

**WARREN COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
WAYNE DUMONT, JR. ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
165 COUNTY ROAD 519, SOUTH
BELVIDERE, NEW JERSEY 07823-1949**

DAVID K. DECH
PLANNING DIRECTOR



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**AGENDA
WARREN COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

Monday, November 22, 2021

8:00 p.m.

In-Person and Via Electronic Communication

Development Review Committee meets at 7:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a notice of the date, time and location of the meeting to THE STAR-LEDGER, THE DAILY RECORD and the Warren County Clerk and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board of the Warren County Courthouse and Administration Building. The meetings will be conducted in person and through electronic communications equipment to facilitate public comment. Public access is provided through a conference call using Webex to preserve the health, safety and welfare of the public in conformance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq. [the Open Public Meetings Act], at which time formal action will be taken.

THE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD REQUESTS THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS KEEP THEIR PHONE OR COMPUTER ON MUTE UNLESS SPEAKING DURING PUBLIC COMMENT. THIS WILL ELIMINATE BACKGROUND NOISE AND DISRUPTION DURING THE REGULAR MEETING AND DURING PUBLIC COMMENT

SELECTED SUBDIVISION AND SITE PLAN MAPS TO BE ACTED ON AT THIS MONTH'S MEETING MAY BE VIEWED AT

<https://warrencountynj.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Shortlist/index.html?appid=84bb354d75dc4868a66480fde8124c4c>

The public is invited to attend this meeting by calling:

1-877-309-3457 (toll free) or 1-404-397-1516

When prompted for Meeting Number (access code) press 129 780 6327 and the # sign.

When prompted for Attendee Number press the # sign.

OR

JOIN WEBEX

<https://warrencountynj.webex.com/warrencountynj/j.php?MTID=m76b02fa515f06e6e953fb2298aedbb78>

Meeting number (access code): 129 780 6327

Meeting password: XBJ273TPk6f

ROLL CALL

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

- o October 25, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENTS

SUBDIVISION & SITE PLAN REPORT

Subdivisions

17-016	Harmony	RMK Associates	Request for Time Ext.
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Site Plans

20-028-SP	Frelinghuysen	James Alexander Corporation
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21-031-SP	Hackettstown	ST Fra Willow Grove, LLC
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21-045-SP	Knowlton	PMG New Jersey, LLC
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CORRESPONDENCE:

- o Agriculture Development Board – Minutes of September 16, 2021

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Warren County Planning Dept. Project Report November 2021

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LIAISON REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

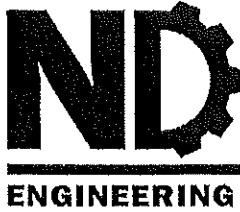
- Legal Updates
- Meeting Format

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Members Who Do Not Plan To Attend the Meeting
Please Notify the Planning Department**



ND ENGINEERING, LLC

18 Somerset Drive
Belvidere, NJ 07823-2504
908-528-6030

RECEIVED

NOV - 9 2021
17-016
WARREN COUNTY
PLANNING BOARD

November 9, 2021

VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

WARREN COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

165 County Route 519 South
Suite 111
Belvidere, New Jersey 07823

Re: Minor Subdivision Conditional Approval 3rd Extension
RMK - STATELINE FABRICATORS
Block 4, Lot 3.01
WC File No. 17-016
NDE No. PHTW021C18

According to your June 25, 2021 correspondence, the County Planning Board granted an extension to the Conditional Approval for this project to December 3, 2021. The remaining approval condition related to the roadway widening improvements to one side of Roxburg Station Road (CR 622) have been completed and as-built plans were submitted to the Planning Department on August 20, 2021 and it is my understanding that the submitted plans are acceptable. According to a correspondence to the WC Engineering Department, dated July 28, 2021, we have requested a final inspection of the completed improvements. As of the date of this correspondence, this final inspection has yet to be completed.

After coordinating the County Engineer's office, I received a request to clear sight triangles at the access driveway off Roxburg Station Road and the intersection of Roxburg Station Road and South Foul Rift Road. This work is being completed as requested.

Accordingly, without a firm date for completion of the final inspection and sign-off by the County Engineer, I respectfully request that the Warren County Planning Board grant an additional extension for the RMK Minor Subdivision Conditional Approval WC File No 17-016 until March 2022.

If you should have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at the office.

Sincerely,

ND Engineering, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nevitt S. Duvoneck'.

Nevitt S. Duvoneck, P.E., C.M.E.

C: Stan Schrek, PE, HTLUB Engineer, via email only
Edward Esposito, via email only
Scott Wilhelm, via email only

WARREN COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Department of Land Preservation
P.O. Box 179
500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting was held at the office of the Department of Land Preservation, 500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue, Oxford, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schnetzer at 7:32 p.m. An announcement was read as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21.

Members present: Tim Bodine, Bradley Burke, Matthew Hood, Rene Mathez, Jason Menegus, Joel Schnetzer, Melissa Watters

Members absent: none

Others present: T. Kaminski, C. Tierney, Staff; Lori Ciesla, County Commissioner; Aaron Culton, Substitute County Counsel; Arie Van Vugt, Allamuchy; Alex Montalvo, Hope Township; Kevin Benbrook, esq.

**The Board accepted the resignation of Louis Baduini and Robert Nyland.
The Board welcomed new members, Matthew Hood and Rene Mathez.**

Chairman Schnetzer opened the meeting up for Vice-Chairman Nominations. Mr. Bodine nominated Mr. Menegus as Vice Chairman which was seconded by Mr. Mathez.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mrs. Watters – yes; Mr. Menegus – yes. Motion passes.

Chairman Schnetzer asked for a motion to close the meeting for nominations. Mr. Bodine made a motion to close the Vice-Chair Nominations which was seconded by Mr. Mathez.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mrs. Watters – yes; Mr. Menegus – yes. Motion passes.

Minutes of the meeting held on July 15, 2021 were approved on a motion by Mr. Menegus and seconded by Mrs. Watters. Motion carries.

