



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017
MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Bruce H. Bergen, Vice Chairman Sergio Granados, Freeholder Linda Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella, and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance.

RETURN FROM RECESS

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to return from recess. The motion was made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to approve the Communications. The motion was made by freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Vice Chairman Carter. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

Note and File

PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Resolutions being offered for adoption only.

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, congratulated Freeholders Bergen and Granados on their swearing in as Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2017.

Mr. Patterson made comments relative to a number of resolutions; encouraging the Board to adopt a County Pay-to-Play policy and made comments relative to political contributions from a number of vendors listed on the agenda. Relative to Resolution No. 2017-14, Mr. Patterson stated that the Board should not enter into a contract with Mr. Gary Taffet and referenced an issue with the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC). Relative to Resolution No. 2017-37, he questioned which Freeholders were appointed to each committee.

Chairman Bergen stated that he would provide him with a written copy of the Freeholder Standing Committee appointments, and that it would be available on the County's website.

RESOLUTIONS

- 2017-1** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Adopting the Bylaws and Rules of Procedures for the Year 2017.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-2** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Adopting the Meeting Schedule of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholder for the Year of 2017.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-3** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Designating the following newspapers as recipients of legal notices of the County of Union for the Year 2017: Gannett NJ Newspaper (Home News Tribune, Courier News), Worrall Community Newspapers (Union County Local Source), La Voz, Westfield Leader/Fanwood Times, NJ Advanced Media (Star Ledger), NJN Publishing (Suburban News), El Especialito, Vistazo Hispano, LLC, Luso Americano Co., Inc., and TAPinto.net, and further making available a sum not to exceed \$150,000.00 for the provision of said legal notices.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-4** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Adopting the Temporary Budget for the Year 2017.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-5** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** To establish Change Funds for calendar year 2017.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-6** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Establishing Petty Cash Funds for Calendar Year 2017.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-7** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Designating depositories wherein all public monies and funds of the County of Union shall be kept for the year 2017.
- On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2017-8** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Signatories for Calendar Year 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-9** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Awarding a contract to Suplee, Clooney & Company, Westfield, New Jersey, to provide statutory audits of accounts of the County of Union and its agencies from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-10** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Approving a list of pre-qualified financial advisors for the year 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-11** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Awarding a contract to Rogut McCarthy, LLC, Cranford, New Jersey to provide specialized counsel services in connection with the issuance of bonds, or notes by the County of Union from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-12** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the use of NJ State, Somerset County, Educational Services Commission of NJ, (formerly known as Middlesex Regional) and Cranford Police cooperative contracts as exceptions to bidding pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-10,11 and 12 and NJAC 5:34-Subchapter 7 for 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-13** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Renewing the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund to administer and provide excess insurance for the following: Liability (other than motor vehicles), Property Damage (other than motor vehicles), Motor Vehicles, Public Officials Liability/Employment Practices Liability, and Workers Compensation for the budget period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$2,486,483.00 (Union County portion).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-14** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Acrisure, Woodbridge, New Jersey for the provision of Risk Management Services for the period of thirty six consecutive months for a total contract amount not to exceed \$735,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-15** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with ComPsych, Chicago, IL for the provision of a comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to County employees and their families for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 at a cost not to exceed \$47,520.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-16** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Practice Associates Medical Group, (Atlantic Health Systems) Clark, New Jersey for the provision of providing Pre-Employment Medical Examinations and other related medical services to the County of Union (Division of Personnel) and the Office of the Union County Sheriff for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 in the amount not to exceed \$108,500.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-17** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Kanen Psychological Associates, P.A., Ridgewood, New Jersey, for the provision of Psychological Evaluation Services (Fitness for Duty Examinations) for the Department of Administrative Services (Personnel), Department of Human Services (Juvenile Detention), and the Department of Correctional Services for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for a total amount not to exceed \$62,500.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-18** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to The Institute for Forensic Psychology, Oakland, New Jersey, to provide Psychological Evaluation Services to the Department of Administrative Services (Division of Personnel), and The Office of The Union County Prosecutor, for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for a total amount not to exceed \$25,500.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-19** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract for Telecommunication Services with Verizon Inc. of New Jersey, a Board of Public Utilities regulated supplier, for an estimated not to exceed amount of \$500,000.00 for a period of twelve consecutive months.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-20** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** A resolution approving a list of Qualified Shorthand Reporters for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-21 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** A resolution approving a list of Qualified Litigation Defense Counsel for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-22 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** A resolution approving a list of Qualified Labor/Personnel Counsel for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-23 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Weber Dowd Law of Woodland Park, New Jersey to provide Credit and Collections services to Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County for the contract period of January 1, 2017 through December 1, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-24 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Awarding a contract to Bauch, Zucker, Hatfield, LLC, Springfield, New Jersey, to serve as Labor and Personnel Counsel for twelve (12) consecutive months, in an amount not to exceed \$175,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-25 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Awarding a contract to Roth D'Aquanni, LLC, Springfield, New Jersey, to serve as Personnel Counsel for twelve (12) consecutive months, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-26 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Awarding a contract to Eric M. Bernstein & Associates, LLC, Warren, New Jersey to serve as Labor and Personnel Counsel, for twelve (12) consecutive months in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-27 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Services Contract to Ruderman, Horn & Esmerado, Springfield, New Jersey, to serve as Personnel Counsel for twelve (12) consecutive months, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-28** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Awarding a contract to James Jude Plaia, Esq., Verona, New Jersey to provide Worker's Compensation Defense Counsel Services for twelve (12) consecutive months, with any sums to be paid through the Third Party Administrator.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-29** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** A Resolution awarding a contract to Manuel R. Grova, Esq. as Special Counsel to the Union County Planning Board for the period of January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-30** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Approving a pre-qualified list of firms for the provision of Architectural Services for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-31** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Approving a pre-qualified list of firms for the provision of Construction Management Services for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-32** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Approving a pre-qualified list of firms for the provision of General Engineering Services for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-33** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution 2016-538 to extend the Lease Agreement an additional one (1) month with Plainfield Madison Park, LLC, Plainfield, New Jersey, for the rental of 313-315 East Front Street, Plainfield, New Jersey, for use by the State of New Jersey Probation Division with same terms and conditions in the amount not to exceed \$7,166.13 for the period of January 1, 2017 through January 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-34** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Resolution granting permission to the Township of Scotch Plains to place a banner across Park Avenue at the intersection of Front

