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HUDSON COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

RE:

REGULAR MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF
OF THE :
HUDSON COUNTY BOARD OF : PROCEEDINGS
CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS :
:

O P E N S E S S I O N

Hudson County
Administration Building,
Freeholders Chambers
567 Pavonia Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey
Thursday, March 14, 2013
6:00 p.m.

B E F O R E:

ANTHONY ROMANO, CHAIRMAN
ALBERT CIFELLI, Freeholder
DOREEN DiDOMENICO, Freeholder
JEFFREY DUBLIN, Freeholder
THOMAS LIGGIO, Freeholder
JOSE C. MUNOZ, Freeholder
WILLIAM O'DEA, Freeholder
ELIU RIVERA, Freeholder

A L S O P R E S E N T:

EDWARD J. FLORIO, ESQ., Board Counsel
DONATO J. BATTISTA, Hudson County Counsel
ABRAHAM ANTUN, County Administrator
ALBERTO G. SANTOS, County Clerk

Job No. NJ1588763

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1 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli.
 2 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Here.
 3 THE CLERK: DiDomenico.
 4 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Here.
 5 THE CLERK: Dublin.
 6 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Here.
 7 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 8 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Here.
 9 THE CLERK: Munoz, absent. O'Dea.
 10 FREEHOLDER MUNOZ: Absent.
 11 THE CLERK: Rivas.
 12 FREEHOLDER MUNOZ: Absent.
 13 THE CLERK: Rivera.
 14 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Here.
 15 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.
 16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Here.
 17 THE CLERK: We have a quorum. Please
 18 stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
 19 (Flag Salute.)
 20 THE CLERK: Adequate notice of this
 21 meeting has been provided as follows:
 22 1. Posting notice of Resolution No.
 23 8-1-2013 on the Freeholder's Bulletin Board, Third
 24 Floor, Administration Building Annex, Jersey City,
 25 New Jersey.

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1 2. Copies of the above mentioned
 2 resolution have been sent to the County Clerk and
 3 the editors of the Jersey Journal and the Star
 4 Ledger.
 5 Mr. Chairman, the first order of business
 6 is laudatories. Freeholder O'Dea day is present.
 7 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I was hunting down
 8 a book signing.
 9 THE CLERK: The first item is L-1,
 10 resolution recognizing March as American Red Cross
 11 month. There is a representative from the Red Cross
 12 here, Mr. Chairman. Should I read the resolution
 13 for the record?
 14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: That's fine.
 15 THE CLERK: Whereas, March is
 16 American Red Cross Month, a special time to
 17 recognize and thank our heroes, those who volunteer,
 18 donate blood, take life-saving courses or provide
 19 financial donations to support an organization whose
 20 mission is to help those in need; and
 21 Whereas, we would like to remember those
 22 who helped us here in Hudson County by giving their
 23 time to help their neighbor, thank our heroes, our
 24 volunteers, blood donors, class takers and financial
 25 supporters who help us assist those in need; and

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1 Whereas, in Hudson County, the Red Cross
 2 works tirelessly through its employees and
 3 volunteers to help when disaster strikes, when
 4 someone needs life-saving blood or the comfort of a
 5 helping hand. It provides 24-hour support to
 6 members of the military, veterans and their families
 7 and provides screening and CPR aquatic safety and
 8 first aid; and
 9 Whereas, across the country, the American
 10 Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters a
 11 year. It provides some 400,000 services to military
 12 members, veterans and civilians, collects and
 13 distributes about 40 percent of the nation's blood
 14 supply and trains more than 7 million people in
 15 first aid, water safety, and other lifesaving skills
 16 every year; and
 17 Whereas, our community depends on the
 18 American Red Cross, which relies on donations of
 19 time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian
 20 mission; despite these challenging times, the
 21 America Red Cross continues to offer help and
 22 comfort to those in need.
 23 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the
 24 Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hudson,
 25 in conjunction with County Executive Thomas A.

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1 DeGise, the County of Hudson County recognizes the
 2 month of March as American Red Cross Month, and
 3 encourages all residents of Hudson County to support
 4 this organization and its noble humanitarian
 5 mission.
 6 Freeholder Cifelli.
 7 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Yes.
 8 THE CLERK: DiDomenico.
 9 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.
 10 THE CLERK: Dublin.
 11 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.
 12 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 13 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.
 14 THE CLERK: Munoz.
 15 FREEHOLDER MUNOZ: Yes.
 16 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.
 18 THE CLERK: Rivas.
 19 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: Yes.
 20 THE CLERK: Rivera.
 21 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yes.
 22 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.
 23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Proudly, yes.
 24 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, I believe
 25 Jocelyn from the American Red Cross is here.

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1 MS. GILMAN: My name is Jocelyn
 2 Gilman. I'm the community chapter executive for the
 3 American Red Cross of Northern Jersey, and I would
 4 just like to say on behalf of the Red Cross, I'm
 5 just very, very honored to thank you for the
 6 resolution honoring March as Red Cross Month. As
 7 large as the American Red Cross is, we also couldn't
 8 do it without the support of our towns and counties
 9 and saying thank you to the individuals who help
 10 each and every day. We recognize and we do
 11 appreciate. On behalf of the Red Cross, I would
 12 like to thank you so much for recognizing us
 13 tonight.

14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you.
 15 (Applause.)

16 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, proceed
 17 with roll call?

18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: (Nods.)

19 THE CLERK: L-2 is entitled To
 20 commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Sister Georgette
 21 A. Gavioli, S.S.J., and to thank her for a career of
 22 dedicated, faithful and loving service.

23 Whereas, Sister Georgette A. Gavioli,
 24 S.S.J. is the proud daughter of George and Simone
 25 Gavioli, and the sister of Simone, George, Michael

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1 and Diane; she graduated from Hallahan Girls' High
 2 School in Philadelphia and earned a B.A. degree in
 3 English from Chestnut Hill College; she taught for
 4 one year at Our Lady of Mercy School in Philadelphia
 5 before entering the Sisters of Saint Joseph of
 6 Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania, on September 12, 1962;
 7 and

8 Whereas, Sister Georgette A. Gavioli,
 9 S.S.J. has devoted many years to educating children
 10 as a Sister of Saint Joseph; she was first assigned
 11 to teach at Immaculate Conception School in
 12 Jenkintown, Pennsylvania from 1965 to 1968; she
 13 subsequently served in the following schools: St.
 14 Callistus in Philadelphia, from 1968 to 1971; St.
 15 Vincent School in Germantown, Pennsylvania, from
 16 1972 to 1980; Blessed Sacrament in Newark, New
 17 Jersey, from 1980 to 1992; since 1992, Sister
 18 Georgette A. Gavioli, S.S.J., has served as Pastoral
 19 Associate at St. Aloysius Church in Jersey City; and

20 Whereas, during the last half century,
 21 Sister Georgette A. Gavioli, S.S.J., has striven to
 22 live up to the ideals of the order of the Sisters of
 23 Saint Joseph through her dedicated service to her
 24 students, parishioners, the Archdiocese and the
 25 community; and

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1 Whereas, Sister Georgette A. Gavioli,
 2 S.S.J. has touched the lives of countless students
 3 parishioners and citizens through her many pastoral
 4 and community works, and the 50th anniversary of her
 5 entry into the Sisters of Saint Joseph religious
 6 order is an ideal occasion for this Board to
 7 recognize her service.