Correspondence: Noted

Public Input (Non-agenda Items): None

Commissioner Ciesla welcomed the two new members to the Board.

Old Business:

Pipers Hills Farms, LLC, TLC-NJ Non-Profit, BL 48 L 72, Washington Township, approx. 28 gross acres

Mr. Tierney stated the landowner has finished up plans for a minor driveway permit, once approved, then we can proceed with closing.

Solar Laws

Mr. Menegus asked if Mr. Tierney know how many acres the 5% would be in our County ADA for solar installation. Mr. Tierney spoke with Steve Bruder of the SADC about this matter and believe that he was running calculations on all counties.

New Business:

Resolutions

Plainview Growers, Inc. SSAMP Resolution #21-08 Plainview Growers, Inc., BL 105 L 8, Allamuchy Township

Mr. Burke made a motion to memorialize this resolution as presented for the SSAMP RTF decision on Plainview Growers, Inc., BL 105 L 8 in Allamuchy Township which was seconded by Mr. Bodine.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mrs. Watters – yes; Mr. Menegus – yes. Motion passes.

Res. #21-09 McEvoy#2 Farm Cost-Share Funding, BL 13 L 11.01. White Township, 21.22 acres

This farm is a CPIG Application. The total cost to preserve this farm is estimated at \$110,344 or \$5,200/acre per CMV. The cost-share is as follows: SADC \$74,270 (\$3,500/acre) and Warren County \$36,074 (\$1,700/acre). There are no existing structures or ag labor on the premises. There is one non-severable exception area of one acre for future single family residence and for future flexibility restricted to one single family residential unit, and no preexisting non-ag uses on the premises and no proposed trail areas. The property is 60% Prime soil and 58% tillable. Mr. Burke made a motion to accept this resolution for cost-share funding and to make a recommendation to the Commissioners as which was seconded by Mr. Bodine.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mr. Menegus – yes; Mrs. Watters – yes. Motion passes.

Formal Complaint Hearing – Krouse vs. Skoog (Sarepta Farms)

This matter will be tabled until next month.

Certification of Commercial Farm – Montalvena Farm, BL 5200 L 600, Hope Township, 7.90 acres

Mr. Burke has removed himself from participating in this matter.

Chairman Schnetzer, Mr. Bodine and Mr. Tierney visited the farm on Tuesday, September 14th, 2021.

Chairman Schnetzer stated that on the Commercial Farm Application on the questionnaire, the reason that they are seeking is because they are going to be raising and slaughtering pigs. Chairman Schnetzer stated that he asked to see the hog facilities and the applicant voluntarily told him that they don't have many hogs there right now, they get them and don't keep them very long. Judging by what Chairman Schnetzer saw as the number of hogs, he stated that there was no way that they would be Certified as a Commercial Farm for the amount of hogs based on the site visit. Chairman Schnetzer doesn't doubt that they generate what they were claiming on their Schedule F, but stated that they are not raising the hogs to qualify as a Commercial Farm.

Mr. Benbrook, attorney for the applicant, stated that the requirement was to meet the minimum financial threshold and that his clients clearly meet that. The fact that at any given time, there are more or less hogs there, is not relevant. Mr. Benbrook stated that his clients have revived the old historic farm, he has been to the property, the hog facility is meticulous, and they spent a lot of money on holding tanks for waste whenever they butcher. Mr. Benbrook doesn't know how the Board can subjectively sit there and say that only "x" number of pigs were seen and that is not enough. He stated that the standard is that they are farmland assessed and that they meet sufficient income requirements. His clients operate a modest farm at this point and are just getting started; that would not be certified as a commercial farm is arbitrary and why there is a monetary threshold. He stated that his clients also have other animals at that farm, beautiful animals and facilities, and they are doing an excellent job there.

Mr. Benbrook stated that he has gotten to know his clients and that they are Guatemalan, hard-working people, and they came out from the city and bought this farm that was advertised by the Mayor's wife. They spent a lot of hard work, time, and money on renovating the historic structure, putting up incredible fencing along the highway, and are now in the middle of renovating the historic farmhouse in which they intend to occupy. Mr. Benbrook doesn't understand in any way, shape, or form, the latent animosity that he gets from this Board against those who are trying to get into farming. Mr. Benbrook believes that his clients are absolutely entitled to be certified, that they complied with every standard required of the Board, and by anybody else, and thinks that this is discriminatory on multiple levels. Mr. Benbrook said the fact that they don't look like us and came from the city is no reason why these people aren't farmers like everybody else. These people are spending a lot of time, hard-earned money on that place to make it a viable operation. Mr. Benbrook stated that this was completely inappropriate and not the standard.

Chairman Schnetzer addressed Mr. Benbrook and stated that he asked the applicant to show him the hog facilities, the applicant is a very nice gentleman, and the time that it took them to walk to the hog facilities, the applicant looked right at Chairman Schnetzer and said that he doesn't keep them very long, he buys them and gets rid of them. Chairman Schnetzer said in no way, will that convince him that the applicant is raising hogs there to qualify as a farm. Chairman Schnetzer also wants the record to show that none of the Board members are looking at this applicant any different than we look at any other applicant.

Mr. Benbrook stated that his client doesn't raise them that long, if Chairman Schnetzer bothered to ask why, is because their culture uses young pigs that they sell. Mr. Benbrook stated that they don't keep them there that long and that the

matter of duration, the fact that they have pigs coming and going all the time, Mr. Benbrook asked if there was a regulation that there has to be a numerical number of pigs to qualify. He stated that they certainly meet the income by a long shot. Mr. Benbrook stated that we asked for the form and he got the form and sat down with them explained what the form was and spoke with their accountant, they are new to farming and they've jumped through every darn hoop. Mr. Benbrook stated the gentleman that was recused called up the tax assessor and stated that this farm was incorrectly given farmland assessment. Mr. Benbrook stated, there is no prejudice on this farm? He stated that there are complaints about alleged wetlands violation which he tracked down and supplied the Board with that documentation and that his client has spent thousands of dollars at Finelli's office and stated that they had inadvertently went into the wetlands when they were digging out for the farm. He stated that his clients have fixed it and has been closed out. Mr. Benbrook said that it was inappropriate to deny them when the Board just passed a six acre farm in Franklin Township and he hadn't even planted anything (sic). Mr. Benbrook stated that this was a bunch of nonsense, that his clients are entitled to be approved, they are good people, they are neophyte farmers, learning every day and he defies the Board to tell him that the farm is not absolutely beautiful and meticulous.

