

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Bruce Bergen presided and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Roll call showed, Vice Chairman Sergio Granados, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder, Freeholder Christopher Hudak (with his daughter Catie), Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance. Freeholder Linda Carter was absent.

Also present were County Manager Alfred Faella, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, Esq. and Clerk of the Board James Pellettiere.

The Prayer and Salute to the Flag were led by the Clerk of the Board.

The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by the Clerk of the Board.

PRESENTATION FROM THE BOARD

A resolution presentation was made by Chairman Bruce H. Bergen to the winners of the 2016 Union County Arbor Day Poetry Contest, he asked Freeholder Kowalski to assist him with the presentation.

As the Chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and liaison to the Union County Shade Tree Advisory Board, Chairman Bergen welcomed the student writers as well as their parents. He stated that there were 164 poems submitted from 29 schools throughout the County. He stated the winning poems were hung outside the chambers. He announced the winners from each of the grade categories; fourth grade through eighth grade.

Chairman Bergen recognized the Shade Tree Commission members present and noted their efforts with the program.

Freeholder Kowalski encouraged the students to keep writing; noting the extraordinary talents of each of the writers.

Chairman Bergen stated that the second presentations would be the announcement of the 2016 Infrastructure Grant Awards, noting that this year was the second year of such grant awards. He stated that all 21 towns applied and received awards totaling approximately \$1.5 million, and was that he was pleased to offer ceremonial checks.

Chairman Bergen stated that the Infrastructure Grant program is aimed at spurring economic development growth and street improvements throughout the County, noting that the program was conceived by Freeholder Hudak in 2015 and was developed through the County Freeholder Fiscal Committee the past two years and administered by the Department of Economic Development.

Chairman Bergen stated that this year's Fiscal Committee is chaired by Freeholder Mirabella, and included Freeholders Hudak, Kowalski, and Wright. He thanked Director Amy Wagner and her staff for their work on the program.

Chairman Bergen stated that the Board encouraged towns to apply for street improvements within their towns, and noted that of the 21 towns, 20 will be using these grant funds towards such.

Chairman Bergen individually invited all the municipal representatives to announce their various grant awards, and advised as to how the funds were going to be spent. A power point video indicated the awards as well. Chairman Bergen invited various Freeholders to join him in the check presentations.

Chairman Bergen stated let the record should reflect that Freeholder Carter joined the meeting during the presentations.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Oath of Office: Advisory Board on the Disabled: Charles Newman; Advisory Council on Aging: Sharron Brown and Ellen Stauton; Mental Health Advisory Board: Lauren Kaplan-Sagal and Sonja Ash; Senior Citizen Disabled Resident Transportation Advisory Board: Kevin Illing and Stephen Thorpe; Union County Improvement Authority: Sebastian D'Elia, George H. Lattimore, John Salerno, Raymond J. Szpond and Bryan T. Tomko; Union County Transportation Advisory Board: Robert Ehrenbeck, Tony Hall, John Morgan, Dan Petrosky, Richard Templeton and Walter Tucker; Union County Air Traffic and Noise Advisory Board: Greg Bashkoff, Jerome Feder, Marconi Gapas, Jeanne Kingsley, Dennis Malinowski and Kathy Silance.

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Thursday, March 3, 2016 - Agenda Meeting
2. Thursday, March 10, 2016 - Regular Meeting
3. Thursday, March 17, 2016 - Agenda Meeting
4. Thursday, March 31, 2016 - Regular Meeting

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative for the Agenda Minutes of March 3, 2016 and March 17, 2016 meetings; seven members of the Board voting in the affirmative for the Regular Minutes of March 10, 2016 meeting, with Freeholder Wright and Vice Chairman Granados abstaining; eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the Regular Minutes of the March 31, 2016 meeting, with Freeholder Carter abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, stated his appreciation for the power point presentation that listed the individual grant award projects. He made comments relative to a number of resolutions: relative to Resolution Number 2016-356, he asked for an overview of the Internal Position Controls; relative to Resolution Number 2016-362, made comments regarding political contributions; relative to Resolution Number 2016-368, he claimed that he advised the Board to provide the monies from the Runnells sale back to the municipalities, and deserved some credit; relative to Resolution Number 2016-371, he made comments of political contributions and asked for an explanation of the Fowler v. UC lawsuit.