Street and Park Avenue from January 3, 2017, to on or about January 17, 2017 for the Martin Luther King Service which will be held on Monday, January 16, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-35 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-918, extending the contract with Transdev Services, Inc through January 1, 2017 for the provision of transportation services in the form of Routing, Scheduling, and Dispatch, and Road Operator Services for the Union County Paratransit System including the Route 22 Shuttle, to extend the contract for the two (2) month period of February 1, 2017 through March 31, 2017 in the amount not to exceed \$674,600 under the terms of the current contract to allow a transition period for completion of competitive contracting.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-36 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Continuum Voice and Data Systems, Inc., Syracuse, New York for the purposes of providing proprietary software maintenance services for the OnBase Records Management propriety software system of the County, for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018 exercising the County's option to renew using the exception to bidding NJSA 40A 11-15 (1) (dd), in an amount not to exceed \$30,760.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-37 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Adopting the Freeholder Standing Committee Assignments for 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-38 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing members of the Freeholder Board as liaisons to various Advisory Boards for the Year 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-39 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing Freeholder Angel G. Estrada as the Union County Delegate to Meadowlink for a term commencing January 1, 2017 and expiring December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-40 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing the following as representatives to the New Jersey Association of Counties for the term commencing January 1, 2017 and

expiring December 31, 2017: Freeholder Vernell Wright (Delegate); Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski (Alternate); and County Manager Alfred J. Faella (Second Alternate).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-41** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing the following as representatives to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority for the term commencing January 1, 2017 and expiring December 31, 2017: Freeholder Angel G. Estrada (Delegate) and Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski (Alternate).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-42** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing Scott M. Huff, of Clark, to the Union County Improvement Authority to serve the unexpired term (member Bryan Tomko) ending January 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-43** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Re-appointing Anthony Scutari and Steve Hockaday to the Union County Improvement Authority for a term beginning February 1, 2017 and ending January 31, 2022.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-44** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing Jon-Henry Barr to the Union County Vocational-Technical School Board of Education for a term beginning November 1, 2016 to October 31, 2020.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-45** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution 2016-875, appointing Jean Perkins to the Vocational-Technical School Board of Education, to reflect the term as November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-46** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing Sonja Ash to the Local Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (Mental Health) for a term beginning January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-47** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Re-appointing Margaret Bandrowski to the Shade Tree Advisory Board for a term beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-48** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing the following members to the Emergency Management Council for a one year term beginning January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017: Alfred Faella (County Manager), Andrew Moran (Public Safety), Christopher Scaturro (OEM Coordinator), William Kane (Deputy OEM Coordinator), Chris Debbie (County Police Chief), Frederic Fretz (Fire Coordinator), Gareth Williams (EMS Coordinator), Thomas Mineo (Damage Assessment/County Engineer) Sebastian D'Elia (Public Information Officer), Michael Redding (Elizabethtown Gas), Grace Park (Acting Prosecutor), Joseph Cryan (Sheriff), Joseph Graziano, Jr. (DPW Director), Annarely McNair (Health Officer) and Michael McIntyre (Salvation Army).