Mr. Bodine stated that there is a standard of 51% of the product has to be produced on the farm this certainly isn't the case. Mr. Tierney stated that the issue was not so much that their sales receipts show over \$2,500 worth of sales. The standard for a Commercial Farm is that they must produce \$2,500 or more worth of agricultural products. The sales are used a gauge for production, but what the Board is looking at is whether the animals are actually being raised and produced on the farm. So, the understanding is that, if they are only being kept there for a few days, then that may not constitute production.

Mr. Benbrook said, first of all, nobody said a few days, and secondly, he (Mr. Benbrook) grew up on a farm and has 37 acres of his own; he has been farming and making hay his whole darn life. Mr. Benbrook stated that he also represents the Hackettstown Farm Market, and asked if a farmer goes and buys 10 calves at the market, raises them on the farm for that season and then sells them, that is not farming? Of course it is, he stated and that is exactly what is going on here. He stated that you don't have to have a sow there and have the piglets born there, that's nonsense. The fact that they bought the piglets, feed them, raise them, sell them and butcher them there, that's farming. He stated that they don't have to have a sow there like the old-time farmers do. Where does that come from?

Mr. Bodine asked how long does Mr. Montalvo raise them? Mr. Benbrook asked Mr. Montalvo to please explain to the Board that the pigs are raised for several months at a time? And then they mature and you butcher them? Mr. Montalvo stated, yes. Mr. Montalvo stated that he buys them as little piglets and then raises them for a couple of months, two or three months and then he sells them during the summertime. In wintertime, he doesn't raise them for next summer so he doesn't have that many piglets in his barn until next summer. So, maybe when he spoke with Mr. Schnetzer, he did not understand him or he answered wrong, but he keeps his piglets for three weeks until two months, three months; he raises them to 150-200 pounds and keeps in barn for couple of months.

Mr. Benbrook asked and that during your season, you have constant piglets coming in there being raised? Mr. Montalvo stated yes, that is what he does.

Mr. Montalvo stated that his season starts in April and ends in October. This year he didn't realize he is going to sell a couple of pigs more than last year. He stated that when he did his math it was thoroughly wrong. When he bought his piglets last year, he raised like 150 and this year he raised 250 and all of them are gone. He said he is trying to raise, sell, and butcher his pigs, and he doesn't understand why he is being denied.

Chairman Schnetzer asked Mr. Montalvo again how many hogs did he raise this year and Mr. Montalvo replied 250 and that he has pictures of them.

Mr. Benbrook asked that when you raise those piglets to a 200 limit, you basically are selling them within your ethnic Guatemalan community? Mr. Benbrook asked for a little background. Mr. Benbrook stated these were for the Guatemalan community and used for all types of festivals, correct? Mr. Montalvo replied, exactly. The families get together and they cook the pigs by themselves.

Mr. Bodine asked what was the average weight that these pigs are sold at? Mr. Montalvo replied they go 150, 200 pounds. Mr. Bodine was looking at the receipts and that is the weight that you are purchasing them at, 200, 100, 150, very few have been purchased at 50 pounds. Mr. Bodine said that they were being purchased at the weight that you are telling us that you are selling them at. Mr. Montalvo replied, yes, but the thing is, he has internet sales, people contact him by phone and ask for specific weight. Mr. Bodine understands that and states that those pigs aren't being raised, but a transfer station. He stated you are buying them and then you are moving them immediately and on the receipts of the purchased pigs, Mr. Bodine cannot find 10 pigs on the receipts that aren't over 50 pounds that you could have possibly raised.

Mr. Benbrook stated that he believes that his client just testified that he raises over 200 pigs and that those receipts are special orders. Mr. Benbrook stated that there might be record keeping issues and many other receipts that his client wasn't used to keeping; that they have kind of had to recapitulate this, but that his clients buy many, many piglets and raises them as he just testified to. Mr. Montalvo replied, yes. Mr. Benbrook stated that those receipts that were given don't even match up with all the Schedule-F sales because they had to recreate them and that it was a part of being a new farmer, that you have to get your procedures down.

Mr. Mathez noticed on the Schedule F – (line 2) Sales of livestock produce, grains and other products you raised, the line is blank. Mr. Benbrook stated that the Schedule F solely represents the pig sales, not anything else. Mr. Montalvo agreed. Mr. Mathez said he is looking for evidence that these pigs were raised, but sees no evidence in the Schedule F or in the Farmland Assessment.

Mr. Menegus noted that on the Schedule F is states 1a – Sales of livestock and other resale items - \$25,144 and b) Cost of other basis of livestock or other items reports on line 1a - \$18,498. Mr. Mathez asked Mr. Menegus to look at number 2 line that is blank. Mr. Menegus didn't know if they do one or two interchangeably, but 1 would show livestock that he sold and then a cost-basis of that livestock.

Mr. Benbrook asked do we have to get an amended return to make sure that he puts it on the right line?

Mr. Menegus asked if there were other animals on the farm. Chairman Schnetzer wanted to stay with the animals listed on the Certification of Commercial Farm application. There has been no talk of the goats and sheep and chickens. Page 2 of the Commercial Farm application reason for seeking certification is for raising and slaughtering of pigs and that is what the Board is staying with.

Mr. Benbrook said that this is not a Site Specific Management Application, that this is a generic application. Mr. Montalvo stated that it was his opportunity to buy the other animals, 10 lambs and couple of goats.

Mr. Schnetzer asked, regarding the 250 hogs that are raised a year, what is the average weight the hogs are bought at and the average weight the hogs are sold at? Mr. Montalvo stated that he buys them at 20 or 30 pounds and then raises them up to 100, 150-200 pounds and everything depends on how the business moves. If someone wants a piglet, he will sell them, if he has an opportunity to sell them, he will do it, or if one is 150 pounds, he will sell it. It does not matter the size of the pig.