Chairman Bergen asked County Counsel Barry to explain Resolution 2016-371.

County Counsel Barry stated that the Fowler lawsuit involved an allegation of improper contact of a juvenile by a juvenile detention officer while being held at the Union County Juvenile Detention Center.

Chairman Bergen asked County Manager Faella to explain Resolution 2016-356.

County Manager Faella stated that Resolution Number 2016-356 relates to position controls in the County Counsel office, noting that there is no increase in funding or increases to the budget. He advised that these changes are due to a change in how the positions are being funded.

Chairman Bergen noted that Resolution Number 2016-378 encourages the passage of Assembly Bill Number A3491, which establishes the creation of the criminal justice reform administration fund. He advised that this fund would help offset the expense of "State Bail Reform" in Union County, noting that this unfunded mandate is projected to cost \$1.8 million to the County and a total of \$45 million statewide.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

2016-349 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a professional services contract, through an RFQ process, with Funeral Services of NJ, Inc., Hillside, New Jersey, and Curry Funeral Home, Westfield, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing Livery Services for the contract period of one year in an amount not to exceed \$90,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-350 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Appointing the following members to the Construction Board of Appeals: John Mathisen (Elevator Sub Code); Joseph Buffa

(Elevator Sub Code Alternate) for a term beginning January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017 and Dave Miller (Plumbing Inspector) to fill an unexpired term from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-351 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to award 2016 Homeless Trust Fund (HTF) subcontracts pursuant to the recent Request for Proposal (RFP) procurement process for the eight month budget period of May 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 in the total amount not to exceed \$125,000 to deliver services as permitted by the Homeless Trust Fund regulations (P.L. 2009 Chapter 123 State Law); further authorizing the transfer of funds among the various agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the agencies fails to meet its contractual obligation.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed eight members of the Board voting in the affirmative, with Chairman Bergen abstaining.

- 2016-352 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Human Services, Union County Juvenile Detention Center: Aramark Correctional Services, LLC, Philadelphia, PA, for the purpose of providing Food Services and Food Service Management, for twenty-four (24) consecutive months in the total amount not to exceed \$1,080,000 or \$540,000 per year with the option to renew for one (1) twenty-four (24) month extension.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-353 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Preserve Union County grant, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, to The Old First Historic Trust, Elizabeth, New Jersey, to provide emergency maintenance assistance for the protection of the historic site. This matching grant is in an amount not to exceed \$9,200.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-354 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Appointing Nicole DeAugustine to the Union County Cultural & Heritage Programs Advisory Board for a term ending December 31, 2018.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-355 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending the 2016 Temporary Budget Ch. 96 P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20).

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-356 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizes the County Manager to adjust and/or change the Internal Position Control Schedule.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-357 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to make available to the 2016 Portugal Day Parade Committee the amount of not to exceed \$4,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-358 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to make available to the 2016 Union County St. Patrick's Parade Committee the amount of not to exceed \$4,000.00 (ratifying resolution).