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-49** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing the following members to the Fire Services Advisory Board for a one year term beginning January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017: Joseph Moschello (Fire Prevention Association), Steven Ruhl (Fire Academy Dean), Gary Steitz (Fire Investigation Representative), Andrew Moran (Public Safety Director), Christopher Scaturro (Emergency Services Director/Chief), William Kane (Emergency Services Deputy), Eric Evers (Chief, Combo Department), Joseph Signorello (Chief, Volunteer Department), Thomas McNamara (Largest City Fire Chief), Micahel Scanio (2nd Largest Fire Chief), Dan Czeh (President, Fire Chief Association), Fred Fretz (County Fire Coordinator) and Kristen Von St. Paul (Emergency Services Support Staff).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-50** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing the following members to the Union County Voter Accessibility Advisory Board for a term beginning January 1, 2016 through December 31 2018: Dennis Kobitz (County Manager Representative/Administrator), Mary Ellen Harris (Commissioner), John DiSimone (Commissioner), Clara Harelik (Commissioner), Marie Oakie (Commissioner), Richard Barry (Public Member), Aneil Badri (Public Member), John Becker (Public Member), Helen Alvarado (trained in provisions ADA) and Leslie Gutierrez (Disabled).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-51** **CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Re-appointing Steven Le and Michael DeRosa and appointing Arthur Kobitz to the Union County Planning Board for a term beginning January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-52 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Re-appointing Charles Medallis as a member (Electrical Sub-Code) to the Construction Board of Appeals for a 2-year term beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2018.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-53 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Re-appointing the following members to the Union County Commission on the Status of Women: Michele Yamakaitis, Sara Todisco and Catherine Melchione; and appointing Phyllis Mirabella, Lisa Bonanno and Nicole D'Augustine for a term beginning January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2017-54 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Sandra Lorraine Hawks Slaughter upon her passing on December 30, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-55 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Florence C. Brennan upon her passing on January 5, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-56 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Congratulating Catherine Felegi upon being the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award by the Cranford Clergy.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2017-57 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's condolences to the family of Cranford High School Teacher Joseph Dugandzic, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2017-58 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Congratulating Ralph Checchio upon being the recipient of the Americanism Award by the Scotch Plains/Fanwood Chapter of UNICO District X on January 17, 2017.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2017-59 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: Congratulating Michael E. Walko upon being the recipient of the Americanism Award by the Westfield Chapter of UNICO District X on January 17, 2016.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2017-60 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Proclaiming January 16, 2017 as Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak. Roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

This meeting is open to the public comment on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

There were no comments.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Hudak congratulated Freeholders Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installment. He congratulated Vice Chairman Granados and Chairman Bergen on their selection as Vice Chairman and Chairman; noting his excitement towards the Chairman's initiatives. He stated that he is looking forward to the upgrades at Wheeler Park, the completion of the Warinanco Ice Skating facility.

Freeholder Hudak made comments relative to the importance of the County's commitment to GAP funding for heroin treatment; noting that the County will likely take on much more responsibility for programs like the heroin treatment program in light of the message coming from Washington and its new administration.

Freeholder Jalloh echoed Freeholder Hudak's sentiments. He congratulated Freeholders Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installation, and Vice Chairman Granados and Chairman Bergen on their installation as Chair and Vice Chair. He offered sentiments to Vice Chairman Granados, noting that his wife had held the bible, while she had been his girlfriend, for his swearing in as well.