Chairman Schnetzer asked Mr. Montalvo to confirm that he buys pigs with average weight of 20-30 pounds and sells for the average weight that the hog is raised to is 150 pounds? Mr. Montalvo stated yes, 150-200. Chairman Schnetzer stated that Mr. Montalvo has added 130 pounds of gain to 250 feeder pigs, is that correct? Mr. Montalvo replied yes.

Chairman Schnetzer asked Mr. Bodine to give the Board a rough idea of how much feed it would take to feed 250 feeder pigs to put a 130 pounds of gain on each hog? Mr. Bodine stated that you would roughly have to feed approximately 350 pounds, providing genetics, environment and all that per pig, to put that on them. You would use about 700 pounds, but we will split that in half because he is taking 150 pounds and usually a market weight of a butcher hog would be 300 pounds. Chairman Schnetzer stated that he multiplied 300 pounds x 250 hogs is 75,000 pounds of feed or 37 tons.

Mr. Bodine asked Mr. Montalvo what he paid for ton for feed? He replied 250 for ton. Mr. Bodine estimated to feed those pigs, it would cost \$9,250. Mr. Benbrook asked if that was how much he paid in fee and Mr. Montalvo stated that he does not record that, that his wife does that. Mr. Bodine stated that on the Schedule F, you have \$2,600. Mr. Montalvo said that it was from last year when the COVID pandemic happened and he didn't get to raise too much because he didn't get too much business.

Mr. Menegus wanted to know when Mr. Montalvo had started to farm there. Mr. Montalvo stated that it was in 2020. Mr. Montalvo stated that he owned the property for two years, but that he just started doing this.

Mr. Benbrook wanted to know if the figures that the Board came up with was ballpark as to what he was spending to get them to the weight that he was selling them as. Mr. Montalvo stated that his wife does the math and that he doesn't control that. Mr. Benbrook asked where he got the feed from and where it was delivered to. Mr. Montalvo replied that he picks it up in a facility in one of his contractor pickup trucks because his day job is in construction. Mr. Benbrook asked if he picked up 30 tons and Mr. Montalvo replied not in one shot. Mr. Montalvo said not to the 30 tons, he said that every time that he is finishing, he gets more pigs and makes smaller trips.

Mr. Benbrook thought that this was a useful exercise and flushed it out even more and that his client is engaging in commercial farming activities. It is just getting going, it was slow in the COVID pandemic, it has increased quite a bit this

year. He raises 250 pigs, that is a lot of work, that is certainly commercial farming. He may not be making a mint at it, Board members were there and the rest of the Board, you are only looking at pictures, but Mr. Benbrook said I have also been there and it is just down the street from my new office. It is extremely impressive all that time and effort. The pig barn is not big, but it is a brand new metal pole barn, fully lit, full water there, full butchering things set up on the inside. Mr. Montalvo spent a lot of money doing it the right way. He just doesn't have waste slopping around, he can take a hose and remove the pigs from the waste as they go to the bathroom which washes right out to a septic-type holding tank that they spent a lot of money putting down into the ground. Mr. Montalvo has septic trucks that come and pump out all the time, multiple times a season. Mr. Montalvo confirmed. Not only does he have a brand new pig barn, everything has been permitted stated Mr. Benbrook.

He stated there was one zoning permit issue over a small, wooden chapel, whether front or side yard and that has been completely resolved. Mr. Benbrook stated that his client has gotten every permit, every zoning permit and that these people are working very hard to develop a little gem of a little farm. Their friends come out from the city on the weekends. This is to be encouraged. This is a new commercial farm, this is on County Route 521, this farm can potentially be improved. There is beautiful fencing put up along and again he has shielded it and it can potentially grow. He built a nice pavilion.

Mr. Bodine asked Mr. Montalvo what were the size of the buildings of the pens? Mr. Montalvo replied that the dimensions were 20x10. Mr. Montalvo stated that he had five pens. Mr. Bodine asked how many hogs does he keep in per pen? Do you integrate the pigs, mix sizes, 100 pounders in with 30 pounders? Mr. Montalvo replied that 50 pounders is on one side, 100 pounders goes on another side. If someone comes and wants piglets, he sells them. He said that the other day, he has a friend that is Portuguese and he wanted 20 pounder. That Portuguese people use 20 pounders and sold him 3.

Mr. Montalvo begged the Board for approval because he put a lot of money into it. Mr. Montalvo stated that he was just trying to survive, that he was trying to pay my taxes on time, trying to follow orders, and asked the Board not deny him for this. It is not \$2,000-\$5,000, he explained, we are talking big money. This is all the money that he has saved up for his daughter's university, he said, and he has to invest in this because all the business was down from COVID-19. Please put your hands and heart and think like a father, he asked. He is not trying to do nothing stupid, just trying to do business.

Mr. Benbrook asked Mr. Montalvo if it was his intention of residing full time in the farmhouse and that they are currently renovating it. Mr. Benbrook stated that he is passionate about these people and that they are trying extremely hard to and brought a lot of money into this facility and are making money.

Mr. Culton stated that the Board is to make a decision based on whether the documentation submitted, the Schedule F, the receipts, etc. along with all the statements heard this evening from the applicant for the Certification of Commercial Farm and whether \$2,500 agriculture product is produced annually on this property. How the farm is maintained doesn't determine what a Commercial Farm is.

Chairman Schnetzer stated that the Board is taking in account as to what was provided to us in the application and the site visit. The eligibility requirement is \$2,500/year of agriculture or horticulture production and that is what the he is focused on. No comments have been made by the Board regarding the history or maintenance of the farm. Chairman Schnetzer stated that what he saw at the site visit and by listening to Mr. Montalvo and looking at the receipts and judging by what we have in front of us, he is not comfortable that this farm/applicant has met the threshold for the \$2,500 of agricultural products produced on that farm. He stated that if they continue to grow and improve and ran 250 feeder pigs through the property this year, that is something that can be handled at a later date.