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-359 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Re-appointing the following members to the Fire Services Advisory Board for a term ending December 31, 2016: Joseph Moschello (Fire Prevention Assoc.), Steven Ruhl (Fire Academy Dean), Gary Steitz (Fire Investigation Rep), Andrew Moran (Public Safety Director), Christopher Scaturo (Emergency Services Director/Chief), William Kane (Emergency Services Deputy), Joseph Signorello (Chief, Volunteer Dept.), Thomas McNamara (Largest City Fire Chief), Thomas Byrne (2nd Largest City Fire Chief), Fred Fretz (County Fire Coordinator), Kristen Von St. Paul (Emergency Services Support staff) and appointing Eric Evers (Chief, Combo Dept.) and Brian Mecca (President, Fire Chief Assoc.)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-360 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Appointing Sara Todisco, of Garwood, to the Union County Commission on the Status of Women for a term ending December 31, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-361 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 378-2015 (BA#19-2015), a contract awarded through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law to Total Turf Golf Services, Inc., of Huntingdon Valley, PA, approving Change Order Number 1 (final) for the Ash Brook Golf Course Renovation Project. This change order will reduce the original contract amount by (\$885.02) for a new contract amount not to exceed \$1,032,639.98. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2014-028).

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-362 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract to Neglia Engineering Associates of Clark, New Jersey to provide design, construction administration and inspection services for the Meisel Park Field Improvements, Township of Springfield for an amount not to exceed \$75,522.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-004)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-363 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution appointing the following individuals to the Union County Planning Board: Andrew Beno as an Alternate #1 Member with a term ending December 31, 2017, and Thomas Peretti as an Alternate #2 member with a term ending December 31, 2017.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-364 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to enter into a contract with Fair and Impartial Policing, LLC for the purpose of supplying training during the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 in an amount not to exceed \$21,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-365 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Administrative Services, Division of Motor Vehicles, to: Wilfred MacDonald, Inc., South Hackensack, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing Jacobsen OEM Replacement Parts for 24 consecutive months in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-366 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to designate the following vehicle as a surplus vehicle and no longer needed for County purposes: 2005 Ford E350 10 Passenger Bus VIN# 1FDWE35P25HA77525 with 195,523 miles.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-367 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to donate the following vehicle: One (1) 2005 Ford E350 10 Passenger Bus, VIN

#1FDWE35P25HA77525 with 195,523 miles, to the Borough of Mountainside as this vehicle is no longer needed for County purposes pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:11-36(2). The Borough of Mountainside will assume all costs incurred with transfer and title.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-368 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award funding for the 2016 Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 to the twenty-one (21) municipalities in the County of Union identified in the attached hereto and made a part hereof.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-369 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra for the performance of a Pops Concert on Friday, June 24, 2016 at Echo Lake Park in the amount of \$35,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-370 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** A Resolution approving the settlement of County of Union v. Amir Karni, Docket No.: UNN-L-703-15, in the amount of \$85,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-371 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2015-798, to increase the appropriation to Palumbo, Renaud & DeAppolonio of Cranford, New Jersey in the matter entitled Fowler v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$616.22 for a final sum not to exceed \$100,616.22.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-372 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-2, a resolution adopting the Meeting Schedule of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholder for the Year of 2016, cancelling the Agenda Setting Session of May 19, 2016 and rescheduling said Agenda Setting Session for May 26, 2016 commencing at 7:00 PM. (The regularly scheduled Regular Meeting will commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session).

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2016-373 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Congratulating Miguel Meireles of Boy Scout Troop 101/Pack 101 of Elizabeth on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-374 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Congratulating Eli Matthew Zidel, Boy Scout Troop 273 of Westfield upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-375 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Congratulating Matthew Eastman, upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-376 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Acknowledging the efforts of the Union County Human Relations Commission and further congratulating the 20 recipients of the 2016 UCHRC Unity Achievement Awards.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-377 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Laudatory Resolution thanking Jane O'Hara for her dedicated public service and wishing her well upon her retirement.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-378 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN: Resolution supporting Assembly Bill #3491, which establishes a Criminal Justice Reform Administration Fund through the increase of certain fees and assessments in criminal proceedings to help fund the costs associated with implementing and administering the criminal justice reform specific to pretrial release and pretrial detention proceedings.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-379 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN: Congratulating each recipient of the 2016 "Young Writers of Union County" Arbor Day Poetry Contest.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-380 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN: Congratulating the recipients of the Union County Club, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. Awards.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting in the affirmative.