8 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the
 9 Hudson County Board of the Chosen Freeholders as
 10 follows:

11 The Board does hereby congratulate and
 12 honor Sister Georgette A. Gavioli, S.S.J., on the
 13 50th anniversary of her entry into the Sisters of
 14 Saint Joseph religious order; and

15 The Board extends its sincere appreciation
 16 and recognition to Sister Georgette A. Gavioli,
 17 S.S.J. for her outstanding contributions to
 18 education and her tireless dedication to the Sisters
 19 of Saint Joseph and the parish of St. Aloysius
 20 Church in Jersey City.

21 Freeholder Cifelli.

22 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Of course.

23 THE CLERK: DiDomenico.

24 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.

25 THE CLERK: Dublin.

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1 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: Liggio.

3 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.

4 THE CLERK: O'Dea.

5 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I definitely vote
 6 yes, and for the twenty-one years she's been at St.
 7 Al's, I've had the great pleasure of interacting and
 8 seeing all the great and fantastic things that she
 9 does for the community. I was wondering why we were
 10 doing it at this meeting, because at the next
 11 meeting, I know the next meeting is Holy Thursday,
 12 so I know that we would not have been able to have
 13 Sister at our meeting on Holy Thursday. I
 14 definitely vote aye.

15 THE CLERK: Freeholder Rivera.

16 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Definitely, aye.

17 THE CLERK: And Chairman Romano.

18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes. Would you
 19 shepherd Freeholder O'Dea to his confession?

20 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Two hours before
 21 normal confessions.

22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. Clerk, just a
 23 question. Is there a Georgette Reilly?

24 THE CLERK: There is a typographical
 25 error. We'll correct it.

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sister, would you
 2 like to come up and bless us and say a few words.
 3 SISTER GAVIOLI: Thank you. And I
 4 truly feel blessed, not only being part of my family
 5 that you heard, but also as a Sister of Saint
 6 Joseph, and especially being part of Jersey City.
 7 I've been here twenty-one years. That's a big chunk
 8 of those years being a Sister of Saint Joseph. I
 9 love the diversity of the City and the parish of
 10 St. Aloysius. I thank you for your blessing. I
 11 would like to say as Pope Francis said last night,
 12 please, God bless me, and I certainly will be
 13 praying for all of you. Thank you.
 14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Before we begin
 15 Mr. Clerk, Mr. Clerk, if we can just on behalf of
 16 the whole Board of Freeholders, we would like to
 17 wish, we would like to wish Freeholder Al Cifelli a
 18 Happy twenty-fifth birthday.
 19 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Don't feel bad. I
 20 didn't get a cake last month and neither did you.
 21 He said that to me last meeting.
 22 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: I got a cupcake.
 23 He put a candle in it.
 24 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: I would like
 25 to step back a moment. I would like to congratulate

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1 Sister Georgette, but I've also been thinking. I've
 2 been sort of functioning as the unofficial Board
 3 psychologist. It's been too big of a job. My
 4 thinking is if you would like another role, I think
 5 we need a spiritual adviser.
 6 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. Clerk.
 7 THE CLERK: The next order of
 8 business is additional discussion on today's agenda.
 9 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman.
 10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. Antun.
 11 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, before I
 12 bring some additional items that we discussed on
 13 Tuesday, just to follow up on two items that are on
 14 the agenda. The first item we're going to request
 15 that Item 13D the maintenance and repair of the HVAC
 16 units, that their bid be removed from the agenda.
 17 It was brought to our attention that a bid protest
 18 was filed, alleging certain things about the bidder
 19 that we need time to review.
 20 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I make a motion to
 21 amend and remove that item.
 22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Motion by
 23 Freeholder O'Dea. Seconded by Freeholder
 24 DiDomenico.
 25 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli.

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1 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Yes.
 2 THE CLERK: DiDomenico.
 3 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.
 4 THE CLERK: Dublin.
 5 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.
 6 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 7 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.
 8 THE CLERK: Munoz.
 9 FREEHOLDER MUNOZ: Yes.
 10 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 11 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.
 12 THE CLERK: Rivera.
 13 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yes.
 14 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.
 15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.
 16 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the next
 17 item that I have with respect to the ordinance
 18 regulating smoking in County parks, the Board
 19 requested copies of the maps, and we have them for
 20 distribution.
 21 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: So the areas in
 22 red are the areas you can't smoke, no smoking?
 23 MR. ANTUN: Freeholder, let me have
 24 Tom DeLeo respond to that.
 25 MR. DeLEO: Tom DeLeo, Deputy

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1 Director of Parks and Community Services. The areas
 2 outlined in red, anything within those lines are
 3 considered no smoking areas.
 4 MR. ANTUN: May I continue,
 5 Mr. Chairman? Let me now bring the late items --
 6 not late items but additional items, excuse me. The
 7 first that I have is a shared services agreement
 8 with the City of Jersey City for patrols by the
 9 Jersey City Police Department regarding the red
 10 light camera traffic -- the red light traffic camera
 11 area.
 12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sponsored by
 13 Freeholder O'Dea. Seconded by Freeholder Dublin.
 14 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Just for the
 15 Board's information, we had a couple of discussions
 16 on it. We added the purchase of a vehicle to patrol
 17 the area. It would make more sense to beef up
 18 patrols.
 19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Our thanks to the
 20 Jersey City Mayor and City Council for getting this
 21 done in collaboration with us.
 22 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, this will
 23 be on the City Council agenda in two weeks.
 24 THE CLERK: Mr. Chair, this is No.
 25 27, was there a sponsor?

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Freeholder O'Dea,
 2 seconded by Freeholder Dublin.
 3 THE CLERK: And it's entitled
 4 Resolution authorizing shared services agreement
 5 between the County of Hudson and the City of Jersey
 6 City authorizing increased police presence in
 7 certain and various areas which list may be
 8 modified.
 9 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: What number was
 10 that?
 11 THE CLERK: 27.
 12 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the next
 13 item that I have is a resolution making a
 14 contribution to the Lincoln Park Little League for
 15 \$1,000.
 16 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Sponsor.
 17 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Second.
 18 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, the item
 19 that was just handed out is No. 28, authorizing the
 20 allocation of funds to the Lincoln Park Little
 21 League to assist in the replacement of equipment
 22 lost during Hurricane Sandy, \$1,000.
 23 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the next
 24 item that I have is a resolution allowing the United
 25 Hindi Federation of Hudson County to do their annual

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1 celebration on Saturday March 30th, 2013, from
 2 2:25 p.m. until 4:30.
 3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sponsored by
 4 Freeholder O'Dea. Second by Freeholder Dublin.
 5 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Mr. DeLeo, we have
 6 an Easter egg party or hunt that same day.
 7 MR. DeLEO: That's in the morning,
 8 correct?
 9 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: From 11:30 to one.
 10 I just want to make sure we know ahead of time so we
 11 don't have any -- I know they say from two til
 12 eleven, but they often get there earlier. I just
 13 want to make sure that, undersheriff Conti is here,
 14 the same day that the Phagwah Parade is in the park,
 15 we'll do the Easter egg hunt, which is in close
 16 proximity from where that's going to be. Just make
 17 sure we coordinate everything from people coming in
 18 and out.
 19 MR. DeLEO: Undersheriff Conti and I
 20 will coordinate with each other with regard to the
 21 Easter egg hunt.
 22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: The Sheriff's
 23 office did a great job last year.
 24 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, that was
 25 No. 29.