Mr. Benbrook stated that he was looking for a motion to approve from the rational/reasonable members of this Board that are following the law. He stated that Mr. Schnetzer clearly was not doing so in his opinion. Mr. Benbrook stated that Mr. Schnetzer was clearly prejudice against his client. Chairman Schnetzer stated that he appreciated Mr. Benbrook's expertise as a lawyer, as he himself is not a lawyer, but with all due respect, when the time comes, Chairman Schnetzer stated that he will ask for a motion, not Mr. Benbrook.

Chairman Schnetzer asked if any other Board member had any comments.

Mr. Menegus commented that we usually don't see receipts that the applicant buys from on the application and we usually just look at the Schedule F. We do see that the landowner did put a lot of effort into this property. It seems like there is a debate here on if the pigs were kept long enough. Are we to judge how long to keep an animal for a farm to be considered to be raising it? He said that he heard stories of people buying at market, butchering it, and then selling it as their own without ever putting it on pasture. Maybe it is not perfect, but do we have enough evidence that it is for commercial practices?

Mr. Bodine stated that he doesn't have enough evidence that they are. When they animals come in at 130, 140, 200 pounds, there is not any evidence here that there are 30 pound feeder pigs being brought onto the farm and raised. If

there were receipts for that, he would be great with this, he said. Mr. Bodine said that he could not find receipts for 20 or 30 pound pigs. The receipts that were submitted do not indicate how much the pigs weighed when they were sold, the dates are not legible. A receipt that states, pork, \$560 – what are we to make of that?

Mr. Benbrook said that the Board insisted on a Schedule F and he got one. Mr. Bodine stated that it is not even listed on the proper line. Mr. Benbrook asked if that is what is was going to have to come down to, to have the accountant fix the return?

Mr. Tierney tried to speak, but was being spoken over. Mr. Tierney informed Mr. Benbrook that he was muting him for a moment because he wanted to respond to Mr. Menegus. The distinction between sales and production is an important one. The intent of the commercial farm certification was not just for buying wholesale and then turning around to sell retail. That's essentially retail sales, not agricultural production. Mr. Tierney said he would like the Board to consider the language in the Right-to-Farm act when it defines Commercial Farm, they chose the word "production" they did not chose the word "sale".

Chairman Schnetzer stated that he would also like to comment on Mr. Menegus' comment on people that go to the market that keep the animal for maybe a day or a week, but the Board has not designated anyone that does that as a Commercial Farm.

Chairman Schnetzer asked if any other Board member have something to add?

Mr. Hood asked a question regarding the Schedule F is from last year, but all the testimony is from this year, so it seems like we are comparing last year's information to this year and the qualification requirements may have been that the applicant could have met were at a different level last year. Chairman Schnetzer stated that he was following testimony for this year, that there was not testimony for last year and that is why we are struggling. In his opinion, he doesn't see the verification for what was raised last year to make the grade to be a Commercial Farm.

Mr. Menegus asked Mr. Bodine and Chairman Schnetzer if there were pigs on site when they visited. Mr. Bodine stated that there were 3 on site. Mr. Menegus then asked how long were the pigs there onsite. Mr. Bodine asked if those pigs were still there and Mr. Montalvo stated yes and he has had them for 2 weeks and is trying to raise them up to 100 pounds. Mr. Menegus then asked Mr. Bodine is that seemed about right for size? Mr. Montalvo stated that they weighed about 50 pounds and Mr. Bodine said that seemed right. Mr. Montalvo stated that it would take him a month to get the pigs up to 100 pounds, but doesn't really know as he doesn't record it.

Chairman Schnetzer asked anyone else have any more questions. Chairman Schnetzer asked if Mr. Benbrook has anything else to add. Mr. Benbrook stated that he would just concur with what Mr. Culton said, it is not a high threshold, \$2,500, unless you feel that for some reason Mr. Montalvo is lying to you, you are going to discredit his testimony. And that he was starting this thing in the middle of COVID, very slow. Maybe his paperwork submission hasn't been ideal, but everything that you've asked we have tried to correct, we've had the accountant go out and file a return for last year because he didn't know that he had to do that. It is a new farm. Next year it will be different, but if you accept Mr. Montalvo's testimony, again with 5 pens and that size barn, it can certainly on a seasonal basis, April through October, buying 20 pound sucklings, you can – it's not going to market – it's going to people for family celebrations; it is part of these people's culture. That is why when some of the receipts are for when someone asks for a 120 pound pig right away, he will get one. He stated that if it were Mike Toretta or any Santini who went to the market and buys a calf and then feeding it over the summer, then takes it back to the market, that is not just retail. You are investing time and money, risking that it dies on you, which they do on occasion, then you are in a business. He doesn't know if Mr. Montalvo will actually have a sow there as that's a whole different ballgame; but he is producing at the farm. Mr. Benbrook said he agrees with the Board, if Mr. Montalvo was just buying a pig and flipping it then that is not farming, that it is more of a wholesale/resale thing. Mr. Montalvo is an honest guy. If you are buying a small pig, raising it, and putting meat on it, spending money on feed and then you are selling it, that is farming, and we certainly have \$2,500 of that.

Mr. Bodine stated that Mr. Benbrook was correct, but the problem is he doesn't have receipts for 30 pound suckling pigs. Mr. Benbrook's response was that we gave you what we had. Mr. Bodine stated that he had to have some clarity. Mr. Benbrook said the Board got the testimony and you got the return from last year, that is what you asked us. Mr. Bodine stated that we can't take everybody's word for it, we need evidence, we need the proof. Mr. Benbrook stated that you have the filed return which is over \$2,500. He said that he could ask the accountant to amend it, they don't know farming either, they are from the city and that maybe he should get a local accountant to put it on the right line and that the Board was nickel and diming these people. These people are engaged in commercial farming. Mr. Bodine stated that when they come back with the proper evidence, that would be fine, but right now, we don't have it. There are not receipts for 30 pound pigs, there is a cost of feed for \$2,600. There is no way that you feed 250 pigs for \$2,600. Mr. Benbrook stated that was last year.

