

**MINUTES OF THE KENT COUNTY LEVY COURT
COMBINED BUSINESS MEETING
KENT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX
555 BAY ROAD, DOVER, DE
LEVY COURT CHAMBER, ROOM 203
TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2018**

Call to Order

The Business Meeting of the Kent County Levy Court was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Banta.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was led by Mr. Howell and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Pepper.

Moment of Silence for our Troops

A moment of silence was observed for our Troops and led by Mr. Sweeney.

Roll call and Determination of Quorum

Allan F. Angel	Commissioner
Eric L. Buckson	Commissioner - Absent
James E. Hosfelt, Jr.	Commissioner
Glen M. Howell	Commissioner
Terry L. Pepper	Vice President
George W. Sweeney, Sr.	Commissioner
P. Brooks Banta	President

There are six (6) Commissioners present; one (1) absent at roll call.

Adoption of Agenda

M-18-075 **Motion** to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Mr. Angel; seconded by Mr. Sweeney; carried by roll call vote six (6) yeas; one (1) absent.

Consent Agenda 18-7

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and/or non-controversial and will be acted upon by a single roll call vote of the Levy Court. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commissioner so requests, in which event the items shall be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately under New Business.

• Levy Court Business Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, April 10, 2018

• Items from the April 17, 2018 Committee Meetings:

- Kent County Regional Sports Complex Sub-Lease to Delaware Transit Corporation re: Park & Ride Facility
- Hilltop Area Phase 2 Septic Elimination Project – Bid Award
- Calibration & Repair of Flow Meters Contract – Change Order #2
- Resource Recovery Facility Commercial Trash Service Contract – Republic Services – Change Order #2
- Self-Propelled Gravity Sewer Camera – Bid Award
- Bookmobile Bid Results

Mr. Buckson arrived

M-18-076 **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda 18-7 was made by Mr. Sweeney; seconded by Mr. Angel; carried by roll call vote seven (7) yeas.

PRESENTATIONS

Employee of the Month – May 2018

Lorrie Tanaka read the following into the record:

Kent County Department Heads have selected Wallace P. Wootten Jr. from the Department of Public Works as the May 2018 Employee of the Month.

Wally has worked for Kent County since October 2000 and now serves as a Heavy Equipment Operator at the Regional Resource Recovery Facility after previously working as a Maintenance Mechanic and as an Electrician in the Wastewater Facilities Division. His primary duties include loading, delivering, and spreading premium quality biosolids – Kent organite on local farms using a variety of heavy machinery. He is a highly skilled backhoe operator and over the years has been a key team member in major repair projects at all hours of the night and in difficult weather conditions. Wally is praised by his supervisors for his keen sense of humor and work ethic. His dedication to the job is demonstrated

by his consistent recognition for annual perfect attendance and the amiable relationships he has cultivated with the farming community.

According to Public Works Director Diana Golt, “Wally has a can-do attitude and has earned a reputation for always being ready to accomplish any task assigned. He is a valuable member of the team that can be counted on to give 100% every day and every time.” Congratulations Wally on a job well done! Wally resides in Commissioner Howell’s and Pepper’s districts.

Kent County Levy Court
 May 2018 Employee of the Month
 Wallace P. Wootten Jr.
 On this, the 24th day of April 2018,
 the Levy Court of
 Kent County, State of Delaware, does hereby recognize
 Wallace P. Wootten Jr.
 Heavy Equipment Operator
 Department of Public Works
 for his exceptional initiative, dedication, and conscientiousness in
 the delivery of services to the citizenry of the County.

Mr. Banta: I don’t believe Wally is here tonight, correct? So, that being said we’ll see if we can do that the next business session if he’s available. Thank you very much.

Resolution 3678 – Retirement of John A. Shulties

The following was read into the record by Ms. Tanaka:

Whereas, the retirement of John A. Shulties, an employee of Kent County, State of Delaware, from his duties as Assistant Director of Planning Services, Inspections and Enforcement Division, presents a suitable opportunity for expressing the esteem in which we hold **John A. Shulties**, as a good and faithful public servant.

Therefore, be it resolved that the County of Kent express its’ warmest appreciation and thanks to **John A. Shulties** for the able and loyal manner in which he performed his public duties.

