

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Bergen County Board of Social Services
January 15, 2013**

PRESENT: William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson
Randi Duffie, Vice Chairperson
Tom Toronto, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
John M. Carbone, Esq., County Adjuster
Freeholder Joan Voss, Board Member
Freeholder Tracy Zur, Board Member
Leah Puzzo, Board Member
Mayor Vincent Barra, Board Member
Bob Nyman, Board Member
Frank Catania, Jr., Esq., General Counsel
Robert Calocino, Acting Director
Alex Morales, Interim Management Consultant
Michele Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

ABSENT: Deborah Viola, Ph.D., Secretary-Treasurer

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was held on January 15, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the Training Room of the Bergen County Board of Social Services, 216 Route 17 North, Building A, Rochelle Park, New Jersey.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Frank Catania, Jr., Esq. called the meeting to order. Counsel read the notice required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting scheduled for January 15, 2013 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2013, including a notice of the scheduled time, scheduled date, and location of this meeting at the Bergen County Administrative Building, One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey.

2. The mailing of this notice of the time, date, and location of this meeting to "The Record", which was published on December 17, 2012 and to the Herald News, which was published on December 17, 2012.
3. By filing of the notice of the time, date, and location of this meeting with the Bergen County Clerk, said filing having taken place on December 6, 2012.

The notice required by the "Open Public Meeting Act" was read as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, the Bergen County Board of Social Services shall now exclude members of the public from the meeting for the following reason:

1. The Board shall discuss property matters involving individuals who have received assistance from the Bergen County Board of Social Services. The identification of such individuals or their property may result in a violation of their rights to privacy and may result in the loss of public funds by this agency.
2. The Board shall discuss matters which are covered pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b)(1,2,3) involving individuals who have received assistance from the Bergen County Board of Social Services or who have applied for assistance. To disclose the names of such individuals would work an unwarranted invasion of their rights to privacy.
3. The Bergen County Board of Social Services shall discuss personnel matters which are specifically exempt from public meetings pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b)(8).
4. The Board shall discuss matters with Counsel to the Board which matters shall fall within the attorney-client privilege and are therefore excluded from the public meeting.
5. The Board may discuss other matters pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.

Please be advised that at the conclusion of this session, the Board shall return to a public session and the members of the public are invited to return in order to observe. Thank you.

A quorum being achieved, the Board met in Public Session.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Flag Salute

General Counsel led those present in a salute to the flag.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was taken for Open Session:

MEMBERS	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X	
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X	
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY-TREASURER		X
RANDI DUFFIE	ASST. SECRETARY-TREASURER	X	
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X	
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X	
WILLIAM CONNELLY	BOARD MEMBER	X	
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X	
TOM TORONTO	BOARD MEMBER	X	
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X	

Oath of Office for New Members

Freeholder Joan Voss and Freeholder Tracy Zur were sworn in by General Counsel.

(a) Reorganization/Election of Officers

A motion to sponsor William Connelly as Chairperson was offered by Mrs. Duffie, seconded by Mrs. Puzzo, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	ASST. SECRETARY-TREASURER	X			
WILLIAM CONNELLY	BOARD MEMBER			X	
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
TOM TORONTO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to sponsor Randi Duffie as Vice-Chairperson was offered by Mrs. Puzzo, seconded by Mr. Connelly, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
RANDI DUFFIE	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
TOM TORONTO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to sponsor Deborah Viola as Secretary-Treasurer was offered by Chairman Connelly, seconded by Mayor Barra, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to sponsor Tom Toronto as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer was offered by Vice Chairwoman Duffie, seconded by Mayor Barra, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	BOARD MEMBER			X	
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(b) Committee Assignments:

Finance Committee:

- Tom Toronto
- Dr. Viola
- Bob Nyman

Building & Grounds Committee:

- Freeholder Zur
- Mayor Barra
- Tom Toronto

Personnel Committee (Search, Negotiations, Social Affairs, & Workflow subcommittees):

- Chairman Connelly
- Freeholder Voss
- Dr. Viola

*** Search subcommittee:**

- Chairman Connelly
- Freeholder Voss
- Dr. Viola

* *The Search subcommittee will transform into the Workflow subcommittee when the Board secures leadership for the agency.*

Negotiations subcommittee:

- Freeholder Voss
- Freeholder Zur
- Mayor Barra

Social Affairs subcommittee:

- Member/Members of the Personnel Committee.

Workflow subcommittee:

- Chairman Connelly
- Freeholder Voss
- Dr. Viola

Welfare, Fraud, & Abuse Committee

- Freeholder Voss
- Leah Puzzo

Mr. Nyman discussed changing the name of the Finance Committee to the Audit & Budget Committee. General Counsel advised that written notice of the By-Law to be amended must be provided to every Board Member at least three days in advance of that meeting; therefore, the name change will be done at next month's Board Meeting.