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1 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the next
 2 item that I have, this was an item that was the on
 3 agenda two weeks ago, which was discussed in the
 4 Public Safety Committee. This is with respect to
 5 educational programs for inmates. It's a payment to
 6 the Hudson County Schools of Technology in the
 7 amount of \$19,950.
 8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sponsored by
 9 Freeholder Rivera. Second by Freeholder Liggio.
 10 THE CLERK: That's No. 30 on the
 11 Consent Agenda.
 12 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Mr. Chairman, we
 13 discussed this in committee the other day, and
 14 Director Aviles, can you come to the podium and go
 15 over what we discussed?
 16 DIRECTOR AVILES: Director Aviles,
 17 Department of Corrections. Yes, we agreed that
 18 currently one class per session to continue this
 19 program, and this will allow it to continue the
 20 second two classes. At the same token, we reached
 21 out to the community, the Schools of Technology, and
 22 they're willing to increase the program by an
 23 additional two classes during the summer season. I
 24 will bring that to the Board when we put that
 25 together. Our education funding at the correctional

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1 facility allows discussions with Schools of
 2 Technology as it prepares for adding additional
 3 classes to the curriculum.
 4 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the final
 5 item that I have is approving a payment to Sal
 6 Electric in the amount of \$22,745. I believe it was
 7 the amount, which is half of the 45,490.
 8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sponsored by
 9 Freeholder Dublin, and seconded by Freeholder
 10 Cifelli.
 11 THE CLERK: This will be No. 31 on
 12 the Consent Agenda, and entitled authorizing a
 13 payment to Sal Electric in the amount of \$22,745,
 14 pursuant to a contract awarded as a result of a
 15 declaration of emergency following Hurrican Sandy,
 16 services of licensed electricians.
 17 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, those are
 18 all the items that I have.
 19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. Clerk.
 20 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, there is
 21 one additional item from the Board of Freeholders.
 22 We're handing it out now. It's entitled Resolution
 23 authorizing contribution to the Juan Pablo Duarte
 24 Bicentennial Project to help with the funding of the
 25 sculpture in honor of Juan Pablo Duarte, \$1,000.

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1 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Do we know if this
 2 is time sensitive? It's April 24th. Can we just
 3 carry this? It's not sponsored or seconded. It's
 4 not on the agenda. Why don't we just hold off on
 5 it?
 6 THE CLERK: I have no additional
 7 items. Public participation, Mr. Chair?
 8 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Mr. Administrator,
 9 before you go, Mr. Chairman, could we ask the Board
 10 if it's possible that we do a resolution to change
 11 the date or the time of the next meeting from six to
 12 four p.m. because it is Holy Thursday? Some of us
 13 might regularly go to church on Holy Thursday.
 14 Maybe some people have some scheduling issues.
 15 I'm going to make a motion that we change
 16 the time for the March 28th Freeholder meeting from
 17 six p.m. to four p.m.
 18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Seconded by
 19 Freeholder Cifelli. Sister, he is getting Brownie
 20 points?
 21 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I would not do it
 22 while Sister was here because I felt it was...
 23 THE CLERK: The motion is to change
 24 the time of the regular meeting on March 28th to
 25 four p.m.

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1 Freeholder Cifelli.
 2 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Yes.
 3 THE CLERK: DiDomenico.
 4 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.
 5 THE CLERK: Dublin.
 6 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.
 7 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 8 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.
 9 THE CLERK: Munoz.
 10 FREEHOLDER MUNOZ: Yes.
 11 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 12 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.
 13 THE CLERK: Rivers.
 14 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yes.
 15 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.
 16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes, notice for the
 17 newspapers.
 18 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Then I have
 19 another question on the caucus. I believe the
 20 caucus falls on the first day of Passover.
 21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: At sundown. I
 22 think your okay.
 23 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: It depends what's
 24 on the agenda. I don't know. I just don't know.
 25 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Abe, if it's a

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1 big agenda, let us know now so we can make a motion
 2 for eight o'clock in the morning. By that time we
 3 should definitely be done.
 4 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Fifty-fifty
 5 chance. We'll make a filibuster for 12 hours like
 6 that guy who rambled on for 13 hours.
 7 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, I don't
 8 have an additional item for the agenda, but the
 9 County Counsel reminded me that the Board had
 10 requested some information which he has regarding
 11 the lease for the Casino in the Park. Let me have
 12 counsel address that.
 13 MR. BATTISTA: I reviewed the Casino
 14 in the Park lease that was requested. There's just
 15 general provisions in the lease which talk about the
 16 proprietor in the Casino in the Park, providing all
 17 the relevant laws, ordinances, resolutions. I
 18 didn't see anything specifically addressing the
 19 issues which were brought up at the last meeting. I
 20 have a copy of a lease if anyone wants a copy.
 21 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I would like it.
 22 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: What does it say
 23 about security?
 24 MR. BATTISTA: It doesn't mention it
 25 at all. I think if we're going to deal with the

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1 issue, my suggestion is as we discussed the other
 2 day, that we enact an ordinance to prohibit parking
 3 in certain places without getting a permit and treat
 4 it as an off-duty assignment, no different than when
 5 you're using Kennedy Boulevard for street openings
 6 and for County projects. The contractors generally
 7 have to pay for the off-duty services of Sheriff's
 8 officers. I think that's a way to address it. I
 9 don't think it's in any way violating the lease,
 10 dealing with what appears to be potential traffic
 11 problems.
 12 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: It says the
 13 contractor has to pay for the security.
 14 MR. BATTISTA: What we do now,
 15 Freeholder, if a contractor is working on the County
 16 roadway and County project, and they have to open a
 17 roadway, and they need to have traffic regulators,
 18 the Sheriff's department provides off-duty Sheriff's
 19 officers paid for by the contractors.
 20 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: That lease with
 21 the Casino in the Park, when does it expire? How
 22 long is it for?
 23 MR. BATTISTA: I can't give you an
 24 exact date, and the reason I can't is because the
 25 term began when they finished the construction. The

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1 best way I can determine based on the records I've
2 seen, it's probably something like 2017.
3 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: How did you
4 determine when the construction was completed?
5 MR. BATTISTA: I wasn't here at the
6 time, and we've checked the records of the Jersey
7 City Building Department. No one seems to be able
8 to have a certificate of occupancy, which would be
9 the date that would establish that.
10 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Did they issue
11 permits for the construction?
12 MR. BATTISTA: They did. I believe
13 based upon that, the issue came up because the rent
14 changes every year. I just don't have the answer
15 right now. I think it did come up with a date. The
16 best memory I have was 1997. It could have been
17 1998. At the next meeting I will let you know what.
18 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: And that other
19 thing about blocking the box in the intersection?
20 MR. BATTISTA: That's an ordinance.
21 We're going to look into it. We're working on it.
22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. Clerk.
23 THE CLERK: According to the policy
24 set by the Board of Freeholders, member of the
25 public are asked to limit their comments to fifteen

