



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed, Chairman Alexander Mirabella, Freeholder Angela R. Garretson, Freeholder Sergio Granados, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, and Freeholder Andrea Staten were present; with Freeholder Sergio Granados and Freeholder Rebecca Williams absent.

Also present were County Manager Edward T. Oatman, County Counsel Bruce H. Bergen Esq., and Clerk of the Board James E. Pellettiere.

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The prayer and salute to the flag were led by Clerk of the Board Pellettiere.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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

Chairman Mirabella addressed the public:

Good evening, and welcome to another remote meeting of the Freeholder Board. As is our custom, we begin with thanks for our community during the COVID-19 outbreak. We have made a lot of progress, but cases in New Jersey and elsewhere are on the rise. Let's all renew our commitment to protect one another during this time of crisis. Wear a mask, observe social distance, and help keep our Union County family safe.

With that, here are some updates on County services related to COVID-19. Just a quick reminder, you can get registration information and other details on the new Union County COVID website, at ucnj.org/covid19. Last week we launched a new initiative called UC-TEST, which will provide pop-up mobile COVID tests for teachers and staff in school districts throughout the County, on a twice-a-month basis. I would like to thank the Union County Education Association for partnering with us on this important new service. The Mobile Test Unit also continues to offer free tests to the public, and our free Drive-Through COVID-19 Test Center continues to operate every Monday and Thursday

I would also like to remind everyone that local restaurants can now apply for funding through Union County's new COVID-19 Emergency Restaurant Grant program. The grant program is funded through the federal CARES Act, and it provides reimbursement for expenses related to compliance with Governor Murphy's Executive Orders on restaurant operations during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The online application portal opened yesterday morning, and you can ucnj.org/restaurant-grant to apply.

And, for emergency food assistance during the crisis, our next food distribution event will take place this Saturday, October 17 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Union County Vocational Technical High School, located at 1776 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. No registration is required and the event will take place rain or shine.

*Turning now to our Parks Department, we are carefully resuming some group activities in our parks, with careful modifications for COVID prevention. Tomorrow there will be a wonderful exhibit of recycled artwork at the Sensory Friendly Trail, which is located at the County's Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside. We are also looking forward to the latest in our series of drive-up concerts, featuring Southside Johnny. Our next drive-up movie was scheduled for tomorrow evening, but due to the weather report we have shifted it to Sunday, October 18. We'll be screening the film *Bohemian Rhapsody* in celebration of LGBTQ History Month, so please come and enjoy a great musical experience and an inspiring life story. You can find registration information for both of these events on the County website.*

Finally, I am happy to report that the third episode of "OUT in Union County: Queer Empowerment Hour" is coming up on Wednesday, October 28. Queer Empowerment Hour is Union County's online space for you to connect with the community, and hear from New Jersey's most dedicated LGBTQ+ advocates and allies. On October 28, the discussion will focus on transgender identity and inclusion, so please be sure to join in. For more details, visit ucnj.org/lgbtq. And now, let's begin the business part of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairman Mirabella advised that the Communications would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Nicole DiRado, Administrator

1. Amending Resolution Number 2020-383, a contract with ES&S, Omaha, Nebraska for the purposes of providing additional onsite election resources for the 2020 General Election and to increase the contract amount by \$20,400.00, for a

total contract amount not to exceed \$60,400.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Chairman Mirabella asked Administrator DiRado to elaborate on the item.

Administrator DiRado advised that as is customary, the initial item being amended would allow for an ES&S technician to be onsite and provide assistance as necessary while ballots were being tabulated. She advised that due to COVID-19 and the subsequent Executive Orders, the Board of Elections would be allowed to start counting ballots ten days before Election Day and would require additional onsite support from the vendor until the election is certified on November 20th.

Chairman Mirabella inquired about the process of other counties throughout the state and whether or not their process was similar.