2016-381 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Proclaiming the week of May 15 - May 21, 2016 as National Police Week throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella seconded by Freeholder Carter, roll call showed nine members of the Board voting 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.

Councilman Robert Rubino, of Summit, congratulated Freeholder Jalloh on the new addition to his family and wished him health and happiness. He made stated that he acknowledged the progress over the years as the County's budget increases have decreased in percentage over the last several years. He requested the Board ensure the budget be set under the 2% cap, and advised that the Board consider combining the Sheriff Department and the County Police. He suggested the Board allow the Open Space tax sunset at the end of 2019, stating that such monies could be left for the municipalities to aide with their own budget issues.

Dilia Collins, of Clark, advised the Board of her concerns and discouragement relative to te County of Union's relationship with the Home for Good Dog Rescue, specifically as it related to an event that is occurring this weekend at Nomaghen Park in Cranford. She spoke to the sponsorship details as listed by the County's press release. She asked for some clarification as to the County's sponsorship. She made comments relative to the Good Dog Rescue's website as it relates to their efforts with assisting dogs located in North Carolina. She stated that this organization does not take any dogs from Union County. She spoke to the needs of Union County needs. Ms. Collins read a press release from the County with reference to the building of a dog shelter and stated that the Union County rescue group would like to meet with the Board to inform them of what's going on.

Chairman Bergen stated our partnership with Home for Good Dog Rescue is separate and apart from the County's plans for an Animal Shelter. He advised the sponsorship with Home for Good Dog Rescue involves assisting them with a one day event, where the County is supplying chairs and tents and in assisting them to coordinate this one day event. Chairman Bergen said he would be happy to meet with any organization regarding animal assistance in Union County, noting that no other group has requested assistance from the Board since his announcement in January.

Rosa Joseph, of Elizabeth, made comments in reference to Home for Dog Rescue. She stated that she has been with a rescue group for eighteen years and is hopeful that a Union County shelter gets built. She stated that the shelters in the county are overwhelmed, noting

that the Elizabeth shelter is too small for the city's needs, and noted that rescue groups struggles every day to meet the needs of the county. She stated that she had many concerns with any possible plans for the Animal Shelter and stated that she would like to meet with the Board regarding the plans.

Chairman Bergen stated he would be more than happy to meet with any of the groups to discuss their needs.

Margaret McManus, Mayor of Winfield Park, asked the Board to assign an engineer to go out to the county road that surround Winfield Park; especially the County road that runs parallel from Seafoam Avenue to and including Riverview Road. She noted that Freeholder Hudak is a great champion and neighbor to the Winfield community, and hoped he could look into the matter.

Chairman Bergen advised that the County will look into the matter.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to the County taxes and stated that Garwood is scheduled for a reduced tax percentage. He thanked the Board. He made remarks relative to the "Hudak-Patterson" Infrastructure grants, noting that grants should not be matching. He opined that matching grants force towns to raise taxes to meet the required matching funds.

He made comments relative to the development of Center Street and South Avenue intersection, noting that the Casale property will be developed within three years and urged the Board to hold off on the intersection project.

He made comments questioning the Board as to the reason of extending the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund well before it is set to sunset. He made comments as to Freeholder Mirabella's employment as the business administrator of Scotch Plains and his responsibilities as Fiscal Chair of the Freeholder Board.

Mayor Danserau, of Roselle, congratulated Freeholder Jalloh on the birth of his baby. She made remarks in reference to drug addiction rehabilitation centers' issues dealing with the heroine epidemic, noting that the Union County Jail is filled with heroin addicts. She stated that most centers do not have mental health experts or truly qualified rehabilitation specialists. She complimented Senator Lesniak's efforts with the High School Rehabilitation Center. She encouraged Union County to look into creating a quality Rehabilitation Center.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Hudak made comments in reference to the mosquitoes and the Zika virus. He stated that the County has scheduled an educational program for health care facilities, public health professionals, and other agencies serving families in Union County. He stated that the County's Office of Health Management, through the Department of Public Safety, will host an educational program titled "Raising Awareness of Mosquitoes and the Zika Virus on May 10, 2016 at the Cranford Recreation Center at 10am. He advised that the program is designed to provide the latest information on the Zika Virus, offer clinical background of the Zika Virus, as well as learn what Union County Mosquito Control is doing in prevention efforts.