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1 minutes when discussing agenda items and five
2 minutes at the conclusion of the meeting when
3 discussing matters of public interest.
4 At this time the public may address the
5 Board on any item on the agenda only. Please keep
6 your comments limited to fifteen minutes. Are there
7 any speakers on agenda items only?
8 Please state your name.
9 MR. McCORMACK: Good evening.
10 Richard McCormack. Just a couple quick items here.
11 I see you are voting tonight on AFSCME's 2306
12 contract. I know it was approved by the membership
13 by a great number, but that doesn't mean the
14 membership was very happy with it. We understand
15 that budgets are tight. We understand that there's
16 hard times throughout the whole County. Hopefully,
17 our contract is up for renegotiation in 2014.
18 So we're working on this contract.
19 Basically the way it sits, two percent in 2012, and
20 two percent in 2013. It will be wiped out by the
21 three percent that we have to pay out for more
22 medical costs and social security and other taxes.
23 I just have a kind of point for the Board.
24 Also, I see on Item No. 24, I don't know
25 how this happened, but apparently on March 10th,

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1 Jersey City celebrated its St. Patrick's Day Parade,
2 the authorization was never granted by the County to
3 use the County boulevard; oversight, I guess.
4 Luckily, nothing occurred or the County could have
5 been held liable. Just a couple of points of
6 interest. Thank you.
7 THE CLERK: Additional speakers on
8 agenda items only?
9 MR. WAHID: Reaz Wahid. Item 1, 2, 4
10 and 5, 10, 11.
11 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Reaz, please.
12 Mr. Clerk, don't start the time clock. Freeholder
13 Munoz sent a text. It says, Bill, can you sponsor
14 the thousand dollar contribution for the Duarte.
15 THE CLERK: Freeholder, I let the
16 Freeholder know that it didn't have a sponsor. He's
17 okay with waiting for the next meeting.
18 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: You're sure? I'm
19 not sure if he's going to be here.
20 THE CLERK: It says, Hold it for the
21 next meeting. It's the Board's decision.
22 MR. WAHID: Item No. 1 and 2, have
23 any of you seen the resumes of these people?
24 Because, okay, when I tried to get a copy of the
25 resumes, they didn't have them. I wanted to make

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1 sure. The one for the appointment expires in June
2 2013. That's only one meeting. Do they meet
3 quarterly?
4 MR. ANTUN: They're probably filling
5 an unexpired term of the member that they're
6 replacing, so we will come back to you.
7 MR. WAHID: On 4 and 5, what did
8 we -- how are we going to compensate? Is there
9 going to be a tax increase for taxpayers or extra
10 revenues? Where is the money going to come for
11 this?
12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. Administrator.
13 MR. ANTUN: This is a three-year
14 contract, sir, effective July 1 of 2011. The first
15 year is a zero, then April 1, 2012, it's two
16 percent; and on July 1, 2013, it's two percent.
17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I guess part of
18 the question, Mr. Administrator, since it goes retro
19 to July of '12, was there money -- was there money
20 in the last six months? From '11 it's zero. It
21 doesn't matter from '11 to '12, because they get a
22 zero but when they got a two-percent increase in
23 July of '12.
24 MR. ANTUN: From April 1 of 2012.
25 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: So from April 1 of

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1 2012, until the end of December, that would have
2 been money left in the 2012 budget?
3 MR. ANTUN: Yes.
4 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: So that money was
5 actually already appropriated in last year's budget,
6 and then the remaining percentage would now -- which
7 is only a short period of time, right,
8 Mr. Administrator?
9 MR. ANTUN: This agreement would
10 expire in June of 2013, that's correct.
11 MR. WAHID: On Item No. 10, I have a
12 question. What is that? Why is this a non-fair and
13 open contract for \$15,000, and this is given to a
14 firm, the YMWCA in Newark? Based on that, I would
15 like to know how many people are assigned to that
16 for homeless youth, number one. Number two, is it
17 on a daily or monthly, and we need to know what is
18 the past in terms of number of occupancy, and I
19 would like to know how these people from Hudson
20 County are going to go from here to Newark.
21 MR. ANTUN: I'll try to answer as
22 many of those questions as I can, and whatever I
23 can't answer, I'll ask Director Wilson to respond
24 to. First of all, these are children that, for
25 whatever reason, the Court has determined they

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1 cannot be in their home setting. The Court directs
2 us to find placement for them until that situation
3 is resolved.
4 We used to have -- each County is required
5 to do this and provide this type of an arrangement.
6 We used to have a facility here, but what's been
7 happening is with so many different types of
8 alternative programs, there really wasn't the need
9 to have an entire facility here. So the YMCA has
10 the capacity to do this. We entered into an
11 agreement with them along with Essex County and
12 Passaic County, so basically they're serving as a
13 regional facility for us.
14 They provide the transportation so the
15 children or the person who has to go there doesn't
16 have to worry that. They're picked up and brought
17 to the facility, and they try to maintain a stable
18 environment for the children by making sure that
19 they go to the school they're supposed to go to. We
20 transport them there and bring them back. They make
21 sure they go through all their activities, et
22 cetera.
23 The amount of that this represents, it is
24 to hold three placements and a fourth one in the
25 event it's needed, and the reason we do that is

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1 because we do not know when the Court is going to
2 make a decision as to when a child has to be placed
3 in that situation. So we have to be ready to
4 provide that service when we are required by the
5 Court to set that up.
6 MR. WAHID: So you're just going hold
7 four places, and that's \$250,000 per year?
8 MR. ANTUN: For the three spaces,
9 yes, we're pretty much reserving it because they
10 have to keep it available to us. The fourth slot
11 it's only if we need it, that is, there is no
12 required payment. It's only if we fill the spot.
13 If we don't fill the fourth spot, we're not required
14 to pay the payment. But in terms of the three
15 slots, yes, because we have to reserve that space in
16 the event that we're ordered to do that.
17 MR. WAHID: So three slots, \$250,000
18 per year in Newark, and here, we have one building,
19 \$700,000 on Newark Avenue, that we're going to
20 demolish, and we can cancel a lot a money from here
21 and fix it, and then all the kids going there come
22 here. We'll have something that's going to save
23 five percent across the board; \$250,000 for three
24 people is a lot of money. We can get something
25 better in Hudson County itself.

