

ATLANTIC COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Stillwater Building
201 Shore Road, Northfield, New Jersey 08225
and via Cisco Webex Video Conferencing**

~ ~ ~

**Minutes of Meeting
November 21, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman John Risley at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on the above-mentioned date, in the Stillwater Building located at 201 Shore Road, Northfield, NJ and via Cisco Webex Video.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
STATEMENT**

Statement of Open Public Meeting Compliance: Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chairman Risley 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* and *The Hammonton Gazette*; 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**

Commissioner Parker offered the prayer followed by the flag salute led by Chairman Risley.

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was recorded: PRESENT: Balles, Bertino (Webex, arrived at 4:02 p.m.), Coursey, Dase, Fitzpatrick, Gatto, Kern, Parker and Risley. ABSENT: None.

**MINUTES OF MEETING
November 14, 2023**

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to adopt and dispense with the reading of the November 14, 2023 minutes.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 618
Grant application and
acceptance for the FY 2024 Older
Americans Act Area Plan
Contract Grant**

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion authorizing a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services for the FY 2024 Older Americans Act Area Plan Contract Grant for an amount not to exceed \$2,024,817.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 619
Grant application and
acceptance for the 2024
Statewide Respite Care Program**

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services for the 2024 Statewide Respite Care Program for an amount not to exceed \$260,000.00 for the term commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024 with an additional estimated amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 to be generated through cost share payments.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 620
Grant application and acceptance to enable the Atlantic County Transportation Unit to continue to provide the 54/40 Community Shuttle in the western part of Atlantic County and the English Creek-Tilton Road Community Shuttle known as the Cross County Connector

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing a grant application and acceptance from the New Jersey Department of Transportation through the Local Transportation Project funding to enable the Atlantic County Transportation Unit to continue to provide the 54/40 Community Shuttle in the western part of Atlantic County and the English Creek-Tilton Road Community Shuttle known as the Cross County Connector for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 for the term commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 621
Grant application and acceptance for a Slugmaster firearm clearing station

Commissioner Parker moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a grant application and acceptance from J.A. Montgomery Consulting for the J.A. Montgomery Safety Grant for a Slugmaster firearm clearing station for an amount not to exceed \$1,735.50 for fiscal year 2023.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 622
Amending Resolution No. 219 (5-2-23), a grant for the Atlantic-Cape May Counties' Occupant Protection Programs

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 219 adopted on May 2, 2023, a grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for the Atlantic-Cape May Counties' Occupant Protection Programs for a net increase of \$82,707.00 and a total program not to exceed \$118,880.00 for the period commencing October 1, 2023 and terminating September 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 623
Professional services agreement to serve as bond counsel for the County of Atlantic

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a professional services agreement with Archer and Greiner P.C. to serve as bond counsel for the County of Atlantic for an amount not to exceed \$31,250.00 for a period commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 624
Professional services agreement for financial advisory services

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing a professional services agreement with Acacia Financial Group, Inc. for financial advisory services for an amount not to exceed \$17,375.00 for the term commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 625
Amending Resolution No. 563 (10-17-23), a professional services agreement for perishable food quotations and purchases

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 563 adopted on October 17, 2023, a professional services agreement with various vendors for perishable food quotations and purchases to add BF Mazzeo to the list of vendors at no additional cost for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 626
Professional services agreement
to provide addiction recovery
services

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a professional services agreement with Angels in Motion NJ to provide addiction recovery services for an amount not to exceed \$126,059.00 for the period commencing December 1, 2023 and terminating on September 29, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 627
Renewal competitive contract for
independent external auditing
services

Commissioner Balles moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a renewal competitive contract with Mercadien, P.C. for independent external auditing services for an amount not to exceed \$169,100.00 for the term commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 628
Renewal bid contracts to supply
custodial supplies

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing renewal bid contracts with various vendors to supply custodial supplies for an amount not to exceed \$394,898.86 for the six-month period, commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating June 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 629
Bid contract for supplemental
plumbing maintenance and
repairs

