



# **SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

## **AGENDAS & MINUTES**

### **SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL - GEORGETOWN, DELAWARE, FEBRUARY 8, 2011**

#### **Call to Order**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sussex County Council was held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers, Sussex County Administrative Office Building, Georgetown, Delaware, with the following present:

<b>Michael H. Vincent</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Samuel R. Wilson, Jr.</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>George B. Cole</b>	<b>Councilman</b>
<b>Joan R. Deaver</b>	<b>Councilwoman</b>
<b>Vance Phillips</b>	<b>Councilman</b>
<b>David Baker</b>	<b>County Administrator</b>
<b>Susan M. Webb</b>	<b>Finance Director</b>
<b>Hal Godwin</b>	<b>Deputy Administrator</b>
<b>J. Everett Moore</b>	<b>County Attorney</b>

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mr. Vincent.

Mr. Vincent called the meeting to order.

#### **M 077 11 Amend and Approve Agenda**

A Motion was made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to amend the Agenda by deleting "Pending/Potential Litigation" and "Land Acquisition" under "Executive Session" and to approve the Agenda, as amended.

**Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.**

**Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Deaver, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;  
Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Wilson, Yea;  
Mr. Vincent, Yea**

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of February 1, 2011 were approved by consent.

#### **Corre- spondence**

Mr. Moore read the following correspondence:

**SHANE ABBOTT, MANAGER, THE DELAWARE LADY BLUE HENS  
12U FAST PITCH TRAVEL SOFTBALL TEAM, BRIDGEVILLE,  
DELAWARE.**

**RE: Letter in appreciation of grant.**

**MILTON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, MILTON, DELAWARE.**

**RE: Letter in appreciation of Human Service Grant.**

**EL CENTRO CULTURAL, INC. GEORGETOWN, DELAWARE.**

**RE: Letter in appreciation of Human Service Grant.**

**Fire  
Service  
Smoke  
Detector  
Program**

Mr. Baker introduced Todd Reilly of the Delaware Volunteer Fire Service who spoke on the Fire Service's smoke detector program. Mr. Reilly reported that over the past eight years, the State has applied for and received a grant to subsidize the Wake Up Delaware Program. This past year, over 100,000 smoke detectors were handed out in the State of Delaware. Mr. Reilly stated that there is evidence that many of these smoke detectors are not being maintained properly as many of them have no batteries or dead batteries.

Mr. Reilly stated that, this year the State did not receive the grant. It was determined that the grant specifications have changed and the grant is geared more towards smoke detector installation programs and fire inspections within the homes. The Sussex County Volunteer Firefighters Association has established a committee to come up with a program in Sussex County that meets the guidelines so that grant funding can be applied for next year.

Mr. Reilly reported that the Committee is working on implementing the program and that they are proposing the following: (1) this year, installations in homes will be done monthly and (2) next year, inspections will be performed to make sure that the smoke detectors are in working order.

Mr. Reilly stated that he is hoping Sussex County will be the first county in the State to establish such a program.

Mr. Reilly thanked the Council for its support of the smoke detector program and he explained that County funds were used to put 100 smoke detectors and batteries in every fire station in Sussex County.

Mr. Baker reported that two vacancies exist on the Board of Assessment Review. Jane Horn (District 1) is resigning her position and Ann Hudson's (District 3) term expired. Mr. Baker advised that, as required by State Law, this Committee meets the first 15 days in March every year; members serve for five year terms. This Board hears appeals on property assessments and appeals of EDUs and front foot assessments relating to sewer bills.

**M 078 11  
Appoint-  
ment to  
Board of  
Assessment**

A Motion was made Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Deaver, to appoint Julie Rigby to the Board of Assessment Review (to complete the term of Jane Horn; Ms. Rigby's term will expire in February 2013).

**Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.**

**Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Deaver, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;  
Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Wilson, Yea;  
Mr. Vincent, Yea**

**M 079 11**  
**Appoint-**  
**ment to**  
**Board of**  
**Assessment**  
**M 079 11**  
**(continued)**

A Motion was made by Mrs. Deaver, seconded by Mr. Cole, to appoint Tom O'Hagan to the Board of Assessment Review for a term of five years (replacing Ann Hudson).