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1 MR. ANTUN: Sir, this is a
2 programmatic expense. This is for housing of the
3 child, transportation. There are programs and
4 counselors there. It's not just putting up a house.
5 There has to be supervision.
6 MR. WAHID: Why not do it fair, if we
7 do it for \$250,000, why is it not fair?
8 MR. ANTUN: Why is it not fair and
9 open?
10 MR. WAHID: Yeah. Was there a bid?
11 MR. ANTUN: Because that's why it
12 says non-fair and open.
13 MR. WAHID: Why isn't there a bid?
14 MR. ANTUN: Because we've attempted
15 to do this in the past. There are no providers that
16 are certified to serve to provide this service in
17 this area. That's why we've done it on a regional
18 basis, because Essex and Passaic have done the same
19 thing. We've all decided to go to this facility.
20 It makes the most sense.
21 MR. WAHID: On Item No. 11, you're
22 getting 120 support hours for \$19,800. That is \$155
23 an hour. I need to do know what database it is.
24 I'm an IT guy, and even the lowly electrical
25 engineer, they won't get paid that much money. If

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1 there's a database that requires 120 hours per day
 2 or yearly or how often it's coming, \$155, I would
 3 really like know if you have a database that needs
 4 120 hours support even in the year. Then the City's
 5 problem is the database and another unfair and open
 6 contract too.

7 MR. ANTUN: Sir, the reason why that
 8 there is no bid on this is because this is
 9 proprietary software. The Prosecutor has already
 10 acquired this software, and in order to provide
 11 support for a proprietary software, they need to
 12 have someone on call to provide those services. You
 13 can't really bid this out.

14 MR. WAHID: What is the database?
 15 What database is that?

16 MR. ANTUN: I'm sorry, sir, what
 17 database?

18 MR. WAHID: Yeah, what is the name of
 19 the database?

20 MR. ANTUN: I don't know if this is
 21 the term. It's called ITP Cage RA Module Remote
 22 Tech Support. I'm not familiar with this, sir,
 23 because it's not something that comes under my
 24 purview. The Prosecutor has his own database. I
 25 don't know that much about that.

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1 MR. WAHID: That's a blank check.
 2 Thank you.

3 THE CLERK: Are there any additional
 4 speakers on agenda items only? There are appear to
 5 be no additional speakers.

6 No. 13 has been amended. Nos. 28, 29, 30,
 7 and 31 have been added to the agenda. In the
 8 absence of Freeholder Munoz, I need a replacement
 9 sponsor on No. 2, sponsored by Munoz, seconded by
 10 Liggio. Dublin.

11 And on No. 25, it was sponsored by Munoz
 12 and seconded by DiDomenico.

13 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: I'll sponsor.

14 THE CLERK: Do I have a motion to
 15 approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda?

16 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Motion.

17 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Second it.

18 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli.

19 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Yes.

20 THE CLERK: DiDomenico, on the
 21 Consent Agenda.

22 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.

23 THE CLERK: Dublin.

24 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.

25 THE CLERK: Liggio.

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1 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: O'Dea.

3 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Come back to me.

4 THE CLERK: Rivera.

5 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yes.

6 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.

7 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

8 THE CLERK: Freeholder O'Dea.

9 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.

10 THE CLERK: We have one ordinance.

11 The Ordinance is entitled An Ordinance rescinding
 12 Ordinance No. 385-9-2006, and amending Chapter 200,
 13 Article 8.1, of the Administrative Code to reserve a
 14 handicapped parking space on John F. Kennedy
 15 Boulevard, Jersey City, for Ashraf Ayad due to a
 16 change of address.

17 Roll call, Freeholder Cifelli.

18 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: He stepped out.

19 THE CLERK: Freeholder DiDomenico.

20 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.

21 THE CLERK: Dublin.

22 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.

23 THE CLERK: Liggio.

24 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.

25 THE CLERK: O'Dea.

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1 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: Rivera.

3 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yes.

4 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.

5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

6 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli is
 7 absent. We have one ordinance for Second Reading.
 8 It's entitled An Ordinance amending and
 9 supplementing Article 9 of the Administrative Code
 10 of the County of Hudson under the County Executive
 11 Plan of the Optional County Charter Law, N.J.S.A.
 12 40:41A-1 et seq., banning or otherwise regulating
 13 smoking in Hudson County Parks and Hudson County
 14 buildings.

15 This is the time fixed for public hearing
 16 on this Ordinance, which was introduced at the
 17 meeting of February 28th, 2013, advertised as
 18 required by law together with the notice of Hearing
 19 for this time. It has been posted on the
 20 Freeholder's Bulletin Board and made available to
 21 the general public.

22 Are there any speakers on this ordinance?

23 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Motion to close.

24 THE CLERK: This is the time fixed
 25 for Public Hearing on this ordinance.

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1 MS. BLUMENFELD: Good evening,
 2 everybody. It's good to see familiar faces. I'm
 3 Karen Blumenfeld with Global Advisers on the
 4 Smoke-Free Policy, and we have been providing
 5 technical assistance to you on the smoke-free parks
 6 ordinances. Cindy has some news to share with
 7 Hudson County. We're very excited to share some
 8 news with you on what transpired this week in your
 9 communities, and I'll let Cindy continue.

10 MS. MEAKEM: Hi, my name is Cindy
 11 Meakem, Tobacco Free for a Healthy New Jersey.
 12 We're your coordinator in Hudson County. Last night
 13 North Bergen passed a one-hundred percent smoke-free
 14 policy in their parks, and also Secaucus passed a
 15 hundred percent smoking policy. So we're very
 16 exciting about that. We want to thank you for your
 17 amending the policy.

18 MS. BLUMENFELD: If you have any
 19 questions going forward, please let us know. We're
 20 working with other communities in Hudson County and
 21 North Jersey. We're very exciting about this. Of
 22 course, it's all about the children. It's all about
 23 protecting them from ever starting to smoke because
 24 90 percent of all people who start to smoke start
 25 before the age of eighteen. It takes an average of

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1 seven attempts to quit smoking. Smoking is the
 2 number one preventible cause of death in New Jersey,
 3 in the state and in the world, and 85 percent of
 4 folks who don't smoke and 70 percent of those that
 5 want to quit, say creating a smoke-free environment
 6 will certainly help them.

7 And creating smoke-free environments
 8 outside, not only for children but for the community
 9 that you have, your residents who are disabled
 10 either from breathing or they have cardiac issues
 11 will definitely benefit, as well as providing for
 12 environmentally friendly areas. We have cigarette
 13 butts that are the number one cause of litter in our
 14 parks. They clog up waterways. Smoking and tobacco
 15 is bad for people, it's bad for the environment, and
 16 it will save the County money too because you'll
 17 have less maintenance costs due to people not
 18 smoking in the parks.

19 I want to thank you very much, and if you
 20 have any questions in the future, we're here to
 21 provide you with technical support.

22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Freeholder Rivera.
 23 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: I'm just glad
 24 that we are passing this ordinance to prohibit
 25 smoking in all our County parks. I know it was in

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1 today's paper and yesterday's papers. We read that
 2 in North Bergen, they passed a resolution banning
 3 smoking in all the parks. Right now, we do here
 4 represent most of the municipalities in Hudson
 5 County. We have our Freeholders in Jersey City. I
 6 would ask for all of us to do our job, and that all
 7 parks be prohibited from smoking in all parks, not
 8 just the County parks.

9 MS. BLUMENFELD: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: As the Chairman, I
 11 would like to see Hoboken pass that ordinance. I'll
 12 get on her tail.