Be it further resolved that this resolution be his evidence of a right to the pension provided by the Kent County Employees’ Retirement Program; and that this Resolution be and hereby is incorporated into the official minutes of the April 24, 2018 meeting of the Kent County Levy Court.

M-18-077 **Motion** to approve Resolution 3678 was made by Mr. Pepper; seconded by Mr. Howell; carried by roll call vote seven (7) yeas.

Resolution 3679 – 2018 Soil and Water Stewardship Week

Ms. Tanaka read the following into the record:

WHEREAS, The 2018 Stewardship theme is “Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home,” and

WHEREAS, water is one of our most precious resources, and

WHEREAS, watersheds supply water for drinking, recreations, irrigation and manufacturing, and wildlife and bird habitat, and

WHEREAS, it is essential that each of us adopt good water conservation habits so that we can keep our water resources safe and productive now and for future generations.

WHEREAS, Kent County Levy Court recognizes the 63rd year of the National Association of Conservation District’s Soil and Water Stewardship Week, and

WHEREAS, Kent County Levy Court recognizes the ongoing efforts of the Kent Conservation District;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Levy Court of Kent County Delaware does hereby proclaim the week of April 29th through May 6th as Soil and Water Stewardship Week for 2018 in Kent County.

M-18-078 **Motion** by Mr. Pepper to approve Resolution 3679; seconded by Mr. Angel; carried by roll call vote seven (7) yeas.

Kent Conservation Board member Bruce Snow joined the Commissioners at the front for presentation of the Resolution.

Mr. Banta’s comments were inaudible.

Mr. Pepper: I’ve been on the Board of Supervisors for Kent Conservationists for 23 or 24 years; Bruce has been on there quite a few years too, and you’re almost a junior member. The Conservation District does great things for the County. They take care of run-off issues, they check to make sure that people that are building from houses to large commercial entities doing the right thing and protecting the land around them while they’re doing their construction. And that’s just to name a few things that they do. But the organization itself is a great organization, good people, great employees, just like our own employees here. I look forward to this every year and thank you Bruce for being here to accept that. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Angel: Bruce, I got my eyes opened when I first came on as a Levy Court Commissioner in 2005 and that's when we first met. I will say that on a couple of trips that we went, you opened my eyes to a lot of different things and new things and it's helped me greatly in my job. Stormwater management is one of the fastest growing things in our County and I know that Kent County Conservation District will be stepping up to the plate to help, hopefully keep those running and I thank you for that service.

Mr. Buckson: I appreciate you coming out and just like we were mentioning to John the same thing, we appreciate the effort when I make a call over to Jared and the rest of the office and get some help. I know it's not exactly why you're here tonight but I just want to make that comment. Appreciate it; thank you.

Mr. Sweeney: This is good recognition for Kent Conservation District, Bruce, so hopefully I'll be calling you this week.

Mr. Howell: Bruce I think you're the best person to represent the conservation efforts. I know you folks do a lot of things that many people aren't even aware of and in a way it's a thankless job. But we do thank you and we do recognize and congratulate you.

Mr. Hosfelt: Bruce, although we haven't had much interaction I appreciate everything you do and I'm looking forward to any work we do in the future.

Mr. Banta: He also comes from a good family so that much I will say as well.

Mr. Snow: The District appreciates the support that we get from the County to help with our Stewardships of our lands and our water for our local communities and even all the way to the bay.

Mr. Banta: Thank you very much for the job you do.

The presentation was made and photos were taken at this time.

Resolution 3692 – Kent County Business Week

The following was read into the record by Lorri Tanaka:

WHEREAS, the success of a business invariably depends upon its reputation in the community it serves, and the reputation is nearly always the result of a strong company leader; and

WHEREAS, the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce engages in activities to assist the business community and each year nominates business persons as examples of the quality of the businesses in Central Delaware; and

WHEREAS, this year the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce has nominated the following individuals as outstanding business persons:

Small Business of the Year

CNU Fit, LLC

R& R Commercial Realty

Roma Italian Ristorante/Sul Tempo Cocktail
LoungeLarge Employer of the Year

Caesar Rodney School District

Del-One Federal Credit Union

Dover International Speedway

Young Professional of the Year

Nicolas Alexander

Danielle Hufford

Robert Jones

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Kent County, Delaware does hereby proclaim the week of April 30 - May 4, 2018 as KENT COUNTY BUSINESS WEEK.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be adopted this 24th day of April, 2018, and is hereby incorporated into the official minutes of the Kent County Levy Court.

