

**ATLANTIC COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
via Cisco Webex Video Conferencing**

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**Minutes of Meeting
March 2, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners was called to order by Chairwoman Maureen Kern at 4:00 p.m., standard time, on the above-mentioned date, via Cisco Webex Video conferencing as a result of COVID-19.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
STATEMENT**

Statement of Open Public Meeting Compliance: Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chairwoman Kern announced that adequate notice of this meeting, as required by said Act, has been published in *The Press of Atlantic City*, and mailed to *The Current*, *The Daily Journal*, *The Hammonton Gazette* and *The Hammonton News*; posted on the bulletin boards at 1333 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, the Stillwater Building, 201 Shore Road, Northfield and the County Clerk's Office in Mays Landing.

**PRAYER, MOMENT OF
SILENCE AND FLAG
SALUTE**

Chairwoman Kern offered the prayer and led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was recorded: PRESENT: Balles, Bertino, Coursey (arrived 4:35 p.m.), Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Risley and Kern. ABSENT: None.

A quorum was present.

**MINUTES OF MEETING
January 19, 2021**

Commissioner Balles moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to adopt and dispense with the reading of the January 19, 2021 minutes.

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

PRESENTATION

Update on Atlantic County Shared Services by Frank D. Formica, Atlantic County Shared Services Coordinator.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Patricia Diamond, Atlantic County Public Health Officer.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor, requested Ms. Diamond repeat the telephone for seniors 75 years old and older for vaccination reservation assistance. Ms. Diamond responded.

Michele Brunetti, reporter from the Press, asked if the 500 vials of Johnson and Johnson vaccines are the first received. Ms. Brunetti inquired if there is a target plan for individuals with underlying conditions. Ms. Diamond responded.

Joyce Mollineaux, resident of Atlantic City, stated there is still a problem obtaining a reservation for a vaccination.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1
FINAL READING
An Ordinance authorizing and adopting an assessment on certain services furnished by hospitals located within the County's borders for the purpose of increasing funding to support the provision of necessary services by such hospitals to low-income citizens and provide new fiscal resources to the County**

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Balles seconded a motion to adopt on final reading Ordinance No. 1-2021 of the County of Atlantic authorizing and adopting an assessment on certain services furnished by hospitals located within the County's borders for the purpose of increasing funding to support the provision of necessary services by such hospitals to low-income citizens and provide new fiscal resources to the County of Atlantic.

Chairwoman Kern opened the public hearing for comments at 5:04 p.m.

Lori Herndon, AtlantiCare President/CEO, provided an overview of AtlantiCare's services and facilities.

Michele Brunetti, reporter for The Press, asked how much does AtlantiCare have to pay upfront to receive the funds later. Ms. Herndon responded. Ms. Brunetti also asked how will AtlantiCare receive the funds. Barbara Eyman, representative of Eyman Associates responded.

There being no further comments, the meeting was closed to the public at 5:08 p.m.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 122
Amending Resolution No. 390
(7-2-19) for the Community
Development Block Grant
Program and the Home
Investment Partnership
Program**

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Risley seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 390 adopted July 2, 2019, an Atlantic County FY 2019 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the Home Investment Partnership Program for an additional amount of \$2,878,767.00 for a total amended program amount of \$3,583,302.00.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 123
Grant application for funding
the 2021 Distracted Driving
Crackdown Program**

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Risley seconded a motion to submit a grant application to the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for funding the 2021 Distracted Driving Crackdown Program in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the period commencing April 5, 2021 and terminating April 12, 2021.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 124
Grant application for the 2021
Click It or Ticket Mobilization
Program**

Commissioner Risley moved and Commissioner Balles seconded a motion to submit a grant application to the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for the 2021 Click It or Ticket Mobilization Program in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 for the period commencing May 17, 2021 and terminating June 6, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 125
Grant acceptance from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families through the Human Services Advisory

Commissioner Balles moved and Commissioner Risley seconded a motion to accept grant funding from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families through the Human Services Advisory Council Grant in an amount not to exceed \$61,837.00 subject to a County in kind match of \$7,006.00, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$68,843.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2021 and terminating December 31, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 126
Grant acceptance for the 2022 Human Services Advisory Council

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion to authorize a grant acceptance from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families for the 2022 Human Services Advisory Council in an amount not to exceed \$30,919.00, subject to a County in kind match of \$3,503.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$34,422.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2022 and terminating June 30, 2022.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 127
Grant acceptance for 2021 Social Services for the Homeless Program Grant

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Bertino seconded a motion to authorize a grant acceptance from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development for 2021 Social Services for the Homeless Program Grant in an amount not to exceed \$571,600.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2021 and terminating December 31, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 128
Amending Resolution No. 373 (8-18-20), a professional services agreement for the review and update of a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Fitzpatrick seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 373 adopted on August 18, 2020, a professional services agreement with AECOM USA, Inc., for the review and update of a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for the period now terminating March 22, 2022.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 129
Professional services agreement for pharmaceutical consulting services for Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to enter into a professional services agreement with Pharma-Care, Inc., for pharmaceutical consulting services for Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for an amount not to exceed \$30,200.00 for the period commencing January 12, 2021 and terminating December 31, 2021.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 130
Professional services
agreements for the provision of
post offer pre-employment
physicals and associated
diagnostic testing**

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to enter into professional services agreements with AtlantiCare Physician Group, PA and Health Med Associates, PC, DBA Health Med Urgent Care for the provision of post offer pre-employment physicals and associated diagnostic testing for the total amount not to exceed \$34,225.00 for the period commencing April 1, 2020 and ending March 31, 2022.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 131
Renewal competitive contracts
for the provision of homecare
services under the Division of
Welfare and State Respite
Grant Programs**

