

ATLANTIC COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
Reorganization Meeting
Atlantic County Criminal Court Complex
Courtroom No. 7
4997 Unami Boulevard
Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

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Minutes of Meeting

January 2, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders was called to order by Clerk Sonya G. Harris at 4 p.m., Standard Time, on the above-mentioned date, at the County Criminal Court Complex, Mays Landing, and New Jersey 08330.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Statement of Open Public Meeting Compliance: Clerk Sonya G. Harris announced that, in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders was provided in the following manner: published in *The Press of Atlantic City*, and mailed to *The Current*, *The Daily Journal*, *The Hammonton Gazette* and *The Hammonton News*; and has been posted on the bulletin boards in the County Office Building in Atlantic City, the Stillwater Building in Northfield and the County Clerk's Office in Mays Landing.

PRAYER AND FLAG SALUTE

The prayer was led by Reverend Al Syvertsen, Associate Pastor of Beacon Evangelical Free Church in Galloway Township followed by the flag salute led by Clerk Harris.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Freeholder John W. Risley was administered the oath of office by the Honorable Chris Brown, New Jersey Senator-Elect.

Freeholder-Elect Ashley R. Bennett was administered the oath of office by the Honorable Colin Bell, New Jersey State Senator.

Freeholder Caren L. Fitzpatrick was administered the oath of office by the Honorable Patricia M. Wild, Superior Court Judge.

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was recorded: PRESENT: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Formica, Gatto, Kern and Risley. NAYS: None.

A quorum was present.

RESOLUTION NO. 1
Nomination of Chairman to the
2018 Atlantic County Board of
Chosen Freeholders

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Risley seconded a motion to appoint Freeholder Frank D. Formica as Chairman to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Atlantic and to serve for the period from January 2, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Formica, Gatto, Kern and Risley. NAYS: None. RECUSED: Bertino.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2
Nomination of Vice Chairperson
to the 2018 Atlantic County
Board of Chosen Freeholders**

Freeholder Coursey moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to appoint Freeholder Maureen Kern for Vice-Chairperson to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Atlantic and to serve for the period from January 2, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3
Informing the media of the 2018
regular
meetings of the Atlantic County
Board of Chosen Freeholders**

Freeholder Coursey moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to inform the media of the 2018 regular meeting schedule of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 4
Appointment of NJAC
representative**

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to appoint Freeholder Frank D. Formica as representative to the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC).

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 5
Appointment of NJAC first
alternate representative**

Freeholder Risley moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to appoint Freeholder Amy L. Gatto as first alternate representative to the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC).

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6
Appointment of NJAC second
alternate representative**

Freeholder Kern moved and Freeholder Gatto seconded a motion to appoint Freeholder John W. Risley as second alternate representative to the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC).

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 7
Appointment to serve on various
Atlantic County Advisory
Boards/Commissions/Councils
for 2018**

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Dase seconded a motion to appoint Freeholders to serve on various Atlantic County Advisory Boards/Commissions/Councils for 2018.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8
2018 Temporary Budget**

Freeholder Risley moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion approving the temporary 2018 Budget appropriations.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9
Depositories and cash
management plan for 2018**

Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion to approve a Depositories and Cash Management Plan for the County of Atlantic for 2018.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10
Establishing petty cash funds for
2018**

Freeholder Bertino moved and Freeholder Kern seconded a motion establishing petty cash funds for various departments and divisions of Atlantic County for 2018.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11
Authorize resolution calling for
defeat of an Assembly bill
proposing internet gambling at
State race tracks**

Freeholder Risley moved and Freeholder Bertino seconded a motion to authorize a resolution calling for defeat of an Assembly bill proposing internet gambling at State race tracks.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor, stated that there have been items on the Freeholder Board that have been outside the purview of the Freeholders. There are going to be more important issues before the Board. He provided examples of issues which he believed the Freeholder Board would have more impact.

The above-mentioned motion was adopted by the following roll call: AYES: Bennett, Bertino, Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Risley and Formica. NAYS: None.

**RECOGNITION OF
DIGNITARIES**

Chairman Formica recognized Tammy Murphy, NJ First Lady-Designate, State, County and Municipal elected officials and others in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Formica opened the meeting to the public at 4:30 p.m.

Tammy Murphy, First Lady-Designate, congratulated newly elected Freeholders Bennett and Fitzpatrick and expressed that they are joining 41 women serving on Freeholder Boards in New Jersey. She urged all elected officials to work together for their constituents.

County Executive Levinson wished everyone a happy, healthy and blessed new year. He welcomed First Lady Murphy.

William Christmas, Pleasantville Council President, congratulated the newly elected Freeholders and shared that he was a neighbor of Freeholder Bennett's grandparents, who he observed grow up as a child.

Joyce Molineaux, resident of Atlantic City, shared a poem from former First Lady Michelle Obama. She congratulated Freeholders Bennett and Fitzpatrick, and welcomed First Lady Murphy to Atlantic County.

Barbara Rheault, Mullica Township Committeewoman and Vice Chair of the South Jersey Democratic Women's Forum, congratulated Freeholders Bennett and Fitzpatrick. She extended a Happy New Year to the Freeholder Board.

Stephanine Dixon, NJ Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission member, congratulated Freeholder Bennett and Fitzpatrick as newly sworn-in Freeholders and Freeholder Kern as the newly elected Vice Chairwoman of the Board.

There being no further comments, Chairman Formica closed the public portion at 4:44 p.m.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Freeholder Coursey conveyed his congratulations to the newly elected and reelected Freeholders. He noted that this was the first time in history four women were members of the Board of Freeholders, first female Vice Chair and the first time a first lady has attended an Atlantic County Freeholder Reorganization. He conveyed his assistance to the new Freeholders.

Freeholder Fitzpatrick conveyed that she and Ashley are honored to be elected Freeholders. She thanked First Lady-Designate Murphy for attending.

Freeholder Bertino welcomed the new Freeholders and expressed that the Board works as a team effort.

Freeholder Kern congratulated Freeholders Bennett and Fitzpatrick. Stated she looked forward to working with them. Thanked all those in attendance and stated the Board wants to hear from the residents of Atlantic County. Thanked the County Executive and Administration for maintaining the services provided in Atlantic County.

Freeholder Risley thanked his family for their support. He thanked the Administration for doing more with less. Two major projects that will turn this area around, the Gateway Project and the Aviation and Research project. He extended everyone a healthy new year.

BENEDICTION

Reverend Al Syvertsen, Associate Pastor of Beacon Evangelical Free Church in Galloway Township provided the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Formica entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Freeholder Gatto moved and Freeholder Coursey seconded a motion to adjourn the Freeholder meeting. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sonya G. Harris
Clerk of the Board