13 MS. BLUMENFELD: Thank you. We
 14 appreciate you so much for being there, and we'll
 15 apprise you of any other communities that are
 16 interested and feel free to do the same for us, if
 17 you ever hear, as a service to rely on to facilitate
 18 educational awareness on smoke-free parks. We're
 19 happy to help you. We definitely appreciate your
 20 efforts and initiative. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you very
 22 much. Next, Mr. Clerk.

23 THE CLERK: Are there additional
 24 speakers on this ordinance?

25 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Motion to close.

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1 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Second.
 2 THE CLERK: All in favor, opposed?
 3 (The Board votes unanimously in favor
 4 to close the Hearing.)

5 THE CLERK: The Hearing is closed.
 6 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Whoa, whoa.
 7 Obviously, we got these maps today. I don't want to
 8 delay enacting this ordinance. I think it's
 9 important that we move forward, but I will say
 10 through the next 60 days, two things we want to do
 11 is monitor enforcement. I think these areas we want
 12 to really put up signage and enforce it.

13 I think we also want to look at some of
 14 these parks, whether there are areas, some of these
 15 parks, it looks like 95 percent of the parks are
 16 covered. There are a couple of parks where there
 17 seems to be some large areas based on the ordinance.
 18 I think that we go forward with our policy.

19 THE CLERK: Proceed with the roll
 20 call, Mr. Chairman?

21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.
 22 THE CLERK: On final adoption,
 23 Freeholder Cifelli is still absent. Freeholder
 24 DiDomenico.
 25 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.

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1 THE CLERK: Dublin.
 2 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Yes.
 3 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 4 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.
 5 THE CLERK: Munoz.
 6 FREEHOLDER MUNOZ: Yes.
 7 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 8 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.
 9 THE CLERK: Rivas.
 10 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: Yes.
 11 THE CLERK: Rivera.
 12 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yes.
 13 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.
 14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.
 15 THE CLERK: That concludes the items
 16 of business on today's agenda. Are there any
 17 comments from the Freeholders on the business of the
 18 Board?
 19 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Mr. Chairman,
 20 I would like to invite everyone to the County
 21 celebration of Women's History Month, which remains
 22 next Tuesday at six p.m. at County Plaza. This year
 23 we're celebrating women in Hudson County who have
 24 made contributions in science, technology,
 25 engineering and math, so if you can, join us next

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1 Tuesday the 19th at six p.m.
 2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Freeholder O'Dea.
 3 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: For the next,
 4 Mr. DeLeo, since you're here representing Director
 5 Richardson, for the next Public Resources Committee
 6 meeting, obviously the ordinance takes 20 days to
 7 take effect. For the next Public Resources
 8 Committee, can you have a plan to show us how we're
 9 going to do the signage in these areas, where the
 10 signs are in each of the parks, where the affected
 11 areas are going to be posted?
 12 MR. DeLEO: Yes, sir.
 13 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I believe that
 14 there are some signs that are available. You could
 15 ask them. I don't think the signs were provided.
 16 MR. BATTISTA: I believe there might
 17 be regulations as to what the signs should say and
 18 as to type of signage. I think there may be
 19 regulations. I'm sure Mr. DeLeo can work with Mr.
 20 Morchel at my office.
 21 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: The law goes into
 22 effect in 20 days. I would expect 30 days or so
 23 from now to go to Lincoln Park and see signs up. I
 24 don't want to be here in May and find out we have an
 25 ordinance, there is no signage up yet, no one in the

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1 Sheriff's Department knows about it. We passed an
 2 ordinance, and what it's not, it's not just a piece
 3 of paper. Also, I want to see where the signs are,
 4 what the signs are going to say, the schedule to
 5 post the signs, the notification to the Sheriff's
 6 Department. Once it's in effect and the signs are
 7 up, if they want to do a short period of warning,
 8 it's fine. After that, we're going to issue a
 9 summons.
 10 UNDERSHERIFF CONTI: Mr. Chairman,
 11 can I make a recommendation that when the Parks
 12 Department issues the permits for the leagues that
 13 play there, no matter what the sport is, can you
 14 also give them a copy of the ordinance so that cuts
 15 down on lot of our trouble and aggravation?
 16 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: And the map.
 17 UNDERSHERIFF CONTI: They would be on
 18 ball fields and the adjacent parks, mostly
 19 everywhere in the park. That will help a lot to
 20 have a lot of signage in the picnic areas. That
 21 would also help.
 22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mr. DeLeo, the
 23 Hudson County Hall of Fame also, see Captain
 24 Martinez before you leave in reference to the
 25 recommendation of how we can recommend that possible

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1 consideration for it.
 2 MR. DeLEO: Who am I seeing?
 3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Captain Martinez,
 4 also if there are Freeholder representatives on
 5 that?
 6 MR. DeLEO: I'm not aware of any
 7 representative from the Freeholder Board. If a
 8 Freeholder would like to be on that board,
 9 Freeholder O'Dea, we could make that accommodation.
 10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Freeholder Liggio.
 11 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: I wouldn't defer
 12 to Freeholder O'Dea on that one.
 13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Freeholder Liggio
 14 would be our representative.
 15 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: I humbly accept
 16 your offer. Do I have a choice?
 17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Be careful of
 18 people in their fifties or even in that sixties who
 19 continue to play softball. You know, just for the
 20 longevity of playing it may qualify for the Hall of
 21 Fame, and nominations may come forward. Longevity
 22 alone is not.
 23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: On a serious note
 24 there's a transition obviously that we don't want
 25 any lapses in what is expected of us. Thank you.

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1 Mr. Clerk.
2 THE CLERK: Are there any comments
3 from the Chief of Staff of the County Executive?
4 MR. GAUGHAN: No, thank you.
5 THE CLERK: This is the time for
6 anyone present to address the Board on any matter of
7 public interest. Please remember to limit your
8 comments to five minutes. Are there any speakers on
9 any matters of public interest?
10 Please state your name again.
11 MR. McCORMACK: Good evening.
12 Richard McCormack. I would to take this time to
13 once again thank the Board for recognizing me at the
14 last meeting at my trip down to Washington D.C.,
15 which took place last week, Tuesday and Wednesday
16 and Thursday.
17 Just to give you a little update on what
18 occurred, even though the three days, on Wednesday,
19 unfortunately, there was a storm down there. The
20 federal building closed down, but it did not stop
21 the 220-plus there to go up to the Hill and advocate
22 for more funding and a steady contribution from the
23 federal government on diabetes issues; as well as
24 most of the congressional leaders' offices were
25 either closed or no staff in because of the storm

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1 area. I fortunately was able to meet with a
2 representative of Congressman Payne at the
3 congressional district here, his offices. The
4 gentleman said his office was closed. He was
5 instructed by Councilman Payne to make sure I got
6 into the office to sit down and talk. I was in that
7 group discussion along with a representative from
8 ADA that came to join me.
9 On the other side, we went to Senator
10 Menendez's office. Unfortunately, he was very
11 involved with the vote on the sequester. As we were
12 called in down there, there was a still question, no
13 question. We got Senator Menendez's driver.
14 Unfortunately, nobody was able to make it in. I
15 said to my fellow advocates, what better way to get
16 an ear to him than through the driver. He's sitting
17 there with him every day.
18 I then met Congressman Menendez -- Senator
19 Menendez and Congressman Payne on Sunday in the
20 afternoon at the Jersey City's fine St. Patrick's
21 Day Parade. All of you who know me well know, I'm
22 not shy. I go up to you and I talk to you and say
23 hello, and I discussed my issues right with him.
24 Senator Menendez said, Rich, I understand you were
25 in my office, I'm sorry I missed you, but I heard