Chairman Schnetzer asked if Mr. Culton or Mr. Tierney had anything to add. They replied no.

Chairman Schnetzer asked if there was a motion from the Board to either deny or certify to designate the Monalvena Farms as a Certification of Commercial Farm.

Mr. Bodine made a motion to deny the Certification of Commercial Farm based on that the submitted documentation was found to be insufficient for the Montalvena Farm, BL 5200 L 600, Hope Township. Mr. Mathez seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mr. Menegus – no; Mrs. Watters – recused. Motion passes.

Mr. Burke rejoined the members for the rest of the meeting.

Brunkhorst Land Donation, BL 301 L 29, 30, 31.01 & BL 805 L 19.01 Mansfield

The Board would like to have some members do a site visit before deciding to accept this donation. Mr. Menegus, Mr. Mathez and Mr. Burke will visit the farm. The County will cover the cost of survey and title and may ask the landowner to cover the cost of the appraisals. The farm has 11 tillable acres. The Board to continue this discussion of donation at the next meeting.

Update to County farmland Plan/Target List (TLCNJ)

Mr. Tierney stated that our Planning Department has not had time to work on this as they're busy with other matters, so he contacted The Land Conservancy of New Jersey regarding compiling list of farms that are 15-20 acres that meet the minimum eligible criteria. Mr. Mathez made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Burke to form a subcommittee consisting of members Mr. Menegus, Mr. Burke, Mr. Mathez.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mrs. Watters – yes; Mr. Menegus - yes. Motion passes.

Sewer Service Area

Mr. Menegus brought up the letter to request to add sewer service inside the ADA for the Jaindl property in White Township. The Board discussed this matter.

Mr. Menegus made a motion for a letter from the CADB that it opposes sewer service request in White Township. Mr. Mathez seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mr. Menegus – no; Mrs. Watters – yes. Motion passes.

Solar Panels on Farmland

Mr. Menegus stated that the Lancaster Farmer paper has many ads promoting solar development for NJ farms. Mr. Menegus would like to revise the previous letter sent out and send to the newspaper Editor providing a different opinion that was if presented in the paper.

Mr. Bodine made a motion for the CADB revised letter on solar panels on farmland to be sent to the Lancaster Farmer editor as well as to other NJ publications which was seconded by Mr. Mathez.

Roll Call: Mr. Schnetzer – yes; Mr. Bodine – yes; Mr. Burke – yes; Mr. Hood – yes; Mr. Mathez – yes; Mrs. Watters – yes; Mr. Menegus - yes. Motion passes.

Administrator's Report:

New Applications:

County Applications

- **Ferri** – Washington Township (Approx. 65 acres) Waiting on completed application from Landowner. This was B. Anema.

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 65

Municipal Applications

- **Rick Smith Farm** – White (Approx. 25 acres)

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 25

SADC applications

- **Moyer** – Pohatcong Township (Approx. 128.3 acres)

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 128.5

Awaiting Green Light Approval:*County Applications*

Total Applications: 0 Total Acres: 0

Received Green Light Approval:*County Applications*

- **McEvoy #1** – White Township (Approx. 102 acres) Exception areas confirmed.

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 102

Municipal Applications

- **Gugel** – Hope Township (Approx. 48.5 acres)

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 48.5

Non-profit applications

- **Mt. View Farms** - Franklin Township (Approx. 55.30 acres)
- **Santini Home Farm** - Franklin Township (Approx. 39.905 acres)
- **Shotwell Family Partnership, LP** – Blirstown Township (Approx. 154.5 acres)
- **Silver Pine Farm, LLC** – Frelinghuysen Township (Approx. 33.23 acres)
- **Stecker** – Harmony Township (Approx. 18.988 acres)
- **Watercress** – Frelinghuysen Township (Approx. 117 acres)

Total Applications: 6 Total Acres: 418.923

Received CMV & Offer Made:*County Applications*

- **McEvoy #2** – White Township (Approx. 20 acres) \$5,200. On CADB for cost-share approval.

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 20

Municipal Applications

Total Applications: 0 Total Acres: 0

SADC applications

- **Gardner** – Franklin Township (Approx. 91.5 acres)
- **Riggs** – Franklin Township (Approx. 34 acres)

Total Applications: 2 Total Acres: 125.5

Non-profit applications

- **Campgaw Farm** – Hope/Blirstown Townships (Approx. 135.54 acres)
- **Giordano** – Frelinghuysen Township (Approx. 33.98 acres)

Total Applications: 2 Total Acres: 169.52

Under Contract (Title Search & Survey):*County Applications*

- **Anema, Ralph** – Washington Township (Approx. 123 acres) Landowner proceeding with Township to subdivide 6 acres severable exception. Received signed contract. Survey underway.
- **Dykstra** – Mansfield Twp. (Approx. 209 ac.) CMV \$3,900. Received signed contract. Survey underway. Title ordered. SADC final approval received.
- **Khan** – Hardwick Twp. (Approx. 75 ac.) CMV \$3,400. Hardwick Township to cost-share at \$600/acre. Received draft survey and title work underway. At Engineering for review.

Total Applications: 3 Total Acres: 407

Municipal Applications

- **Dokie's Acres (Thompson)** – White Twp. (Approx. 43 ac.) CMV \$6,000. Issues with trucks turning around on property. Engineering requested change in previous revisions from surveyor. Received revised survey.
- **McLain** – Harmony Twp. (Approx. 140 ac.) CMV \$5,700. No County Comments from Engineering on survey. Major soil erosion on property found during site inspection. Landowner working with NRCS.
- **Vass** – Knowlton Twp. (Approx. 100 ac.) CMV \$4,700. Landowner confirmed location of exception area to 3.3 acres. Received contract. Survey to commence soon. Ordered title work.

Total Applications: 3 Total Acres: 283

Non-Profit Applications

- **Kimball** – White Twp. (Approx. 45 ac.) CMV \$4,200. TLC-NJ has signed contract, draft survey and title. Sent draft survey and title to Engineering for their review.
- **Promised Land (M. Santini)** – Franklin Twp. (Approx. 58 ac.) CMV \$4,650. Received contract, waiting for TLC-NJ to send title and survey underway.