He spoke in reference to the infrastructure matching grants; advising that “matching grants” are good public policy, as it allows for municipalities to double their efforts for such worthwhile projects. He stated that he would like to see the County coordinate a meeting with the Mayor of Winfield regarding the road repair. He stated that the Friends of Linden Animal Shelter has contact him regarding the sponsorship and any such aide that can be given to Union County based organizations. He advised those organizations in the audience of his appreciation for the work they are doing. He stated that he agrees with the speaker that the County has to involve the local organizations as it prepares any plans for a proposed Animal Shelter.

Freeholder Jalloh congratulated all of the municipalities on receiving the infrastructure grants. He stated that, while he served as the 2015 Chairman, Freeholder Hudak approached him with the concept of utilizing funds from the sale of Runnells towards an Infrastructure Grant program. He stated that he disagreed with the speaker’s opinion that matching grants raise local taxes. He stated that with this year being a Presidential election, a greater majority of Union County residents will come to the polls to vote for, or against, any such referendum. He clarified that the Open Space tax is a separate tax and if it is allowed to sunset, municipalities will not be able to utilize those funds for their budgets.

Freeholder Wright made comments in reference to the mobile paper shredding event for confidential personal documents on Friday, April 29, 2016 at Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield. Freeholder Wright congratulated the 2016 Union County Arbor Day Poetry Contest winners.

Freeholder Kowalski thanked all the mayors and municipal officials who came out tonight for the infrastructure grants and all of the students. She stated that three of the Union County Vocational Technical Schools were ranked among the top 50 schools in New Jersey by US News and World Report this week; Union County Magnate High School (ranked 134 nationally and sixth in the state), the Academy for Information Technology, and the Academy for Allied Health Sciences. She noted that she recently met with the Union County Vocational Technical Advisory Board and the school staff, a number of parents and students. She made comments relative to the Earth Day cleanup and thanked the staff, volunteers and environmental organizations for their efforts.

Freeholder Kowalski made reference to the Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP) Funding, which provides assistance with supportive services that enable individuals to live independently while they are employed. She spoke on the programs eligibility requirements.

She congratulated the entire staff of the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs for winning third place in the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey Kevin M. Hale Publication Awards for their great work with the Union County: Across the Centuries booklet.

Freeholder Carter made comments in reference to Union County Women Mean Business Seminar on May 25, 2016 at the Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth. She noted that the featured speaker will be Deborah Vizzi, CEO and President of Unity Foodbank of New Jersey.

Freeholder Estrada commended Acting Director Wagner and her staff in reference to the meetings regarding the Union County Transportation Master Plan. He stated that the Master Plan is critical as it involves a 10 years process and requires residential input. He

stated there are 16 rail stations in Union County, 2,000 bus stops, 1,400 miles of road, 52.5 million tons of domestic freight shipped through the county, 212 miles of sidewalks along county roadways, 450,000 flights in the two airports in Union County. He stated the final draft will be published in four to six weeks and will be available to all the public.

Freeholder Estrada made remarks in reference to the Arbor Day Poetry Contest. He stated that it is great to see the young students so involved and noted that he read all the poems outside the chambers. He commended Freeholder Hudak on his idea of establishing the Infrastructure Grants. He thanked the municipal representatives for attending tonight's meeting.

He stated that Freeholder Mirabella had to leave the meeting but asked him to comment on two Green Events; the 27th Annual Spring Garden Fair on Sunday, May 15th at Trailside Nature and Science Center and the annual Union County Bio-Blitz 2016 on Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11, 2016 in three County Parks: Kawameeh Park in Union Township, Black Brook Park in Kenilworth, and the Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth.