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1 all about that through my driver.
2 Congressman Payne, same thing, he said,
3 Rich, I know you were there, I'm a diabetic, I
4 follow in my father's footsteps, he had strong
5 health issues. I made sure that somebody was in
6 that office to meet with whoever was there. Before,
7 I sent a small YouTube clip to the Board that shows
8 a little reference to what occurred on these three
9 days.
10 I was one of about only five people who
11 were at this conference with diabetics who have got
12 more than 40 years. It was surprising. There's a
13 group photo with anybody with 30 years or more,
14 stand by, and anybody else with 25 or 40 years.
15 When I turned around, I was one of five people
16 sitting in that picture. So it was an honor to be
17 part of that conference. I just want to thank you
18 again for your support. It doesn't stop me now or
19 will never stop me from continuing on helping the
20 550,000 constituents plus of this fine County of
21 Hudson in their issues with diabetes.
22 Now, on the other side, I mentioned that
23 Jersey City has a great St. Patty's Day Parade this
24 past Sunday. West Hudson continued to have a great
25 parade, even though there was a heavy fire going on

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1 at the same time. I know we are looking forward to
2 great parade this Sunday in Hudson County in
3 Bayonne. I only care about Hudson County first. No
4 disrespect, I know there will be people from Hudson
5 marching and partaking in that. Unfortunately, with
6 our Irish luck, the weather has been with us. This
7 past Sunday, we were fortunate. Sunday is a chance
8 of rain or snow.
9 I want to wish everybody a Happy St.
10 Patty's Day. The Freeholder was a little upset
11 there was no corned beef and cabbage in the back
12 tonight. Maybe you can have it at the birthday
13 party this weekend. Thank you.
14 THE CLERK: Additional speakers on
15 any matter of public interest. Please state your
16 name.
17 MR. WAHID: I ask you give to the
18 Freeholders. I just want to read something on
19 Jersey City. Reaz Wahid. The Times reporter
20 recently did not begin and will not end with this.
21 This is 1889, October 14. Now, here is a company
22 that has got insurance. We've got contracts with
23 the Board of Education, \$2.1 million, and this
24 particular agent, insurance agency, had to know to
25 tell the Board Members who is the contract now.

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1 I don't know who contacted the agency, if
 2 a Board Member contacted the agency or the agency
 3 contacted the Board Member, but it does -- this
 4 agency did do something. It says that Randraham has
 5 been doing some bundling for one of the Mayor's
 6 candidates. I understand some of them support the
 7 Mayor's candidates. What I'm talking here is a
 8 report on the contract investigation unit.
 9 They very clearly say that if you go back
 10 to the fourth page, this agency came in 2000, in the
 11 evaluation system. Two board members got involved,
 12 changing the rules and gave the contract to them.
 13 They scored 82.73. Regional Risk Managers, they
 14 scored 91.56, but they weren't awarded the contract.
 15 Then not only one more contract was given to them,
 16 the company called Risen Company, \$50,000 more. It
 17 was going to cancel for the services.
 18 What I want to say is if we are going to
 19 close our eyes and don't do anything, this is gift
 20 money. The money is taken from kids and used for
 21 political purposes. Who is getting the benefit and
 22 getting paid? I request if you can in any way get
 23 involved in the County Prosecutor's office to
 24 investigate it because it's the same crime.
 25 The one more person they named, Lori

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1 Gearhan, who worked for this company, Risen Company,
 2 we don't know what relationship. We need an
 3 investigative unit to look into this. This is very
 4 serious, and on one hand we're taking money from our
 5 kid's school board. This company is getting
 6 contracts because of political funding. Why would
 7 this company come to Jersey City and for what
 8 purpose to give money to politicians? They want
 9 contracts. They don't care about anything else.
 10 Who is doing this? The board members and
 11 the politicians, and they need to answer us, the
 12 taxpayer. They have nearly \$2 million of property
 13 tax increase in the coming budget. If they are
 14 going to do this kind of thing, I will definitely
 15 request from the Prosecutor's office to investigate
 16 and give us the report back because there's not much
 17 we can do here. This is a very serious thing, and
 18 it needs investigation. At some point somebody has
 19 to get involved. I asked the City Council to
 20 investigate. They did not do anything. If you want
 21 to do something, the corruption is in Jersey City.
 22 That's all I'm here to say.
 23 I also want to know, two weeks back, I
 24 asked about Spectrum. Is there a Spectrum update?
 25 You said you would look into that and report back.

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1 MR. BATTISTA: The information given
 2 to me was that the Spectrum project is not touching
 3 upon a County roadway or County property.
 4 MR. WAHID: Yeah, but you're going to
 5 lose your ratables if you're not going to do
 6 something.
 7 MR. BATTISTA: You're making an
 8 argument to the wrong person. I'm just telling you
 9 that the ability of Spectrum to do their project, I
 10 was told by engineering is not impinging upon any
 11 County property.
 12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: If Mr. Battista and
 13 Mr. Florio can give guidance in reference how that
 14 works, our policy with regard to the Prosecutor's
 15 office.
 16 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Have you talked
 17 to the Attorney General's office?
 18 MR. WAHID: No, but we can ask the
 19 Prosecutor's office if they investigate by themselves.
 20 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: We can forward it
 21 to the County Prosecutor's office. Just so you
 22 understand, the OFAC investigation, if the OFAC
 23 investigation reveals certain findings, the OFAC
 24 investigation can as in the past, refer the matter
 25 then to a prosecutor or the State Attorney General

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1 to conduct a criminal investigation. I appreciate
 2 you provided this. The OFAC did an investigation
 3 and interviewed people, et cetera. They made a
 4 recommendation. I have no problem sending it over
 5 to the Prosecutor. I have to be honest with you. I
 6 think the Prosecutor's going to read the
 7 recommendation and say, Look, it was investigated,
 8 they did an investigation, they determined not to
 9 refer to a criminal agency for a criminal
 10 investigation.
 11 So unless someone comes to them with
 12 additional information that wasn't provided here,
 13 you know, occlusion or some other act that would
 14 have been criminal in nature, I don't think you're
 15 going to go that far. I have no problem as an
 16 elected official to ask that we refer this at least
 17 to the Prosecutor.
 18 MR. WAHID: And the real framework,
 19 they didn't see that. They just wanted to make sure
 20 all procedures were followed. As long as the
 21 procedures were follow, but that time, this went to
 22 the State, right? So two different informations are
 23 coming at different times and different ways. Maybe
 24 we can find a way and then see. It very clearly
 25 states that the people are taking money here for the