Total Applications: 2 Total Acres: 103

Waiting to Close (Final Legal Review):*County Applications*

- **Beatty South** – Greenwich Twp. (Approx. 57 ac.) CMV \$9,500. Mrs. Beatty has died, estate being settled.
- **Beatty North** – Greenwich Twp. (Approx. 86 ac.) CMV \$8,800. Mrs. Beatty has died, estate being settled.
- **Haydu** – Harmony Twp. (Approx. 46 ac.) CMV \$4,900. Title search done & received draft survey. Survey sent to Engineering Dept. for review on 2/27/19. Engineering signed off, sent final survey to SADC for review.
- **Smith, John & Jean #1** – Harmony/White Twps. (Approx. 82 ac.) CMV \$4,600. Waiting to close.
- **Smith, John & Jean #2** – Harmony Twp. (Approx. 36 ac.) CMV \$6,000. Waiting to close.

Total Applications: 5 Total Acres: 307

Municipal Applications

Total Applications: 0 Total Acres: 0

Non-Profit Applications

- **Pipers Hill Farm (Gibb)** – Washington Twp. (Approx. 27 ac.) CMV \$5,500. Received draft survey. Received County Engineer review letter 11/19; landowner to address unpermitted access and power box; revisions to survey needed.

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 27

SADC applications

- **Shen** – Mansfield Township (Approx. 222 acres)

Total Applications: 1 Total Acres: 222

Recent Closings:

- **Kitchen** – Knowlton Township (Approx. 28 ac.) CMV \$5,100. Closed on 7/28/21!

Pohatcong Contamination Area Projects:*Seeking Highlands Council Open Space Funding cost-share*

- **Pear Tree Realty** – Franklin Township (Approx. 62 ac.) Commissioners approved 100% funding.
- **Pereira** – Franklin Township (Approx. 30 ac.) Commissioners approved 100% funding.
- **Myers/Toretta #1**– Franklin Township (Approx. 38 acres) Commissioners approved 100% funding.
- **Myers/Toretta #2** – Franklin Township (Approx. 48 acres) Commissioners approved 100% funding.
- **Noel** – Franklin Township (Approx. 44 ac.) Commissioners approved 100% funding.
- **Oberly** – Franklin/Greenwich (Approx. 96 ac.) Received Highlands Grant. Put out RFP's for dual appraisals.
- **O'Dowd South** – Franklin & Greenwich Township – (Approx. 132 ac.) Received Highlands Grant. Warren County and Highlands to be Co-owners of DOE. Landowners agree to continue preservation with further restrictions and HC on DOE.

Total Applications: 7**Total Acres: 450**2021 Closings YTD: 8 farms totaling 660.77 acresProgram Totals: 309 farms totaling 27,082.2874 acres**Public Comment:**

Adjournment: A motion for adjournment was made by Mrs. Watters, and seconded by Mr. Bodine. Motion carries. Chairman Schnetzer adjourned the meeting at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kaminski

Warren County Planning Dept. Project Report November 2021

1. Development Applications Submitted 10/11/21-11/5/21 (Board Meeting Cut-Off)

Application #	Applicant	Municipality	Road	Use
17-016	RMK	Harmony Twp	CR622	Industrial
21-011-SP	Mars Incorporated	Hackettstown	CR 517	Industrial
21-045-SP	PMG New Jersey	Knowlton	US RT 46	Commercial
21-044-SP	Robert R. Blease D.V.M.	Franklin Twp	SH Rt 57	Commercial
21-042-SP	Reeder Property Solar Farm, LLC	Harmony Twp	CR 519	Solar
20-028-SP	James Alexander Corporation	Frelinghuysen	NJ 94	Industrial
21-031-SP	ST Fra Willow Grove, LLC	Hackettstown	CR 604	Warehouse

2. Municipal Ordinance Review & Update Report

- 11/4/2021** **Blairstown Twp.** Farmland Preservation Plan Report Public Hearing
November 15, 2021
- 11/8/2021** **Hardwick Twp.** - Ordinance 2021-09 Amending and Supplementing Chapter 13,
Sections 6 Entitled "Definitions" and 33.5 Entitled "Enlargement of Non-Conforming
Principal Structure" of the Code of Township of Hardwick
Introduced 10/6/2021, Adopted 11/3/2021

Stormwater Control Ordinances - The County is responsible for reviewing and approving municipal stormwater control ordinances (SCO) as they are updated pursuant to NJDEP revised rules. One (1) municipality has not submitted an ordinance.

November 8, 2021 Harmony Twp Adopted amendments to address Planning Dept
Review Comments

3. Development Review Online Applications – November 2021 development applications are in process of being uploaded into the story map. The link is <https://warrencountynj.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Shortlist/index.html?appid=84bb354d75dc4868a66480fde8124c4c>

4. Public Information Requests – Addressed/processed nine requests through November 15

5. Demographics/US. Census – Attended a two day webinar sponsored by the U.S Census Bureau. It focused on the available products/tables/maps that the Bureau has produced and will be posting on its website. Much of the presentation was to show how to navigate the website to obtain the data. Also discussed were the proposed criteria to define urban vs rural areas, the post enumeration survey to ensure a complete count, and the timeline for appealing the census count which will begin in January 2022 through June 2023. The New Jersey 2020 Census data is on the NJ Data Center web page at https://nj.gov/labor/lpa/census/2020/2020census_index.html.

6. Open Space and Trails – On November 17, participated in Norwescap's Community Development plan development meeting to discuss the Rails to Trails projects, plans and connectors in Phillipsburg.

7. Warren Highlands Trail-

8. Morris Canal – French and Parrello was contracted for engineering services for the design for construction of trails on six segments of the Morris Canal. Application to the NJDEP Land Use Regulation program was submitted. NJDEP has some questions about the application which F&P provided responses to. As of now, it is more likely that the project will be ready to be advertised sometime over the winter and construction to begin in the Spring of 2022.

