

Chairperson Lowe read Resolution 12-09 honoring Mr. James T. Johnson, Jr. for his dedication of service to the Authority in his role as Executive Director.

10511. RESOLUTION 12-09 - RECOGNIZES AND SALUTES JAMES T. JOHNSON, JR. FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY.

WHEREAS, James T. Johnson, Jr. was appointed to serve as the Executive Director of the Delaware River and Bay Authority and began his formal duties as the leader of the bi-state agency on April 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson, who served with distinction, enthusiasm and dedication as the Executive Director for ten years, announced his retirement at the monthly Commission meeting on February 21, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a proponent of good government, Mr. Johnson was instrumental in the creation of the agency's By-Laws to improve governance and oversight as well as the adoption of numerous policies and procedures that enhanced accountability, transparency and strengthened corporate governance at the bi-state agency; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mr. Johnson focused on streamlining operations and stressing efficiency throughout the Authority, proposing a number of cost-saving initiatives to make better use of the Authority's resources, such as reducing the agency's vehicle fleet, consolidating marine operations in Cape May, and merging the Authority's E-ZPass operations with New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson advocated the establishment of the Authority's official Supplier Diversity Policy and Program, which promoted the agency outreach efforts and expanded business opportunities for minority and women-owned companies; and

WHEREAS, as Executive Director, Mr. Johnson endorsed the investment of financial resources to improve and enhance the Authority's major transportation links, the Cape May - Lewes Ferry and Delaware Memorial Bridge facilities while also supporting a number of targeted economic development projects such as the refrigerated warehouse at the Port of Wilmington and the creation of the Delaware Airpark terminal building, helping to create opportunities for the region's citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Johnson's leadership, the Authority adopted not only Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), a uniform standard for formatting recognizing and reporting financial data, but also embraced other standard accounting practices, including the recognition and establishment of a trust for Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson, who honored his late father by becoming an engineer as well and serving the profession with distinction and honor, selflessly served the public and focused his talents on improving public infrastructure for citizens in Delaware and New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, using this experience as a professional civil engineer in both the private and public sectors, Mr. Johnson provided a unique understanding of public transportation infrastructure related to the operations of the Delaware Memorial Bridge, Cape May - Lewes Ferry, New Castle Airport, Millville Airport, Cape May Airport, Delaware Airpark, Civil Air Terminal at Dover, and the Three Forts Ferry Crossing, all of which are managed by the Delaware River and Bay Authority; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority does hereby praise and congratulate James T. Johnson, Jr. for the invaluable services rendered by him to the States of Delaware and New Jersey through his outstanding contributions as the Authority's Executive Director and does hereby record the Commissioners sincere appreciation by the presentation of this Resolution, adopted today, March 20, 2012.

A motion to approve Resolution 12-09 was made by Commissioner Green, seconded by Commissioner Favre, and approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.