A motion to approve the committees and subcommittees, was offered by Mayor Barra, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Chairman Connelly thanked the Board for their confidence in putting him in this position. He welcomed the two new Freeholders to the BCBSS Board. He also thanked the two former members, Freeholders Felice and Mitchell, for their service.

Open Public Comment Period

A motion to open the Open Public Comment Period, for a three-minute limit with the option of speaking again, was offered by Freeholder Voss, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Duffie, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Carol Camizzi – Tenafly, NJ

Ms. Camizzi commented on the volume of cases that the workers have and the lack of personnel. She asked the Board to help her understand why with the previous Director’s salary gone, the Fiscal Officer’s salary gone, so many retirees gone and none of their salaries replaced, why we can’t afford new workers. She discussed the salaries of the Acting Director and the Interim Management Consultant, which could have been used to possibly hire four part-time workers and clerical staff. She talked about the manner in which the paychecks were released to the staff at the request of the new Interim Management Consultant. She expressed the employees’ frustration and disappointment with the Board.

Ronda Wilson – Hackensack, NJ

Ms. Wilson commented she has been working with Mr. Morales for the last few days on a more human nature. She inquired about Mr. Morales’ 30-60-90-day evaluations. She called attention to the number of labor people who were present to support her because of the mean-spiritedness and some of the unfair labor practice charges that she had to file against Mr. Morales. She welcomed the new members to the Board. She looks forward to a wonderful working experience with the Board and mentioned Mr. Connelly has always been her favorite Board Member.

Ms. Babette Haggerty – Member of the Public

Ms. Haggerty discussed her daughter’s medical situation and the need for health insurance for her daughter. The Acting Director and Administrator Yacoub stepped out of the room to work with Ms. Haggerty on getting an emergency grant tonight to cover the medical costs.

Maria Aberasturi – Teaneck, NJ

Ms. Aberasturi congratulated Mr. Connelly on becoming Chairperson. She welcomed Freeholders Voss and Zur.

Ms. Aberasturi discussed computerization and people who live in this county who are poor are entitled to quality professional services. She also discussed the report and recommendations that the Bergen County Police provided regarding safety. She said that although the Health & Safety Committee agrees with the report, changes have not been implemented and training has not been provided.

Ms. Aberasturi spoke about the search for the new Director. She pointed out the two salaries (Acting Director & Interim Management Consultant) exceeded the former Director's salary and is not saving the taxpayers money.

Ms. Aberasturi talked about the hiring of a private real estate company as opposed to using the services of an individual at the County who searches for property and offered to search for a new location for us at no additional cost. She asked that the Personnel Committee who make decisions about hiring do so during the open session portion of the meeting.

Lenore Titus – Maywood, NJ

Ms. Titus commented on the clients' frustration, as well as, her and her co-workers with the phones and procedures. Recently, Mr. Morales has observed and offered suggestions. She mentioned that a Call Banking system has been promised. However, the switchboard operators have been answering 218 employees' telephones. She discussed they receive 10,000 phone calls per month. The phone system is 25 years old, and the answering machine is 15 years old. She discussed nobody is getting service and it is not fair to the switchboard operators to answer calls for 218 employees.

Lillian Milanese –

Ms. Milanese, Intake Specialist for needy families, commented she has been a member of the Health & Safety Committee since its inception 14 years ago. Staff has made the same recommendations year in and year out and nobody ever takes their suggestions into account. She discussed an incident with someone who came in with MRSA. It was reported to her, as a representative of the Health & Safety Committee, and she reported it. It took 24 hours to disinfect one phone. She talked about staff wanting their issues addressed quickly the same way as the customer who walked in the door tonight.

Dorothy Thomas – Englewood, NJ

Ms. Thomas commented she is an employee and a customer as she has a father who is in a nursing home on Medicaid. She has worked in this agency since 1998. She expressed that the Board cannot come up with policies that make no sense and frustrate staff. She discussed her exposure to many different diseases at the agency and the conditions that she has had to work under.

She mentioned a lot of suggestions that Mr. Morales has come up with, the Board could have asked the staff. She expressed that there is no compassion with Case Banking.

Vicky Osborne – Ridgefield Park, NJ

Ms. Osborne, an employee of the Board for 27 years, commented it is very frustrating for the employees who try everyday to do a good job. Staff are not provided with the essential support that they need. It is very insulting to the employees that they have to deal with this when the Board has no hindrance on how they spend the money. There is only so much computerization that will cover up for the lack of staff. The employees are in the middle of contract negotiations and feel frustrated and unappreciated. She discussed that it would be nice if staff received a decent contract offer and not insulted with 0% across the board.