Reviewed a plan by Aqua NJ Water Company to install a water line on Strykers Road. The water line will be directionally drilled under the Lopatcong Creek and the Morris Canal. The Morris Canal Committee provided additional comments and were relayed to Aqua.

A Morris Canal Working Group meeting was hosted by the NJTPA on November 17. The working group consists of officials/representatives of the five counties that the Canal traverses, the NJ Canal Society, and other public and non-profit agencies that are involved in the preservation of the canal and the establishment of a continuous trail system from Phillipsburg to Jersey City.

9. Warren Heritage Scenic Byway –Pohatcong Twp. and Lopatcong Twp. endorsed the byway extension to Union Square, Phillipsburg. In addition to the extension to Union Square, Pohatcong Twp. would like to see a spur route that would follow CR 519 through Alpha Borough to CR 627 to Riegelsville. The Byway Committee meeting was held on October 18. Committee discussed the extensions as proposed by Pohatcong Township and then discussed additional extensions or spurs. A workgroup meeting will be scheduled in November to review potential spurs in detail. Began working on the application to NJDOT to extend the Byway designation to Union Square.

10. Rt 57/CR 519 - nothing new

11. I-80 Rockfall Project - A letter was sent to the FHWA and NJDOT requesting that the County of Warren become a “Participating Agency” in the review process. “Participating Agency” status puts the County on the list of agencies that will be consulted and asked to review documents when they are drafted.

12. Pilot Freight Concept Development Program- Drainage Culvert Replacement Project in Hackettstown – We have not received any news on this project. The NJDOT needs to approve funding so the larger plate “F” cars are able to traverse this drain bridge

13. Transportation Plan – The Report was completed final reports printed and delivered to the Department. Additional edits are required. When those edits are incorporated the document will be transmitted to the Planning Board for review.

14. County Transportation Advisory Council- The next meeting will be held November 18th and new officers will be elected.

15- NJTPA - Attended the November 8 NJTPA Board meeting. There was a presentation on a concept by a company that tries to reduce bike theft in urban areas by creating places for people to store and lock their bikes when not in use. Bike theft is pretty high in some areas of NYC and its Boroughs. It was titled the future of Micromobility and the company was Oonee. The next virtual meeting of the NJTPA will be held on January 10, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

15a. EV Vehicles - Working with NJTPA to locate more Electric Vehicle chargers throughout the county. One charger is being installed on I-80 at the truck stop, and at the WaWa on Rt 22. Ideally they should be installed in locations throughout the county to ensure adequate coverage and reliability.

16. Pedestrian Counts – The NJTPA hired a consultant to count pedestrians in the towns with downtown areas. In Warren County, Hackettstown and Washington Borough were identified.

17. Lackawanna Cutoff and 18. Raritan Valley Line- - Amtrak identified the Cutoff to Scranton Pa for reactivation of passenger service the extension of service on the Raritan Valley line to Allentown, Pa., in its report titled “Amtrak’s Vision for Improving Transportation in America” It can be downloaded from

the following web address.

<https://www.amtrak.com/content/dam/projects/dotcom/english/public/documents/corporate/reports/Amtrak-2021-Corridor-Vision-060121.pdf>. The Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority is funding the ridership study for the Scranton service to see if ridership projections would support the restoration of service. That study should be complete in 10 months. The Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution in support of passenger rail extensions on the Cutoff to Scranton as well as for the Raritan Valley line.

19. Transportation Improvement Program - The Capital Project Committee, (CPC) submitted two projects to us for comment. They are to advance a two paving projects into Concept Development. The first is on Route 94, Simpson Road to Adams Road (CR 675) this goes from Knowlton to Blirstown and is approximately 8 miles. The second is Route 80 WB, from approximately Alphano Road (CR 613) to Route 46 (Ledgewood Avenue). The mileposts are from MP 19.04 to MP 27.8 (WB).

20. CR 519/521 Weight Restriction – Under review by NJDOT

21. Economic Development Council – Did not attend the October meeting.

22. Musconetcong River Management Council – Next meeting to be held via zoom on December 20, 2021

23. Solid Waste and Recycling - Weekly education advertisements about recycling continue to run in the Express Times and/or Warren Reporter.

SWAC meeting was held November 4. Questions from the public were about the review process for including new recycling facilities into the County's Solid Waste Plan. The reason for the questioning was the proposed food waste composting facility in Mansfield Twp. As of this writing no application for the composting facility has been submitted to SWAC.

24. County Road Map- The narrative and photos need to be added to the backside of the map.

25. Park Locator App and Parks Story Map- The app is still a work in progress and will be able to deploy from any mobile device. The link for "Warren Parks Locator and Story Map is <https://warrencountynj.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Shortlist/index.html?appid=493ae0539bc84ede9dcedab2e0ac8b84>.

26. North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development – Council meeting was held October 27.

27. Assisting other Departments—Assisting Public Safety in getting set up to use ARC GIS in their operations.

28. GIS - Blirstown Township is the only township that needs to be updated for Zoning. Also had a virtual meeting with representatives from ESRI about an add on program called Urban. It may help us in conducting various planning studies such as build out analysis, 3D visualization etc. The follow up meeting was held on October 20. A request for capital funds was submitted for the 2022 budget to acquire this package.

29. County Planners Association –

30. Hazard Mitigation Plan - A draft Hazard Mitigation Plan update has been prepared through the WC Public Safety Department.

31. Highlands Sustainable Economic Plan – A draft of the plan has been released for public comment on the Highlands Council website at <https://www.nj.gov/njhighlands/master/economic-sustainability/>

32. Regional Planning Meetings -

33. Senate No. 3688 - The bill failed to advance in the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee but did pass in the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

34. Highlands Plan Conformance -

35. County Website Update- The new website is now live. County Departments are responsible for adding their own content to the site. This will allow us to provide the public with access to documents and links relevant to the planning and the department. The new web address to the County home page is <https://www.warrencountynj.gov/>

36. Bylaws -

37. Budget - The proposed budget for the Department was submitted on October 29.