County Manager Faella made remarks in reference Mayor McManus' remarks regarding the county roads repairs. He indicated that the County did send our DPW out and minor repairs were done. He indicated that the County does have a schedule for our roads and that he would meet with Director Graziano tomorrow to see if they can expedite the Winfield road project. He thanked Mayor Dansereau for her comments, and noted as the Chairman indicated, the County does have some programs here in the county, but knows they could always do more.

Vice Chairman Granados stated he had the opportunity, with Freeholder Estrada, to attend a graduation ceremony of We Are One New Jersey Union County of which 105 legal immigrants became US citizens. He added that this is a partnership between the Freeholder Board and the AFLCIO. He also noted that one of the individual who became a citizen was 87 years old.

He stated that on May 1st at 2pm the County will be hosting "Sleeping Beauty" as part of the Sensory Friendly Theater program sponsored by the Union County Freeholder Board.

Chairman Bergen made remarks in reference to Union County Means Green Community Garden Grants. He advised that this grant is a new matching grant program funded by the Freeholder Board and administered by the organization Groundwork Elizabeth. He advised that it is designed to bring the benefits of growing fresh produce to more residents countywide inclusive of improved nutrition, environmental education, recreation, socializing, volunteer opportunities, and neighborhood beautification. He noted that the grants are available to non-profit civic organizations and agencies including historical societies, community centers, senior centers, municipal agencies or departments, and volunteer civic groups.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To the extent known, the following item will be discussed in Executive Session:

- 1) Attorney-Client privileged communication and discussion relative to potential contract negotiations for a Food Truck / Music Carnival 2016.

To the extent known, the following items will be discussed in Executive Session:

County Counsel Barry stated that pursuant to provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act a public body may enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing certain enumerated subjects. He advised that, at this time the Board desired to enter into executive session to discuss Attorney-Client privileged communication and discussion relative to potential contract negotiations for a Food Truck / Music Carnival 2016.

He stated that the minutes of the Executive Session shall be separated from the minutes of the Open Public Session and that the minutes of the Executive Session, redacted as appropriate and necessary, shall be available to the public in approximately thirty days. He stated that the Clerk of the Board shall retain the original minutes until such time as the confidential limitations have been removed, at which time they shall be made available. He stated that upon the Board's return, it will not take formal action on the matters discussed.

Chairman Bergen asked for a motion to enter Executive Session. On a motion made by Freeholder Carter and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 7 members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholder Mirabella and Jalloh not present.

Chairman Bergen asked for a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Carter roll call showed 8 members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholder Mirabella not present.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bergen asked for a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Carter roll call showed 8 members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholder Mirabella not present.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2016 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 3, 2016 at 12:00 pm Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 14, 2016

February 4, 2016
February 18, 2016

March 3, 2016
March 17, 2016

April 7, 2016
April 21, 2016

May 5, 2016
May 19, 2016

June 2, 2016
June 16, 2016

July 14, 2016

August 11 2016

September 8, 2016
September 22, 2016

October 6, 2016
October 20, 2016

November 10, 2016

December 1, 2016
December 15, 2016

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 21, 2016

February 11, 2016
February 18, 2016

March 10, 2016
March 31, 2016

April 14, 2016
April 28, 2016

May 12, 2016
May 26, 2016

June 9, 2016
June 23, 2016

July 21, 2016

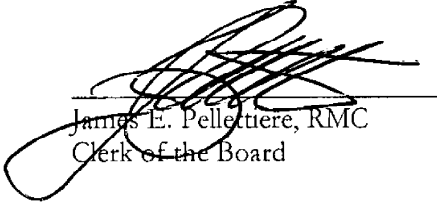
August 18, 2016

September 15, 2016
September 29, 2016

October 13, 2016
October 20, 2016

November 22, 2016 (Tuesday)

December 8, 2016
December 22, 2016


James E. Pelletiere, RMC
Clerk of the Board

JEP