2020

ROLL CALL

The following members of the Board answered the Roll Call of the Clerk to the Board:

Present - Freeholders Cannon, Cimino, Colavita, Frisby, Melker, Walter and Koontz

Chair Koontz led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE LAW

The Clerk to the Board announced that in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, notice of this Informal Meeting had been mailed to The Trenton Times, The Trentonian and The Princeton Packet newspapers as well as having been posted in both the County Administration Building and Courthouse at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

MINUTES

Chair Koontz informed the Board that there were four sets of Minutes that were on the Agenda for their review. He noted that the Minutes would need to be separated for voting.

1. Reorganization Meeting of January 3, 2020
 2. Formal Meeting of January 9, 2020
 3. Formal Meeting of January 23, 2020
 4. Formal Meeting of February 13, 2020
-

COMMUNICATIONS

Three (3) communications were discussed and approved for placement on the Agenda for the Formal Meeting of May 28, 2020.

Freeholder Walter made reference to C-3, a communication regarding proposed Resolution R-10, authorizing a Grant Application with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for On-Airport Obstruction Removal (Design and Permitting) at the Trenton-Mercer Airport. She voiced her serious concerns regarding wetlands and the need for flood hazard approval. Freeholder Walter added that the purchase of wetland bank and riparian zone credits would not help mitigate airport runoff after the trees are removed.

Mr. Michael Herbert, Esq., Board Counsel, explained that this matter had been previously reviewed by the Ewing Planning Board and spoke about a storm drain that would assist in any runoff that may occur. Mr. Herbert said any of those concerns should have been addressed by the Ewing Planning Board.

Freeholder Walter said she had reservations with moving forward due to the environmental impacts this project may cause.

Chair Koontz suggested discussing this matter when the Resolutions were being discussed.

RESOLUTIONS

Thirteen (13) proposed Resolutions were discussed and approved for placement on the agenda for the Formal Meeting of May 28, 2020.

Freeholder Walter made reference to the following proposed Resolution, R-10 which authorizes a Grant Application with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for On-Airport Obstruction Removal (Design and Permitting) at the Trenton-Mercer Airport. She wished to continue the discussion regarding the removal of obstructions located on airport grounds. Freeholder Walter was open to hearing from Mr. McLaughlin, the Department Manager from C&S Engineers.

Mr. McLaughlin explained that the stormwater would be mitigated onsite and their main objective was to decrease any possible runoff. He said they have partnered with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the Mercer County Soil Conservation District to assist with this project. Mr. McLaughlin said their goal was to create a meadow area, which would substantially slow the runoff. He stated that an environmental assessment plan was different than other wetland projects, especially when the removal of trees was involved with no soil disturbance. Mr. McLaughlin reiterated that all project approvals go before NJDEP for their consent.

Freeholder Walter asked why the purchase of credits was needed if everything was being done onsite.

Mr. McLaughlin explained that stormwater would be completed on site, but the wetlands and riparian zones would require credits.

Freeholder Walter felt strongly that this undertaking would cause residual damage. She was certain portions of the project could not be completed on site and therefore would not help mitigate the water runoff.

Mr. McLaughlin explained that the existing trees would be cut down and the understory would remain. He said after they would spray the area with a native meadow mix, which would be a cover for stormwater mitigation.

Freeholder Walter in the end decided to have Resolution R-10 removed from block, so she could vote on it separately.

OLD BUSINESS

Freeholder Cannon asked for an update on the Freeholder Board's scholarship Program. She said she was unaware of plans to move forward this year because of COVID-19.

Chair Koontz explained that his aide, Mario Laurenti, was administering the program. He added that it has been difficult because schools were not in session due to COVID-19. Chair Koontz said they were working on it and would update the Board as needed.

Freeholder Walter discussed the opening of Mercer County courts and how most of their service was being conducted online. She also spoke of many Mercer County residents and their need to file for unemployment benefits. Freeholder Walter commented that because most services were done remotely it has caused a digital divide for residents. Freeholder Walter she asked the Administration if they would be willing to utilize the county library to assist residents who did not have access to computers or internet capability.

County Administrator, Lillian Nazzaro, Esq., commented that she would have to contact Human Services Director, Marygrace Billek, to discuss the matter further. She said that she was unaware of an executive order reopening any local libraries.

Freeholder Walter said most courts have been utilizing video services, which was fine if defendants had an attorney, but her main concern was anyone who may not have access to one.

County Administrator Nazzaro explained that the courts were governed by the State and she was not privy to that information. She said she would look further into the matter.

Freeholder Frisby felt the County should try and be as innovative as possible due to these extremely unprecedented circumstances.

County Administrator Nazzaro agreed and explained that the Administration was trying to accommodate everyone as best they could, bearing in mind the current situation.

Freeholder Cimino asked the Administration for details regarding the County's reopening committee. He wanted to know if they had any updates to share with the Board. Freeholder Cimino also asked for any information regarding the County Clerk's office and asked how they were handling the large volume of vote-by-mail ballots. Freeholder Cimino commented that during this time the County should try to accommodate its' residents in any way possible.

Ms. Nazzaro explained that the County would try and accommodate any requests made by a municipality. She informed the Board that she replies to all emails received from local officials. Regarding the reopening committee, Ms. Nazzaro said that certain department heads within the Administration were working on creating reopening guidelines. She said as soon as a plan was in place, she would notify the Board.

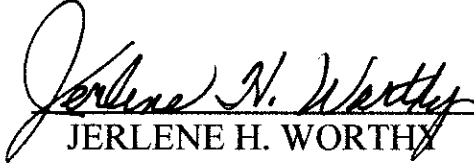
Chair Koontz felt there were still several issues that needed to be addressed as to the timeline of reopening the County. He asked the Administration to keep the Board informed of any updates.

PUBLIC SECTION

At this time, Chair Koontz invited the members of the public to comment on any item listed on the Agenda.

Ms. Judity Hopener, 1406 Shiloh Road, Yardley PA, requested the Freeholders' Agenda be made available to them prior to the meeting.

AGENDA MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:15 PM


JERLENE H. WORTH
CLERK TO THE BOARD