Administrator DiRado advised that other counties customarily had onsite resources to assist with tabulation matters, adding that she expected they had secured additional onsite resources to assist with this particular election.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Amending resolution 2019-889 to extend the NJ Department of State 2020 Complete Count Commission County Grants Program Agreement through October 15, 2020 with no other changes to the contract. Further, authorizing the County Manager to extend U.S. Census Bureau complete count 2020 Census in-field operations as the Census Bureau has revised their deadline for field work and self-response to end October 15, 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
2. Resolution of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board approval to amend the Program Year 2019 Union County Workforce Area Budget, through UCWDB Resolution No. 2020-17, in order to create indirect budget accounts and to deposit funds into said accounts, specifically for WorkFirst New Jersey and Workforce Learning Link grant funds, in accordance with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Final Rules and in accordance with 20 C.F.R. 679.370(i). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
3. Resolution of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board approval to amend the Program Year 2020 Union County Workforce Area Budget, through UCWDB Resolution No. 2020-18, in accordance with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Final Rules; WorkFirst New Jersey Funding Regulations; and the Workforce Learning Link program requirements. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENTJoseph Graziano, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution Supporting the Township of Springfield NJDOT Transportation Alternative Grant Application for streetscape improvements along Mountain Avenue (CR 635) between Morris Avenue (RT124) and Wabeno Avenue in Springfield. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
2. Amending Resolution Number 2020- 691, adopted October 1, 2020, BA#48-2018, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Maffey's Security Group, Elizabeth, New Jersey, to change the chargeable budget account numbers for the Sheriff's Office only. Original bid term of November 9, 2020 through November 8, 2022 and contract amount, not to exceed \$487,500.00 will remain the same. **(Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
3. Resolution granting permission to the Borough of Roselle Park to hang a banner across Chestnut Street advertising the Borough's Fall 2020 Borough-Wide Garage Sale from October 5, 2020 until October 19, 2020. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCEBibi Taylor, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$54,512.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Cares Act Social Services for the Homeless SSH-CRF- RA. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
2. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$583,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department Human Services, Division of Family Development for a Program Entitled: Cares Act Social Services CRF Grant. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Chairman Mirabella asked for confirmation that these items related to the receipt of grant funding and would not affect the overall budget.

Director Taylor confirmed that these items did related grant funding and would not affect the tax levy.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICESDebbie-Ann Anderson, Director

1. Amending Resolution Number 2020-522 to extend the 2019-20 Union County Homeless Trust Fund (HTF) Program Spending Plan for a three (3) month period through December 31, 2020 and change the account to T-03-56-850-585-001; with no change to the budget. **(Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

2. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and execute the FY2021 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) contract in the amount of \$222,933.00 from the NJ Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA) for the grant period of October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 for the purpose of providing community programming for low income residents of Union County, and to recognize and accept that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from NJDCA, does further authorize the execution of any such agreement. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to The Mount Olive Baptist Church, Plainfield, New Jersey for the period of November 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$17,000.00, to provide warming center services for homeless individuals on Union County designated Code Blue Nights. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded inquired about COVID-19 protocols in these warming centers.

Director Anderson advised that warming centers would be reduced to 25% of usual capacity, noting the vendor would be able to accommodate between 35-40 people. She further advised that thorough routine cleaning of the facility and mask mandates had been imposed at the facility, among other protocols to ward against COVID-19.

Chairman Mirabella inquired about the potential to secure additional warming facilities to contend with the reduction in capacity at the existing sites.

Director Anderson advised that with the assistance of County Manager Oatman and Deputy County Manager Wagner as well as the Departments of Emergency Management and Public Safety, her Department was actively pursuing the possibility of securing additional facilities to increase capacity.

4. Amending Resolution Number 2020-631 increasing funds for year 2 of the Union County Division on Aging 2019-2021 Area Plan Contract, commencing January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the additional amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 to reflect a new total of \$6,107,453.00. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**
5. Amending Resolution 2020-147, a contract with MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY, for the continued provision of Paratransit Service, to reflect an adjustment to the appropriation accounts with no change in the total amount of the award. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**
6. Amending Resolution 2019-1055 for the 2019 Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) Spending Plan to reflect an additional award of funds in the amount of \$106,000 for a new grand total contract amount not to exceed \$1,686,000.00, as outlined in the attached spending plan for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
7. Amending Resolution Number 2020-648, to reflect an extension to a contract awarded to Prevention Links, Inc., of Roselle, NJ to provide operation services to the mandated Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC) for the County of

Union, for an additional three (3) months for a new contract term of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 and to reflect additional dollars in the amount of \$20,000.00 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$82,808.00. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Freeholder Staten asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised that relative to COVID-19, the IDRC program was transitioned into a virtual format, allowing for an increase in capacity and services, noting the extension of the program until the end of 2020 with Prevention Links, Inc.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Ron Zuber, Director

Michael Brennan, Director of Park Maintenance, represented the Department.

