



**Meeting Minutes of  
September 13, 2018, 8:00 a.m.  
Wayne Dumont Administration Building  
165 County Rte. 519 Belvidere, NJ 07823-1949**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Chair Betty Schultheis

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL Present:** Terry Urfer, Andrea Kirchuk, Mitchell Jones, John Kruk, Betty Schultheis, Chris Maier, Jim Palitto, Stan Prater, and Freeholder Jason Sarnoski.

**Guests:** Art Charlton, Dave Dech and Corey Tierney

**Meeting commenced at 8:06 am.**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Not able to approve the minutes since it was sent late last night. Betty told everyone to read them when get home.

**Notes:**

**Status on White Paper-** John asked Jason if he talked about getting Community College funding for the white paper. He said Dr. Austin stated October is a good month to get things moving. Need to approve funding. Freeholder Jason Sarnoski stated he will talk with him on Monday. He will engage Will as well.

**Status on the Grow Warren grant:** Corey stated about three quarters done. Final draft is in review. They are updating the logo, website. Created ESRI for Planning Department and working on getting approved. Hope to wrap up report in next few months.

**Status on EDC poster-** Linda stated to Betty the poster was very successful at White Township meeting/lobby and then at Belvidere meeting/lobby. Want notes about our meetings as can't get there at 8am. Andrea stated should think about changing it up with other town successes. Chris stated we should add this information on our website. Andrea will add it.

**Mitchell status on NJ Farmers Bureau:** Mitchell talked with bureau about getting displays. Terry said he has 2 banners he could use.

**Status on proposed resolution:** Stan discussed JCPL reliability plus plan and the vegetation management. A lot of the issues with outages are caused by trees. He is asking for funding to get permission to go further outside of the right of way, further down the circuits, addition of a smart grid- trip saver, replace equipment, etc. If approved there will be an increase rate of 25 cents to \$1.87 tops. He is looking for support and resolution from the municipalities and EDC. Stan gave EDC a copy of the resolution. Betty also stated there should be better communication between Shade Tree and electric company and to plan before plant. Chris has issue (said it's normal maintenance) with this and has issues with JCPL in general. Chris asked to work with Stan/JCPL directly. Terry asked for **MOTION** to pass this resolution. Andrea 2<sup>nd</sup> it. All in favor. Motion passed. Freeholder Jason and Stan asked to be recused from voting.

**Status on proposed letter to Congressman Gottheimer:** Betty talked with his office about grant money and was told there is nothing relative to ED. They are going to send what they have that we can use. No information sent yet.

**Status on RFP for the Communications-** Andrea and Betty put it together. Andrea wants to review the RFP again. Andrea is going to send the RFP for everyone to review (including Freeholder Jason and Art). Terry stated we should reach out to newspapers to get them to our meeting and more involved in helping communications. Explore all ways to communicate. They discussed the Messenger publications, [www.Patch.com](http://www.Patch.com) and WRNJ radio.

**Status on Phillipsburg:** Lots of things happening and Todd Tersigni has not been giving an update. Jim is going to reach out to Phillipsburg Council members and get update by next meeting. Terry stated we should get the newsletters from various towns to find out what's going on. Terry suggested we send letter to each town to find out what's going on. Jim stated no update on Phillipsburg Mall.

**Freeholder Jason status update:** There was an opening of the job center in Phillipsburg on Marshall Street and the Ed and Eileen Smith Drone Center opening as well. Drone course is now available at the WCCC. Warren County is unique as open area for air space. Freeholder Jason wants to get more involved in ED with the Community College. He is going to work with Will. Also noted the Southwest Library official opening is on 22nd at 12pm. Urged people to come. There are 1500 new members and 1700 renewals. Alex Lazorisak (Assistant Administrator) and Freeholder Jason play golf together. They noted we need to revive golf in our county. They propose we ask the golf courses about a County Card to WC residents with discount to drum up business and we provide them with advertising, etc. Stan and John agreed to work with Alex and Jason on this idea. Betty likes the idea. Need to propose it and work with golf courses.

**Status on tourism:** Art reported it has been a busy time, with lots of signups to receive the Warren County Wanderings email newsletter. Jason asked is the newsletter would run items about recruiting volunteers. Art said we would consider adding these types of events to the newsletter if we were asked. Terry asked Art for literature to bring to Hope picnic on 9/22.

**Status on Processes:** Dave still continues to add site plans. No changes made on overall format.

Chris said Government is supposed to protect property and people, especially business property. If it doesn't, then Warren County will get the reputation of being easy on crime, which will attract more crime. This would negate efforts to retain businesses and attract new businesses. The Committee discussed a need for statistics on this, and Freeholder Ed Smith (liaison for Public Safety) will be informed of the issue.

Mitchell stated the new agriculture agent in Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Warren County started working this week.

Meeting adjourned: 9:46am. All in favor.

**Next meeting:**

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Nigro