

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is composed of 567 Municipalities; 611 School Districts; 190 Local Authorities and 212 Fire Districts all with some form of taxing or assessing authority to fund their activities and many with small populations that inhibit the efficient provision of services. In other words, too much local government which has continued to drive up the cost of local government in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the use of shared services has been proven as an effective means to contain local service costs and improve service delivery; and

WHEREAS, it has been established that local governments currently utilize a wide range of both formal and informal shared services agreements and further investigation and recommendations serve the best interests of the residents and taxpayers of Union County; and

WHEREAS, while acknowledging these efforts, at the same time, there is a firm believe that those local units not utilizing shared services should be encouraged to do, and those already benefiting by their use, should expand their programs; and

WHEREAS, there has been conducted by the New Jersey State Department of Community Affairs through their Division of Local Government Services, a series of regional meetings of forums with local officials which were well attended with representatives from counties and municipalities of all sizes and organizational structures and at which time there was an open discussion of the experiences of the participants with shared services, both positive and negative; and

WHEREAS, from these sessions were gleaned a wide range of recommendations as to steps that could be taken to improve the ability of local government officials to use this management tool to contain local services costs and improve delivery services; and

WHEREAS, many of these recommendations seek action by the legislature and state agencies for the amendment of the relevant Statues and rules and regulations which presently either do not permit or actually prohibit actions by government units that would in fact substantially enhance the use of shared services; and

WHEREAS, the issue of the maximum utilization by the local governments of shared services as a means to lower the cost of local government services and improve service delivery is one of the most important issues facing local governments, their residents and taxpayers within the County; and

CONTINUED.....

WHEREAS, in order to provide the necessary full support and bring to bear sufficient focus and attention to this most significant issue the County desires to create as Ad Hoc Committee to undertake the mission of acting as a Facilitator to effectuate maximum utilization of shared services within the County of Union:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union that it hereby creates and establishes an Ad Hoc Committee to be known as the Union County Shared Services Committee. The Committee shall be composed of seven (7) members. They shall serve for a term of two (2) years which term may be extended in order to complete any pending report. They shall receive compensation of \$3,000.00 per annum. The task of the Committee shall be to:

- (a) to determine the quality and effectiveness of existing on-going shared services presently in effect between all government entities within Union County.
- (b) to interview and/or hold Hearings to ascertain and determine the reasons and/or rationale for some local governments not utilizing shared services;
- (c) to seek to bring about by all available means and with the close cooperation of the Union County Legislative Delegation and the League of Municipalities relevant amendments to the New Jersey Statutes and/or New Jersey Administrative Code that presently prohibit or do not permit actions by local governments that enlarge and enhance the utilization of shared services.
- (d) to formulate a program of education for non-experienced local government officials as to the initiation and operation of shared services programs;
- (e) to assist local governments in the process of participating in shared services to include feasibility studies as well as a hands on participation by the County at each step of the process up to and including full implementation
- (f) to establish a program of incentives to local governments for utilization of shared services.
- (g) to incorporate into the Shared Services Plan of the County of Union these recommendations and actual local experiences which can enhance the program.
- (h) to provide a program for the evaluation of potential interlocal projects also known as feasibility studies.
- (i) to make available sample forms of Interlocal Agreements with appropriate instructions.

The goal sought to be accomplished by the Committee is to render guidance and support to all Municipalities desiring to participate in the Shared Services Program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following citizens of Union County are appointed for two year terms commencing immediately and terminating June 10, 2001:

George Jorn, Cranford, NJ 07016
Patricia Plante, Fanwood, NJ 07023
Michael Crincoli, Garwood, NJ 07027
Angelo Bonanno, Hillside, NJ 07205
Carmela Colosimo, Kenilworth, NJ 07033
Gregory Kinlock, Roselle Park, NJ 07204
Jodie Bergen, Springfield, NJ 07081

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$6,000.00 for secretarial services shall hereby be provided on a per annum basis.