1. 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 Parks and Recreation: The LandTek Group Inc., Bay Shore, NY, for the purpose of providing installation of artificial turf baseball field at Snyder Avenue Park, Berkeley Heights, in the amount of \$1,843,543.00 (includes \$400,000.00 contingency. **(Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski)**)

Director Brennan advised that the contingency amount was reserved to address unforeseen issues that could arise as work progressed, including remediation work resulting from contaminated soil samples. He further advised that certain preliminary testing had been conducted and that the contingency amount was a standard amount established by the vendor for relative work.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Andrew Moran, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manger to apply, accept, and expend the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety Drug Recognition Expert Callout Grant Program to assist Law Enforcement Agencies in reducing drug-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities, for the grant period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 in the amount of \$56,625.00. **(Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to accept, and expend, the 2020-2021 Union County STEP Sustained Traffic Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$65,000.00, awarded through the NJ Division of Highway Safety. **(Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for, accept, and expend the Comprehensive Traffic Safety Program (CTSP) for a total amount not to exceed \$78,560.00 **(Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSELBruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with The Weiner Law Group, LLP, of Parsippany, NJ, as Special Counsel to the County to provide legal services of a specialized nature by way of advice and guidance to the County Manager as concerns various potential shared services agreements, in the amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
2. Resolution authorizing the County Manager to appoint Kologi Simitz, Linden, NJ to represent the County of Union in the matter entitled Franny Cartagena v. County of Union, et al. in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGEREdward Oatman, County Manager

1. Amending Resolution Number 2020-607, to increase the total funding for the Union County School District Grant Program by an additional amount of \$741,900.00 for a total funding amount of not to exceed \$4,741,900.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**
2. Amending Resolution Number 2020-608, to increase the total funding for the Union County Public Libraries Relief Grant Program by an additional amount of \$559.38 for a total funding amount of not to exceed \$500,559.38. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**
3. Resolution approving amendment to Resolutions 2020-396; 2020-607; 2020-608 and 2020-633 to allow for the modification of the CARES Grant Agreements with municipalities, school districts, libraries and non-profit organizations to end December 30, 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**

Chairman Mirabella asked County Manager Oatman to confirm that item was meant to extend grant funding opportunities until the end of the year.

County Manager Oatman confirmed that this item would allow for necessary modifications to be made to existing agreements to ensure compliance and maximize assistance to residents in need.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution sponsoring the Town of Westfield's AddamsFest to be held on October 18, 2020 in the amount of not to exceed \$1,500. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados & The Entire Board)**
2. Resolution sponsoring ElizabethStrong's Box Car Movie Nights to be held on October 24, 2020 and November 7, 2020 in the amount of \$1,500. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados & The Entire Board)**

3. Authorizing the County Manager to award Kids Recreation Trust 2020 grants to nineteen (19) municipalities in the County of Union, in accordance with the Kids Recreation Trust grant criteria, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$1,036,786.04. **(Freeholder Christopher Hudak & The Entire Board)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to award Greening Union County 2020 grants to fourteen (14) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the Greening Union County grant criteria, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$102,250.00. **(Freeholder Christopher Hudak & The Entire Board)**
5. Authorizing the County Manager to cancel unused grant awards, awarded through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and further approving Changes of Scopes to nine (9) municipalities in the amount of \$1,470,732.94. This amendment provides no additional funds to be awarded. **(Freeholder Christopher Hudak & The Entire Board)**
6. Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Karen Sheehy during their time of sorrow. **(Freeholder Christopher Hudak & The Entire Board)**
7. Resolution acknowledging and commending the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Central New Jersey Chapter, a subordinate chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., on their inaugural charter on October 18, 2020. **(Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams & The Entire Board)**
8. Resolution recognizing the Township of Scotch Plains upon their Columbus Day Celebration on Saturday October 10, 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella & The Entire Board)**
9. Resolution congratulating Union County College President Maggie McMenamin on her recognition by the Association of Community College Trustees with the Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Officer Award. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella & The Entire Board)**

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Mirabella asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Staten a voice vote showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados and Freeholder Williams absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 P.M.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that meetings are regularly held on Thursday evenings. Agenda Setting Sessions and Regular Meetings are held at 6:30 PM 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 6:30 PM 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 5, 2020 at 12:00 pm
 Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 23, 2020

January 23, 2020

February 6, 2020
 February 20, 2020

February 6, 2020
 February 20, 2020

March 5, 2020
 March 26, 2020

March 5, 2020
 March 26, 2020

April 2, 2020
 April 23, 2020

April 2, 2020
 April 23, 2020

May 14, 2020
 May 21, 2020

May 14, 2020
 May 21, 2020

June 4, 2020
 June 18, 2020

June 4, 2020
 June 18, 2020

July 23, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 13, 2020

August 13, 2020

September 3, 2020
 September 10, 2020

September 3, 2020
 September 10, 2020

October 1, 2020
 October 15, 2020

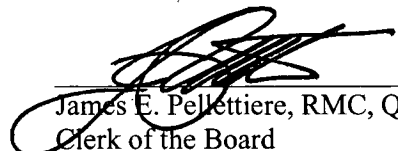
October 1, 2020
 October 15, 2020

November 5, 2020
 November 12, 2020

November 5, 2020
 November 12, 2020

December 3, 2020
 December 10, 2020

December 3, 2020
 December 10, 2020


 James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA
 Clerk of the Board