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a bid contract with Northeast Plumbing Services, LLC for supplemental plumbing maintenance and repairs for an amount not to exceed \$336,000.00 for the period commencing December 1, 2023 and terminating November 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 630
Bid contract for the 2023 State
Aid Highway Improvement
Programs for various road
repairs

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion authorizing a bid contract with Arawak Paving Company, Inc. for the 2023 State Aid Highway Improvement Programs for various road repairs for an amount not to exceed \$1,719,000.00 for the period commencing from notice of award and terminating February 29, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 631
Bid contract for the 2023 County
Aid Highway Improvement
Programs for various road
repairs

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a bid contract with Arawak Paving Company, Inc. for the 2023 County Aid Highway Improvement Programs for various road repairs for an amount not to exceed \$2,898,000.00 for the period commencing from notice of award and terminating March 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 632
Bid contract to provide
installation of security fencing at
the Atlantic County Justice
Facility

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing a bid contract with All Vinyl Fence, LLC to provide installation of security fencing at the Atlantic County Justice Facility for an amount not to exceed \$142,370.00 for the period commencing from notice of award and terminating March 29, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 633
Bid contract to furnish and
deliver a meal packaging system

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing a bid contract with Oliver Packaging and Equipment Company to furnish and deliver a meal packaging system for an amount not to exceed \$45,409.60 for the period commencing December 1, 2023 and terminating November 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 634
Change order no. 4, a contract
for site work at the Atlantic
County Estell Manor Park for
the Veterans Cemetery
expansion, columbarium and
toilet room building at Picnic
Area No. 2

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion authorizing change order no. 4, a contract with H4 Enterprises, LLC for site work at the Atlantic County Estell Manor Park for the Veterans Cemetery expansion, columbarium and toilet room building at Picnic Area No. 2 for a net increase of \$32,177.03 and a total amendatory amount not to exceed \$3,129,894.08 with a contract extension until June 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 635
EUS contract to provide
employees and their dependents
with dental benefits

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing an EUS contract with BeneCare Dental Plans/Atlantic Southern Dental Foundation to provide employees and their dependents with dental benefits for an amount not to exceed \$4,552,884.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 636
EUS contract with Horizon Eye
Care to provide employees and
their eligible dependents vision
care services

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Dase seconded a motion authorizing an EUS contract with Horizon Eye Care to provide employees and their eligible dependents vision care services for an amount not to exceed \$389,676.00 for the term commencing January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 637
Business associate agreement to
be included with the 2024 Area
Plan

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing a business associate agreement with the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services and the Atlantic County Area Agency on Aging to be included with the 2024 Area Plan for the term commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 638
Resolution to comply with the
requirement for a Standardized
Board Resolution to be filed with
the 2024 Area Plan by the
Atlantic County Division of
Intergenerational Services

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a resolution to comply with the Department of Human Services requirement for a Standardized Board Resolution to be filed with the 2024 Area Plan by the Atlantic County Division of Intergenerational Services.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 639
Business associate agreement to
be included with the 2024
Statewide Respite Program

Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a business associate agreement with the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services and the Atlantic County Division of Intergenerational Services to be included with the 2024 Statewide Respite Program for the period commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 640
Resolution to comply with the
requirement for a Standardized
Board Resolution to be filed with
the 2024 Statewide Respite Care
Program by the Atlantic County
Division of Intergenerational
Services

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion authorizing a resolution to comply with the Department of Human Services requirement for a Standardized Board Resolution to be filed with the 2024 Statewide Respite Care Program by the Atlantic County Division of Intergenerational Services.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 641
Amending Resolution No. 180
(4-4-23), a contract to allow
registered nursing students to
participate in clinical observation
at Meadowview Nursing and
Rehabilitation Center and
Division of Public Health Clinics

Commissioner Parker moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 180 adopted on April 4, 2023, a contract with Atlantic Cape Community College to allow registered nursing students to participate in clinical observation at Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and Division of Public Health Clinics at no cost for the period commencing October 1, 2023 and terminating on September 30, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 642
Intergovernmental services
agreement for student clinical
observation and hands-on
experience at the Meadowview
Nursing and Rehabilitation
Center and Division of Public
Health Clinics