Olej Kirioukhine – Cliffside Park, NJ

Mr. Kirioukhine, a member of the public, commented on the Food Stamp statistics that are published on the agency’s website. He expressed he needs the Board to do a better job. In regard to his inquiry concerning the Board Members’ positions, he was advised that they are all volunteers and do not get paid. He commented that he lives in Bergen County and needs this agency to be #1. He requested that the Board get the ball rolling on the safety training.

Lizette Parker – Township of Teaneck

Ms. Parker commented that we have a very diverse staff, County and clientele, but we don’t have a very diverse Board. She would appreciate when the Board makes appointments that they take that into consideration.

A motion to close the Open Public Comment Period was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER	X			
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

For the record, Mayor Barra left the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Open Session Minutes December 4, 2012

No discussion. A motion to adopt the Open Session Minutes of December 4, 2012 was offered by Mr. Carbone, seconded by Mr. Toronto, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON			X	
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER			X	
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER			X	
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER			X	
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Treasurer's Report:

(a) Bills List:

A discussion ensued. A motion to approve the Bills List was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Freeholder Voss, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(b) Schedule of Vouchers:

A discussion ensued. A motion to approve the Schedule of Vouchers was offered by Mr. Toronto seconded by Freeholder Voss, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Mr. Morales asked for clarification regarding some issues that Scott and he have had in Finance concerning payment of which bills may or may not be paid. Previously, he spoke with Mr. Toronto about this issue. The items that will be paid routinely are bills the Board has been made aware of: client related expenses and food & shelter money for clients. Also, Board approved fixed contract payments such as: rent, internet, payroll/payroll related expenses, CWA payments, Credit Union, unemployment, VALIC, health & dental premiums, pension contributions, and employee mileage. The Finance Committee concluded as long as there is a presentation as Mr. Morales has just done, and what those conditions were and that they are continually reported to the Board when approval for payment was sought but actual payment had occurred, then they are comfortable proceeding.

Acting Director's Report:

(a) Monthly Reports – Statistical & Financial:

A snapshot of caseload and expenditures was provided to the members for the month of November. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Morales discussed a memo regarding Training and Employment Allowance. He clarified the issue of travel allowances and expense allowances that are given to General Assistance/TANF clients. This is a required payment by the State. He also provided an analysis on the way the staff handles it. His evaluation is that it is very effective but if the Board wishes them to do it a different way they have the option. The allowance is required. It is for travel. It is for any activity related to employability or job skills training. He believes in the past it was communicated that it was exclusively for a bus pass but that is not the purpose of it. Mrs. Baillif has done a very good job in auditing and making sure that only those families that are eligible are receiving the benefit. She has interfaced with the Open Stop and the first month, she reduced it by 50 clients. She has made certain that it is being audited thoroughly in order to save taxpayer dollars to the maximum and to see that eligible families still receive their benefits.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Connelly thanked everyone who came and spoke and shared their ideas and thoughts with the Board. He has been a Bergen County resident his whole life. He grew up in Teaneck, New Jersey. He has been involved with the Social Service Program with his mother in Bergen County. He thinks very highly of the people that are here because they were a tremendous help to him about ten years ago. His mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and it is a horrible disease. Everybody that he ever had to deal with was professional and really helped them a great deal as a family. He advised that the Board is here to make sure this agency runs well. They are not here to run the place. They are here to make sure it is run properly. He assured everyone, as Chairman of this Board, all the Board Members are here to do the job.

Mr. Morales discussed a memorandum regarding safety at the main office. The Health & Safety Committee is trying to go through the police officer's report and implement some of those ideas into a safety policy. Mr. Morales met with Freeholder Chairman Ganz, and he offered to facilitate a meeting between with the Bergen County Police Department to see if they can come in and provide training to the staff in regard to safety. A discussion ensued.

Committee Reports:

(a) Welfare, Fraud, and Abuse Committee

No committee report was provided.

(b) Finance Committee

Mr. Toronto discussed a letter that was included in everyone's packet regarding approval of a request to extend the deadline to file the BCBSS budget to the State. Mr. Modery discussed that he has spoken with the County Treasurer who has provided a number that he feels we should meet. A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled and they will go to the next step. Mr. Toronto provided an overview of the overall budget.