M-18-079 **Motion** to approve Resolution 3692 was made by Mr. Sweeney; seconded by Mr. Howell; carried by roll call vote seven (7) yeas.

Mr. Banta advised this Resolution would be presented by the Vice President, along with the Governor within the next week or two.

INTRODUCTION

John Tinger, Administrative Officer EMS, Emergency Medical Services Division: Good evening. Chief Faulkner apologize, he's unable to make it this evening; he's in a conference out in the West. Before I do go into the introductions, I just want to kind of explain their dress and their attire here. They're actually both, T.J. and Larry both, in a course right now to get certified right now as a bike paramedic. So, the instructor was very gracious enough to bring the whole class, you see them sitting back there with Lt. Clark. They have their bikes out front, took a short break from the rain, come in here we'll do the introductions and then they're getting right back out there in the rain. So, without further ado I'm going to introduce T.J. Pawlikowski who was hired March 6, 2017 as a Paramedic I in the Department of Public Safety – Emergency Medical Services Division. He had previously worked with Christiana Care Health Services as an Emergency Medical Technician and prior to that for St. Francis Hospital as an EMT. T.J. also served in the United States Navy during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He brings with him extensive experience in Emergency Medical Services. T.J. currently resides in Commissioners Banta's and Pepper's districts.

Mr. Banta: He needs to make a comment or two if he wants.

Mr. Tinger: He has a speech prepared.

Mr. Banta: He does? There is a limit of two minutes but go ahead.

Mr. Pawlikowski: I just want to say it's very nice to meet you gentlemen and thank you very much.

Mr. Banta: T.J. we're very proud to have you on board. Mr. Pepper's the head of Public Safety, I'm sure he has a comment. He's up for re-election and I'm already elected in my district and I have nothing more to say so, Mr. Pepper?

Mr. Pawlikowski: He does have my vote.

Mr. Pepper: T.J., welcome aboard. Hope that you have a long career with us here in Kent County. We welcome you to the Kent County family and hope that it's a rewarding career for you. Thanks for applying and thanks for doing what you're doing with the bikes.

Mr. Sweeney: T.J., and to all of you in the class, congratulations. This is...bike service is something that we value a lot, especially during all of the events that we have in Kent County. So we appreciate it, thank you very much for your efforts and your volunteerism to become part of that class. T.J., thank you very much for your service, appreciate it.

Mr. Pawlikowski: Thank you.

Mr. Tinger: The second introduction we have is Larry Hardaway II who was hired April 10, 2017 as a Paramedic I in the Department of Public Safety – Emergency Medical Services Division. Larry had worked as a Paramedic with Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services in North Carolina. Prior to that, he served over 12 years in the United States Army. Larry brings numerous years of experience in Emergency Medical Services. He currently resides in Sussex County.

Mr. Hardaway: Good evening gentlemen. Thank you for the honor and privilege of working for the fine residents of Kent County. Hopefully I'll have another 19 more years to work toward retirement, and that about sums it up gentlemen.

Mr. Banta: Welcome aboard, Larry. I would like to say on behalf of Levy Court for both of you we appreciate your service to our Country. It's exemplary and not often do we get a chance to do that but tonight we're going to do that. We appreciate you're being here and your time now for County service as well.

Mr. Pepper: Well, there's nobody from Sussex County Counsel here to welcome you, I guess I'll fill in for that being I'm the closest thing we have to Sussex County Counsel, being born in Sussex County. Welcome, hope you have a great career here and just keep up the good work. Thank you for doing the bicycle

paramedic thing. How about introducing all of the other medics that are part of the program? We don't often get the chance to see them.

Mr. Tinger: Lt. Clarke is the All-Terrain Medical Response Supervisor; Jonathon Offen is the instructor for the IPMBBA class that's certifying these gentlemen and ladies; Greg Shulties, Erika Bretscher, Paramedic Sgt. Megan Moerman and Paramedic Gabby Gathers. They are going to be our newest class coming out.