**Motion Adopted:** 5 Yeas.  
**Vote by Roll Call:** Mrs. Deaver, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;  
Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Wilson, Yea;  
Mr. Vincent, Yea

**Disability**  
**Issues**

Mr. Baker reviewed proposed changes to the County's disability benefits. He explained that a number of concerns have arisen recently regarding disability pensions and long-term disability insurance issues. Currently, employees who are disabled for medical reasons continue to receive County benefits, as well as continue to vest toward a County pension (except for those who are receiving a disability pension). Also, the County does not provide short-term disability benefits, with the exception of paying based on accrued sick and/or vacation time. Mr. Baker outlined and explained the proposed changes. Mr. Baker noted that the proposal was developed with the assistance of Karen Brewington and Bonnie Wootten of the Personnel Office along with Barry Willoughby, Esq. and Tim Snyder, Esq.

**Adminis-**  
**trator's**  
**Report**

Mr. Baker read the following information in his Administrator's Report;

1. **Nanticoke Rotary Club – Paramedic Recognition**

We are pleased to announce that the Nanticoke Rotary Club has continued its tradition of recognizing several of our top paramedics again this year. At the February 2, 2011, special Club meeting, the Nanticoke Rotary Club recognized Mr. Glenn Adams, Ms. Sharon Wile, Mr. Glenn Marshall, and Mr. Mark Sheridan as outstanding paramedics this past year. Attached is a press release detailing accomplishments for each individual. We wish to sincerely thank the Nanticoke Rotary Club for this important recognition.

2. **Community Data Information**

Attached is a copy of information about Sussex County that is available on our website. This has been updated by the County's Economic Development Director, Ms. Julie Wheatley. We encourage anyone interested to take full advantage of this information about Sussex County available on our website, [www.sussexcountyde.gov](http://www.sussexcountyde.gov).

3. **Public Workshop – Delaware Department of Transportation**

Attached is information regarding a public workshop to be held by the Delaware Department of Transportation in the Cape Henlopen High School cafeteria on Wednesday, February 9, 2011, from 4:00 to

**7:00 p.m.** This workshop involves a proposal to realign and widen an intersection at Plantation Road, Cedar Grove Road, and Postal Lane. Attached is a release regarding the same.

**Adminis-  
trator's  
Report  
(continued)**

**4. Ocean Farm Subdivision – Community Improvement Project**

An election for a community improvement road project for the Ocean Farm Subdivision will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2011, at the South Coastal Library, 43 Kent Avenue, Bethany Beach, Delaware, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. Attached is information regarding the same. If approved, this will provide road improvements by the County within the subdivision, with the cost to be reimbursed by property owners.

[Attachments to the Administrator's Report are not attachments to the minutes.]

**Proposed  
Wilmington  
Trust  
Company  
Custody  
Agreement  
for OPEB**

Susan Webb presented a proposed Custody Agreement for OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits). This agreement will allow Wilmington Trust Company to act as custodian to the County's OPEB assets. Mrs. Webb explained that, at the December 7, 2010 Council meeting, a Motion was approved to transfer OPEB assets from the State of Delaware OPEB Pool investments into the County's selected Investment Managers that were chosen through a RFP process. The purpose of the Custody Agreement is for the Wilmington Trust Company to provide custodial services for those assets. These services include distribution of assets according to instructions, safekeeping of assets, broker services, and reporting.

Mrs. Webb noted that the agreement has been reviewed by the County Attorney.

**M 080 11  
Accept  
Wilmington  
Trust  
Company  
Custody  
Agreement**

A Motion was made by Mrs. Deaver, seconded by Mr. Cole, that the Sussex County Council accepts the Custody Agreement with Wilmington Trust Company.

**Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.**

**Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Deaver, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;  
Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Wilson, Yea;  
Mr. Vincent, Yea**

**T-Hangar  
Leases**

Jim Hickin, Director of Airport and Industrial Park, presented a proposal to update the existing T-Hangar Leases.

**M 081 11  
Execute  
Updated**

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Phillips, that the Sussex County Council authorizes the Council President, Vice President, and/or County Administrator to execute Monthly Use and Occupancy Agreements



**Executive Session**      **At 10:30 a.m., an Executive Session of the Sussex County Council was held in the Caucus Room of the Council Chambers for the purpose of discussing issues relating to personnel. The Executive Session concluded at 10:39 a.m.**

**M 086 11 Reconvene**      **At 10:41 a.m., a Motion was made by Mrs. Deaver, seconded by Mr. Cole, to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the Regular Session.**

**Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.**

**Action**      **Mr. Moore announced that no action was required on Executive Session items.**

**M 087 11 Recess**      **A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to recess at 10:43 a.m.**

**Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.**

**Luncheon/ Adjourn**      **The Councilmen attended a luncheon and tour at The Jefferson School in Georgetown. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Robin A. Griffith  
Clerk of the Council**