Freeholder Jalloh made comments relative to the County's important role in providing services and protecting its residents from cuts in federal funding of critical programming in light of the recent Presidential election. He stated that he is looking forward to working on the Chairman's initiatives and any new initiatives that may arise throughout the year.

Freeholder Wright congratulated the Freeholders Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installation. She stated that she is happy to see that they all will continue their good work for the residents of Union County.

Freeholder Carter congratulated Chairman Bergen and Vice Chairman Granados upon being elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Freeholder Board, noting the excellent teamwork the Board has experienced under their leadership.

Freeholder Carter congratulated her running mates and thanked them for their hard work on the campaign. She congratulated Chairman Bergen on his 2017 initiatives; especially in light of the issues the Board will have to overcome in 2017.

Freeholder Kowalski congratulated her running mates and Freeholder Bergen and Freeholder Granados upon their selection as Chairman and Vice Chairman. She thanked all of those who assisted with the progressive agenda for Union County over the past year and for the year to come. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Freeholder Mirabella congratulated Freeholders Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installation. He congratulated Freeholders Bergen and Granados on their selection as Chairman and Vice Chairman, and commended Chairman Bergen for accepting the chairmanship on back-to-back years; noting the difficulty of the task as a previous Chairman of the Board. He stated that he looks forward to Chairman Bergen's leadership, and commended him on his initiatives; noting that they seem to be in line with the needs and wants of the residents. He thanked the County Manager and the Directors for their efforts. He wished all a Happy New Year.

County Manager congratulated Freeholders Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installation. He congratulated Chairman Bergen on his selection as Chairman, and advised that he, and his staff, will work closely with the Board to accomplish the 2017 initiatives. He wished all a Happy New Year.

County Manager congratulated Freeholders Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installation. He congratulated Vice Chairman and Chairman Bergen on his selection as Chairman, and advised that he was looking forward to working with the Board for another year.

Vice Chairman Granados stated that it had been a great honor to work with all of the members of the Board the past year and that he looks forward to working with everyone, and seeing each of the Freeholders' ideas come to fruition through the leadership of the Chairman. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Chairman Bergen congratulated Freeholder Carter, Kowalski and Granados on their re-election and installation. He stated that he looks forward to working with all of the Freeholders in the coming year. He thanked Freeholder Granados for accepting the role of Vice Chairman again, noting that his advice and counsel will be well needed in the coming year.

Chairman Bergen made comments relative to Mr. Patterson's earlier comments relative to pay-to-play laws; noting that the County of Union, the Democratic organization and its

campaigns, fully comply in strict adherence with all existing pay-to-play laws in New Jersey. He stated that none of the appointments or contracts is done outside of the law. He wished all a Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that meetings are regularly held on Thursday evenings. Agenda Setting Sessions and Regular Meetings are held at 7:00pm in the Freeholders' Meeting Room, Administration Building, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, 6th Floor, Elizabeth, New Jersey, unless otherwise specified. In the event an Agenda Setting Session and Regular Meeting are held on the same night, the Agenda Setting Session will commence at 7:00pm and the Regular Meeting will commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session.

Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908-527-4140.

REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017 at 12:00 pm
Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street,
Elizabeth, NJ

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 19, 2017
 February 2, 2017
 February 23, 2017
 March 2, 2017
 March 16, 2017
 April 6, 2017
 April 20, 2017
 May 4, 2017
 May 25, 2017
 June 1, 2017
 June 15, 2017
 July 13, 2017
 August 10, 2017
 September 7, 2017
 September 28, 2017
 October 5, 2017
 October 19, 2017
 November 9, 2017
 (Tuesday)
 November 30, 2017
 December 14, 2017

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 26, 2017
 February 9, 2017
 February 23, 2017
 March 9, 2017
 March 23, 2017
 April 13, 2017
 April 27, 2017
 May 18, 2017
 May 25, 2017
 June 8, 2017
 June 22, 2017
 July 20, 2017
 August 17, 2017
 September 14, 2017
 September 28, 2017
 October 12, 2017
 October 26, 2017
 November 21, 2017
 December 7, 2017
 December 21, 2017



 James E. Pelletiere, RMC
 Clerk of the Board