



Ocean County Board of Commissioners

101 Hooper Avenue
 Toms River, New Jersey
 08754-2191
 (732)929-2005
 (732)505-1918

Organization Meeting Agenda

Date: January 3, 2024 - 3:30 PM
 Location: Administration Building
 Room 119
 101 Hooper Avenue
 Toms River, NJ 08754

Agenda: Appointing Laura M. Benson, Esquire as Assistant County Counsel for the year 2024. (QP2024-02)

Official Resolution#	2024000022						
Meeting Date	01/03/2024						
Introduced Date	01/03/2024						
Adopted Date	01/03/2024						
Agenda Item	I-2						
CAF #							
Purchase Req. #	QP2024-02						
Result	Adopted						
COUNTY COMMISSIONER	PRES.	ABS.	MOVE	SEC	AYE	NAY	ABST.
Crea	✓				✓		
Quinn	✓			✓	✓		
Haines	✓		✓		✓		
Kelly		✓					
Sadeghi	✓				✓		

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS A TRUE, COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION, ADOPTED BY OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, NJ AT THE MEETING REFERENCED THEREON

Michelle I. Gunther

Clerk Of The Board

RESOLUTION

January 3, 2024

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Board of Commissioners require the services of Assistant County Counsels; and

WHEREAS, the County of Ocean has publicly solicited Requests for Qualifications for the provision of legal services in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the three responses received by the County of Ocean were reviewed by the Ocean County Consultant Selection Review Committee in accordance with the criteria approved by the Ocean County Board of Commissioners for the evaluation of the same; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the recommendation of the Ocean County Consultant Selection Review Committee, the Ocean County Board of Commissioners wish to appoint Laura M. Benson, Esquire as Assistant County Counsel for General Counsel Services for a term of one year commencing January 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, partial funds for these services will be made available upon the adoption of the 2024 Temporary County Budget with the balance to be available contingent upon adoption of the 2024 County Budget, at which time the Department of Finance will notify the appropriate County official when funds have become available; and

WHEREAS, the retainer costs for Assistant County Counsel services, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 per year, shall be appropriated from General County Counsel Services: 016-030-4010; and

WHEREAS, for all other legal services to be rendered: General County Counsel Services: 016-030-4010, in an amount not exceed \$800,000.00; Capital Projects-Capital Ordinance Appropriations, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00; and Natural Land Acquisitions: 225-155-0151, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, as follows:

1. Laura M. Benson, 212 Hooper Avenue, P.O. Box 757, Toms River, New Jersey 08754 is hereby appointed Assistant County Counsel, effective January 1, 2024, for a term of one (1) year in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Professional Service Agreement on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

2. The Director and Clerk of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to enter into and execute a Professional Service Agreement with Laura M. Benson, Esq., a copy of which is on file with the Clerk of the Board.
3. This Agreement is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, because legal services are professional in nature and because Laura M. Benson is a licensed attorney, authorized to practice law in the State of New Jersey.
4. This Agreement is also awarded in compliance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.
5. A certified copy of this Resolution, together with a copy of each of the Professional Service Agreement executed by the parties, shall be placed and kept on file at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners.
6. A notice of this action shall be printed in a local newspaper.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Ocean County Counsel, Ocean County Comptroller, and Laura M. Benson, Assistant County Counsel.