Mr. Pepper: Good job, good job. Thank you everyone for taking on this new task. You've got a tough enough job as it is but this is something good. The general public that I've talked to, they really like to see you out there on those bikes and one of the things, like the paramedic units themselves, it's one of the things that gives us a good name. Thanks a lot, we appreciate it. Thank you.

Mr. Sweeney: First of all, Larry, again thank you for your service. You really want to impress us tell us you rode your bike up here from Sussex County.

Mr. Hardaway: Well, actually I got a Ford Mustang GT and for the record I'm actually buying a house in Harrington which is in Kent County.

Mr. Sweeney: There you go. Just out of curiosity, we do have a May Day Parade coming up that we usually get the paramedics, one of the control units to drive. Wonder if we could get the paramedic bike unit to be in the parade with Kent County this year.

Mr. Tinger: Absolutely.

Mr. Sweeney: There you go, I'm up for that, so I'll talk to Chief about it and you guys suit up. I know the bikes cost about \$12,000 a piece and to fit them out cost around \$44,000 a piece, so... I'll talk to Chief about that.

Mr. Tinger: Okay, very good.

Mr. Buckson: I don't have a comment but I'm sincere about this. So I drove up in a truck that I throw the keys in the back of the bed because I'm hoping somebody will steal it. You know it's not worth... Anyway, here's my point... It's a downpour. You can throw every one of those bikes in the back and you can pack in there like it's a van and just bring it back. Because I don't know where you're going, I guess it's across the highway, but you're not dressed for it. I mean it, it's the gold one out there, it's got a little rust over the back tires, and if you decide to change your minds, throw your bikes in the back, pick the keys up and let's go...any takers? You want it? I'm not kidding you man, if that's what you want to do you let me know. Just let me know.

Mr. Banta: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for your service.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None**OLD BUSINESS - None****NEW BUSINESS****Mr. Hosfelt:**

FY2019 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET: Introductions of the following Ordinances and Resolutions pertaining to the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget for public hearing on May 8, 2018 at 7 PM:

1. Resolution 3684 - FY19 Property Tax Rate
2. Resolution 3685- FY19 Old Mill Acres Suburban Park District Tax Rate
3. Resolution 3686- FY19 Royal Grant Suburban Park District Tax Rate
4. Resolution 3687 - FY19 Eagles Nest Suburban Park District Tax Rate
5. Resolution 3688 - Kent County Disposal District No. 1 User Rates
6. Resolution 3689 - FY19 Kent County Library District Tax Rate (Unincorporated Areas)
7. Resolution 3690 - FY19 Milford Library District Tax Rate
8. Ordinance LC18-04, An Ordinance adopting the Annual Operating Budget for the Library Tax District of Kent County, Delaware for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018
9. Ordinance LC18-05, An Ordinance adopting the Annual Operating Budget for Kent County, Delaware, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019
10. Resolution 3691-Command to the Director of Finance to collect Sewer Delinquent Accounts by District as of March 31, 2018

OTHER BUSINESS

- M-18-080**
1. Mr. Pepper **Moved** to go into Executive Session immediately following the Committee Meetings of May 1, 2018 for preliminary discussion on site acquisition for a publicly funded capital improvement; legal strategy session regarding collective bargaining or pending or potential litigation; and personnel matters pursuant to 29 Del. C. 10004(b) (2), (4), and (9); seconded by Mr. Angel and Mr. Sweeney; carried by roll call vote seven (7) yeas.

INFORMATION ITEMS - None**PUBLIC COMMENTS - None****COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Mr. Angel: Pardon me, but when we voted on our minutes... I need to make an adjustment on that. It said that I left the room due to a pain in my leg; it was due to my foot. It was because that day we honored somebody and he walked in front of me and I went to side-step him and it started a pain reaction. So, that's why I had to leave, just for the record. But it wasn't my leg it was my foot, just make that correction please.

Mr. Banta: She will take care of that for you, sir. Thank you for calling that to our attention.

Adjourned to Committee Meeting – Approximately 7:38 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Wootten". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Brenda Wootten
Kent County Clerk of the Peace