Commissioner Risley moved and Commissioner Coursey seconded a motion to enter into renewal competitive contracts with various vendors for the provision of homecare services under the Division of Welfare and State Respite Grant Programs in an amount not to exceed \$350,138.00, for a one year period commencing January 1, 2021 and terminating December 31, 2021.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 132
Amending Resolution No. 607
(12-01-20), a competitive
contract for the provision of
physical, occupational and
speech therapy services to the
residents of Meadowview
Nursing and Rehabilitation
Center**

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Coursey seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 607 adopted on December 1, 2020, a competitive contract with Rehab Professional Services, Inc. for the provision of physical, occupational and speech therapy services to the residents of Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 for the term commencing February 1, 2021 and terminating March 31, 2021.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 133
Bid contract to provide
maintenance and repair to the
Building Management System
(BMS), Automatic Temperature
Control (ATC) and Energy
Conservation Control System
(ECC) for Atlantic County
Buildings**

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Fitzpatrick seconded a motion to enter into a contract with Peterson Service Company, Inc. to provide maintenance and repair to the Building Management System (BMS), Automatic Temperature Control (ATC) and Energy Conservation Control System (ECC) for Atlantic County Buildings for the total sum not to exceed \$137,550.00 to do the work and/or supply the materials as set forth in the contract for the period commencing December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2022.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 134
Amending Resolution No. 562
(11-10-20), an emergency
agreement for culvert pipe
rehabilitation of Brewster
Avenue (CR 672) in Egg
Harbor Township**

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 562 adopted on November 10, 2020, an emergency agreement with Arthur W. Henry, Inc., for the culvert pipe rehabilitation of Brewster Avenue (CR 672) in Egg Harbor Township for the period now terminating December 31, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 135
Emergency contract for the
repair of Dorset Avenue
Bridge gearboxes

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Balles seconded a motion to authorize an emergency contract with South State, Inc. for the repair of Dorset Avenue Bridge gearboxes in an amount not to exceed \$674,253.00 for a period starting February 1, 2021 and terminating on June 30, 2021.

Nanette Galloway asked how will the County connect with the public and boaters when the bridge is up during repairs. Regional Planning and Economic Development Department Head John Peterson responded.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 136
Renewal intergovernmental
contract for the High Risk Case
Management Aftercare
Program

Commissioner Bertino moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to enter into a renewal intergovernmental contract with the Atlantic County Division of Probation for the High Risk Case Management Aftercare Program in an amount not to exceed \$43,975.00 for the term commencing January 1, 2021 and terminating December 31, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 137
Resolution authorizing the use
of a competitive contract
process for the provision of
online bidding software for
Atlantic County

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion authorizing the use of a competitive contract process for the provision of online bidding software for Atlantic County.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 138
Agreement for shelter services
for the homeless during a Code
Blue declaration

Commissioner Risley moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to authorize an agreement with Parish of St. Monica for shelter services for the homeless during a Code Blue declaration in an amount not to exceed \$44,000.00 for the term commencing December 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 139
FIRST READING
Annual Open Space Trust Fund
Tax 2021

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Fitzpatrick seconded a motion to introduce on first reading an Annual Open Space Trust Fund Tax 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 140
Interlocal services agreement
for the administration of the
U.S. Treasury COVID-19
Emergency Rental Assistance
Funds

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Fitzpatrick seconded a motion to enter into an interlocal services agreement with the Atlantic County Improvement Authority for the administration of the U.S. Treasury COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Funds in the amount of \$7,868,230.90.

Joyce Mollineaux, resident of Atlantic City, asked how will the money be distributed to each town? ACIA CDBG Director Bob McGuigan responded.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 141
Appointment to the Atlantic
County Mental Health
Advisory Board**

Commissioner Risley moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to appoint Amanda L. Tilley to the Atlantic County Mental Health Advisory Board for a term to expire on July 1, 2024.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 142
Resolution imploring Governor
Murphy to immediately make
Covid-19 vaccinations available
to teachers and school staff**

Commissioner Balles moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion to authorize a resolution imploring Governor Murphy to immediately make Covid-19 vaccinations available to teachers and school staff (Sponsors: Richard R. Dase and Frank X. Balles).

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Coursey seconded a motion to amend the resolution by adding “via their employer.”

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

Joyce Mollineaux, resident of Atlantic City, commended the Commissioners on this resolution. Teachers are essential and supply a tool for our children’s future. Great job.

Creed Pogue, resident of Estell Manor, stated he was able to use the phone number provided by Ms. Diamond to get an appointment. He also asked if any other changes have been made to the resolution since it was posted? There is confusion the Governor changed the priority of vaccination eligibility yesterday, there is no acknowledgment or appreciation of that.

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

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL
COMMITTEES OF THE
BOARD**

There were no reports of special committees of the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

**WRITTEN
COMMUNICATIONS AND
PETITIONS**

Written communications were received by this office for the period of February 17, 2021 to March 2, 2021.

Commissioner Balles reported that residents have been successful accessing the Rite Aid website to book vaccination appointments between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairwoman Kern opened the meeting to the public at 6:15 p.m.

Michael Martirone, inquired as to the enforcement of prohibiting individuals the riding of dirt bikes at the River Bend County Park off Somers Point Mays Landing Road. County Administrator Del Rosso responded.

There being no further comments, Chairwoman Kern closed the public portion at 6:23 p.m.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Gatto extended her congratulations to Bob Widitz, Substance Abuse Coordinator, on his retirement.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Kern entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Balles seconded a motion to adjourn the Commissioners meeting. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sonya G. Harris
Clerk of the Board