Commissioner Parker moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing an intergovernmental services agreement with Atlantic County Institute of Technology for student clinical observation and hands-on experience at the Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and Division of Public Health Clinics at no cost for a period commencing September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 643
Amending Resolution No. 152
(3-29-22), a shared services
agreement to provide educational
services at Harborfields
Detention Center

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 152 adopted on March 29, 2022, a shared services agreement with the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission to provide educational services at Harborfields Detention Center for an amount not to exceed \$864,711.63 for the term commencing July 1, 2022 and terminating June 30, 2023.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 644
Amending Resolution No. 412
(8-1-23), an emergency contract
for a sinkhole repair at the
Galloway Township Library

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Parker seconded a motion amending Resolution No. 412 adopted on August 1, 2023, an emergency contract with Command Company, Inc. for a sinkhole repair at the Galloway Township Library for a net increase of \$195,476.00 and a total amendatory amount not to exceed \$374,226.00 for services to be completed by December 31, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 645
Cooperative bid contract to
provide electrical services at the
Canale Fire Training Center
trailers

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion authorizing a cooperative bid contract with Northeast Electrical to provide electrical services at the Canale Fire Training Center trailers for an amount not to exceed \$79,600.00 for the period commencing November 1, 2023 and terminating October 31, 2024.

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

MOTION TO COMBINE AND
ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS.
646 TO 648

Commissioner Gatto moved and Commissioner Kern seconded a motion to combine and adopt Resolution Nos. 646 to 648.

RESOLUTION NO. 646
Chapter 159

Insert into the budget of the year 2023 the sum of \$118,880.00 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Atlantic Cape Occupant Protection 23-24.

RESOLUTION NO. 647
Chapter 159

Insert into the budget of the year 2023 the sum of \$317,988.00 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families, Family Success Centers 23-24.

RESOLUTION NO. 648
Chapter 159

Insert into the budget of the year 2023 the sum of \$271,945.00 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Atlantic Cape Community Traffic Safety Program 23-24.

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

MOTION TO COMBINE AND
ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS.
649 AND 650

Commissioner Coursey moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to combine and adopt Resolution Nos. 649 to 650.

RESOLUTION NO. 649
Appointment to the Atlantic
County Human Services
Advisory Council

Appointment of Stacey M. Gross to the Atlantic County Human Services Advisory Council for a term to expire on January 1, 2026.

**RESOLUTION NO. 650
Appointment to the Atlantic
County Emergency Management
Advisory Board**

Appointment of Adalberto Lopez to the Atlantic County Emergency Management Advisory Board to fill an unexpired term to expire on May 1, 2024.

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

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL
COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD**

Commissioner Parker congratulated the Atlantic County Library System for its Best of the Press awards. He recommended the County meet with Hamilton Township to discuss the railroad trestle bridge. County Administrator DelRosso responded. Commissioner Parker also thanked County administration for assisting the Church of Nazarene on Zion Road.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS
AND PETITIONS**

Written communications and petitions were received by this office from November 15, 2023 through November 21, 2023.

Chairman Risley read a thank you note from a Meadowview resident's wife.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Risley opened the meeting to the public at 4:35 p.m.

There being no comments, Chairman Risley closed the public portion at 4:35 p.m.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Coursey wished all a Happy Thanksgiving and recognized the meal giveaways in the community.

Commissioner Kern reminded everyone that the holidays are a difficult time for those with mental health issues.

Commissioner Parker announced more community giveaways for the holiday.

Commissioner Gatto commended Commissioner Balles and his wife, Cyndi, on their work with the annual Crime Stoppers event. She also mentioned that St. Vincent de Paul will be hosting a "Wreaths Across America" campaign to lay wreaths on veterans' sites. She would like the County to consider such an event next year for the County veterans cemetery.

Commissioner Balles alerted that the Toys 4 Kids organization is in desperate need of toys this year. The Toys for Tots group will not be donating in Atlantic County this year.

Chairman Risley wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Risley entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kern moved and Commissioner Gatto seconded a motion to adjourn the Commissioners' meeting. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tara Silipena
Clerk of the Board