1. Budget Transfer

A discussion ensued. A motion to approve a transfer of budgetary items was offered by Mr. Carbone, seconded by Mr. Toronto, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(c) Building & Grounds Committee

In Mayor Barra's absence, Mr. Morales distributed a memo to the Board regarding site visits to Middlesex, Hudson, and Union Counties. He extended an invite to the entire Board. In regard to 540 Hudson Street, Mr. Morales discussed he spoke with the former tenant and written comments from that tenant were included in a memorandum for the Board's review. Also, as a follow-up to a December meeting with the NAI Hanson Group and DMR Architects, the architects provided their feedback on possible changes to this building. Mr. Morales and Mayor Barra provided their input, which was included for the Board's review. Also included was DMR Architects request for information from the agency. A discussion ensued regarding the number of households that the agency is serving in the different municipalities in Bergen County.

OLD BUSINESS:

(a) Discussion regarding results of RFQ for Utility Auditing Consultant

A discussion ensued. A motion to authorize General Counsel to prepare and publicly advertise an RFQ for Utility Auditing Consultant was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Adopting a Fair and Open Process or a Non-Fair and Open Process for Retention of Professionals and Consultants for CY2013

A discussion ensued. A motion to adopt a Non-Fair and Open Process for Retention of Professionals and Consultants for CY2013 and advertise for General Counsel, Labor Counsel, Auditor, and Insurance Consultant was offered by Mrs. Puzzo, seconded by Freeholder Voss, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

The Board was given a specimen audit provided by the Department of Human Services for the Hudson County Board of Social Services with all the data removed and included the items that are supposed to be reviewed in an audit, none of which are done for the Bergen County Board of Social Services. The Bergen County Board of Social Services audit is a number audit. Last year, the Acting Executive Director contacted the State and they offered to come in and do a management audit for the Bergen County Board of Social Services. They were not able to schedule us last year; therefore, it was suggested that the Board follow up with them again to do a no-cost review.

General Counsel discussed one matter that was added to the agenda regarding banking signatures. The bank requires a new resolution authorizing the Acting Director, Chairperson, Acting Fiscal Officer, and Secretary Treasurer to sign off on accounts with Wells Fargo Bank. A motion to change signatures on accounts with Wells Fargo Bank was offered by Mr. Toronto, seconded by Freeholder Voss, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER	X			
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

(b) Next Board Meeting Date – Tuesday, February 5, 2013 @ 5:30 p.m.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 5, 2013** at 5:30 p.m. at the Bergen County Board of Social Services.

Action Items:

Resolutions:

2013.01.15 (1) –Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

A motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2013.01.15 (1) was offered by Freeholder Voss, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER				X(Stepped Away)
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to approve Resolution 2013.01.15 (1) was offered by Freeholder Voss, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			

DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER				X(Stepped Away
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to go into Closed Session was offered by Freeholder Voss, seconded by Freeholder Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER				X(Stepped Away
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X			
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X			
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

CLOSED SESSION:

The Bergen County Board of Social Services shall now exclude members of the public from the meeting and move into Closed Session for the following reasons: The Board may discuss property matters involving individuals who receive assistance from the BCBSS. The identification of such individuals or their property may result in a violation of their right to privacy and may result in a loss of public funds by this agency. The Board shall discuss matters which are covered pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12B(1,2,3) involving individuals who received assistance from the Board or the Bergen County Board of Social Services or who have applied for assistance. To disclose the names of such individuals would work an unwarranted invasion of their rights to privacy. The Bergen County Board of Social Services shall discuss personnel matters which are specifically exempt from public meetings pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b)(8). The Board shall discuss matters with Counsel to the Board which matters fall within the attorney-client privilege and are therefore excluded from the public meeting. The Board may also discuss all other matters which are exempt from public meetings pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12. The minutes from these closed sessions shall be made available to the public upon the expiration of a 45-day appeal period. Please be advised that at the conclusion of this session, the Board shall return to a public session and the members of the public are invited to return at that time.

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 7:28 p.m.

OPEN SESSION:

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Chairman Connelly requested a Roll Call:

MEMBERS	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X	
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X	
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER		X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER		X
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X	
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER	X	
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER	X	
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X	
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER		X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X	

Closed Session Minutes December 4, 2012

A motion to adopt the Closed Session Minutes of December 4, 2012 was offered by Mrs. Puzzo, seconded by Mr. Nyman, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON			X	
DEBORAH VIOLA, Ph.D.	SECRETARY/TREASURER				X
TOM TORONTO	ASST. SEC-TREASURER				X
JOHN M. CARBONE, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER			X	
FREEHOLDER JOAN VOSS	BOARD MEMBER			X	
FREEHOLDER TRACY ZUR	BOARD MEMBER			X	
LEAH PUZZO	BOARD MEMBER	X			
MAYOR VINCENT BARRA	BOARD MEMBER				X
BOB NYMAN	BOARD MEMBER	X			

With no further business to conclude, a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:27 p.m. was offered by Freeholder Zur, seconded by Freeholder Voss, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Calocino
Acting Director