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1 number, taking \$2,600, and the staff has canceled,
 2 and that she was involved in the back room pushing
 3 this contract, and the rules were not complied. But
 4 there's not much over that.
 5 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Like I said I have
 6 no problem asking that we send this. I don't know
 7 if we need to sent 1884 --
 8 MR. WAHID: 1889.
 9 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: And this article
 10 with it. We'll send it to them and ask them to look
 11 at it. Maybe based on e-mails that have now become
 12 public record, they may find something additional.
 13 I don't have a problem with it.
 14 MR. WAHID: I really appreciate that.
 15 Thank you.
 16 THE CLERK: Additional speakers on
 17 any matter of public interest?
 18 FREEHOLDER DUBLIN: Reaz, I'll send
 19 mine to.
 20 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I'm asking that we
 21 have our County Counsel send it, okay?
 22 THE CLERK: Please state your name,
 23 good afternoon.
 24 MS. EVONNE: My name is Evonne. I am
 25 the chief operating officer for Kaleidoscope in

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1 Jersey City. I just wanted to say thank you to the
 2 entire Freeholder Board for the support of the
 3 programs, which they are concurring services for
 4 those with substance abuse. I also want to say to
 5 you that we are very conscious of your support and
 6 also conscious of our ability provide the services
 7 necessary.
 8 We have sat down with federal auditors for
 9 the State and we were able to answer their
 10 questions. We have also been acknowledged as one of
 11 the top programs in the country. I'm a resident of
 12 New Jersey and participant, I'm very proud to say,
 13 of Hudson County. I am proud that everyone else
 14 acknowledges the good work that we do. I want to
 15 make that clear, and thank you all so that we're
 16 also conscious that we continue to provide good
 17 service.
 18 We do our monitoring meeting once a month
 19 with all of the providers on the last Thursday of
 20 each month. We collaborate daily, it's not every
 21 other day, to make sure everyone is in line with
 22 what they need to be doing. I also want to thank
 23 Ben Lopez, Officer Aviles and Frank Mazza because
 24 all their offices make it possible for us to do such
 25 a good job and help us to make it possible for our

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1 citizens to help become more proactive in regaining
 2 stability in their community so that it doesn't
 3 continue to be a burden on this community.
 4 I appreciate it. They do appreciate that,
 5 and we will continue to do the best that we can, and
 6 I do thank you, and I do want you to continue to
 7 question what we're doing so we can become better
 8 when we answer. When you have to answer, you become
 9 more conscious of what you need to be doing and do a
 10 better job in serving the citizens, and again, I
 11 thank you. I hope you continue to make this County
 12 and your Freeholder Board and the citizens of Jersey
 13 City and Hudson County proud of the work we do as
 14 providers as part of the justice program. Thank you
 15 so much.
 16 THE CLERK: Additional speakers on
 17 matters of public interest?
 18 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Motion to close.
 19 THE CLERK: There appear to be none.
 20 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Yeah, Don, on the
 21 issue with the lease of the Casino in the Park, it
 22 seems like there is a twenty-year lease on this.
 23 MR. BATTISTA: That's correct,
 24 Freeholder.
 25 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: And you have the

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1 breakdown of the monthly payments. They own the
 2 buildings itself about --
 3 MR. BATTISTA: No, we own the
 4 building.
 5 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Oh, boy, that's
 6 even better. Look at that facility. I like what I
 7 see when they started paying of the first year,
 8 3,250 annually, and after the fifth year, they
 9 increased to \$200. This was signed back in 1998. I
 10 would like to see how much it costs the County to
 11 provide all the security, the overtime, the
 12 maintenance and everything around it, okay, and look
 13 what we're getting.
 14 I know that I'm not going to be here five
 15 years from now when the lease expires. Those of you
 16 that intend to be here, when you negotiate this
 17 contract again, take that into consideration and
 18 just to see what we are expending in maintaining
 19 that facility for our security and everything else.
 20 I would like somebody to do a cost analysis to see.
 21 I mean, I mean we're subsidizing this kind of a
 22 facility, yet we have to buy overtime, security and
 23 everything. Like you said there is no -- I don't
 24 see nothing here for our security. I think next
 25 time that we negotiated this lease, all things

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1 should have to be open.

2 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Was it a bid? It

3 was a bid back when we did it. How many square

4 feet?

5 MR. BATTISTA: I think the way it was

6 set up, it was an investment of capitol improvements

7 done by the tenant, and then tenant gave a proposal

8 for rental. I believe, I could be wrong, but I

9 believe the amount of capital improvements was in

10 the vicinity of --

11 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: A million

12 dollars.

13 MR. BATTISTA: How much?

14 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: A million.

15 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Can we verify?

16 Was it verified?

17 MR. BATTISTA: I don't know.

18 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I mean, was there

19 a process?

20 MR. BATTISTA: I can't answer that

21 now.

22 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Could we look into

23 that?

24 MR. BATTISTA: Sure.

25 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I guess the other

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1 issue is, I'm going to pay a hundred thousand

2 dollars and go up to 150 and then 25,000 a year for

3 utilities?

4 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: We pay or they

5 pay?

6 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Mr. DeLeo?

7 MR. DeLEO: I don't know, Freeholder.

8 I could find out for you.

9 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Okay. No one in

10 their right mind would ever, I mean in this day and

11 age, no one in their right mind gets a flat fee for

12 utilities that's based on 20 years. It's insane.

13 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: Do we pay the

14 utilities?

15 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes. They give

16 you a check for \$25,000 a year, and we pay those

17 utilities. They could leave the water running all

18 the time. They can leave the lights on.

19 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: I would like to

20 have a business like that and give me a contract

21 like that.

22 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: It is seven years

23 in the future.

24 MR. BATTISTA: I think, Freeholder,

25 paragraph 16 in the lease says that the casino shall

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1 be liable for all the utilities, including

2 electricity, telephone, gas, water and sewer, as

3 well as any other real estate taxes imposed on this

4 property.

5 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: We know there is

6 no taxes imposed on it.

7 MR. BATTISTA: Paragraph 16.

8 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: So to reconcile 16

9 and 14, I'm sorry, page 14 at the top.

10 MR. BATTISTA: These are the specs

11 that were submitted.

12 FREEHOLDER RIVERA: We're losing

13 money.

14 MR. BATTISTA: Rather than us guess,

15 there are other issues.

16 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: We'll give you two

17 weeks. It gives us two weeks to read it too.

18 THE CLERK: If there is no further

19 business, a motion to adjourn is in order.

20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Moved by Freeholder

21 O'Dea. Second by Freeholder Rivera.

22 (Whereupon the proceeding is then

23 concluded at 7:34 p.m.)

24

25

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1 CERTIFICATION

2

3 I, SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR, License No.

4 30XI00234700, and Notary Public of the State of New

5 Jersey, hereby certify that the proceedings herein

6 are from the notes taken by me of a Regular Meeting

7 of the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders,

8 held on Thursday, March 14, 2013; and that this is a

9 correct transcript of the same.

10

11

12

13 _____

14 SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR

15 A NOTARY PUBLIC of the

16 State of New Jersey

17 I.D. No. 2283786

18 Commission Expires 2/4/17

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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