



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:01 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 Andrea Staten, and Freeholder Rebecca Williams were present; with Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Moued 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.

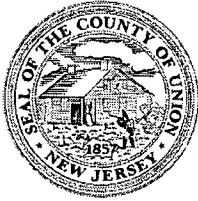
Chairman Mirabella addressed the public:

Good evening, and welcome to another remote meeting of the Freeholder Board.

As is our custom, on behalf of the Freeholder Board I would also like to thank everyone in the Union County community for working together during the COVID-19 outbreak.

I also want to thank the many Union County residents who observed Veterans Day. The Freeholder Board is continually seeking ways to support and appreciate our veterans throughout the year, so I would like to draw your attention to new veteran's parking spaces at nine different Union County parks and buildings. These are designated by special signs, and they can be used by military veterans who display a placard. To apply for a placard, please visit the Office of Veterans Services online at ucnj.org/hero, or call the Office Coordinator, Janna Williams, at 908-527-4918.

On behalf of the Freeholder Board, I would also like to wish everyone a happy, and safe, Thanksgiving. I urge everyone to take all the recommended precautions



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On behalf of the Freeholder Board, I would also like to wish everyone a happy, and safe, Thanksgiving. I urge everyone to take all the recommended precautions

against COVID-19 when gathering with family and friends. Wear masks, observe social distance, and let's all do our best to protect the entire Union County family.

With that in mind, I would like to remind everyone that we provide free COVID tests and free flu tests, all on one swab, at the Drive-Through Test Center at Kean University in Union Township. Our Mobile Test Unit also brings free walk-up COVID tests to communities throughout Union County. You can find more details on the County website, at ucnj.org/covid19.

I also want to thank officials in all of the 21 municipalities for collaborating with us on the delivery of thousands of free surgical masks this week. So far this year we have delivered 190,000 free masks, which the municipalities distribute to their residents based on local priorities.

For Union County residents in need of food assistance, our next drive-up food distribution event will be in Scotch Plains on Saturday, November 14. We also have a walk-up food distribution event taking place on the 14th, in Plainfield. And, there will be another food distribution event at Kean University on Saturday, November 21. Thanks to many donors, we have been able to provide more than 700,000 meals to assist our residents during the pandemic, and we anticipate that the number will rise to 1 million before Thanksgiving.

In order to provide further assistance to residents who are impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, we have also designated a total of \$1,350,000 in federal CARES Act funding, to provide a minimum of three months of rent to eligible renters. The application process for rental assistance will open on Monday, November 16. If you have any questions or would like to apply, please check the County website for more details on Monday.

Just a quick reminder before we wrap up this part of the meeting, during the pandemic we continue to offer online programs that help residents from all walks of life stay connected with each other, and with the Union County community.

On Monday, November 16, there will be an online celebration of women's leadership in New Jersey and the 100th anniversary of the right to vote. The event features First Lady Tammy Murphy and a distinguished list of panelists, including Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi and Union County College President Dr. Margaret McMenamin.

Coming up on Saturday, November 21 is another installment of our "Virtual Saturdays" program for Union County families with special needs children.

And on Wednesday, November 25, our Queer Empowerment Hour discussion series continues with contributions from straight friends and advocates.

For more details and registration information on all of these programs, visit the County website at ucnj.org.

And to our military veterans, on behalf of the Freeholder Board, thank you again for your service, and for all of your contributions to the Union County community.

And now, let's begin the business of this evening's meeting.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

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

OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY CLERK

Joanne Rajoppi, County Clerk

Deputy County Clerk Clara C. Fernandez represented the Office.

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Wisolmerski Associates, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida, for the purpose of providing technical support to the recording, indexing and accounting systems of the Office of the County Clerk for the contract period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$44,350.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to amend resolution 2020-479 to accept decreased funds extended from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and to expend funds as specified in the attached approval for the CDBG and HOME Fiscal Year (2020) Reductions of \$670.00 for a total fund of \$6,824,654.00 **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Joseph Graziano, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to submit a grant application, on behalf of the County of Union, and if awarded, to enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) – 2021 Local Bridges, Future Needs Program – LBFN 2021-00013 for the Replacement of Caldwell Place Minor Bridge, over Stream 10-35-5, SP-37, Structure 2017037, Township of Springfield, County of Union, New Jersey (Union County Engineering Project Number 2017-016) **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

2. Authorizing the County Manager to submit a grant application, on behalf of the County of Union, and if awarded, to enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) – 2021 Local Bridges, Future Needs Program – LBFN 2021-00016 for the Replacement of Watchung Avenue Minor Bridge, over Stream 10-7-22, Pl-18, Structure 2012008, City of Plainfield, County of Union, New Jersey (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-040) **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to submit a grant application, on behalf of the County of Union, and if awarded, to enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) – 2021 Local Bridges, Future Needs Program – LBFN 2021-00014 for the Replacement of Martine Avenue Minor Bridge, over Stream 10-7-22-1 Sc-22, Structure 2016022, Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey (Union County Engineering Project Number 2013-025). **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to submit a grant application, on behalf of the County of Union, and if awarded, to enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) – 2021 Local Bridges, Future Needs Program – LBFN 2021-00015 for the Replacement of Myrtle Avenue Minor Bridge, over Stream 10-25, We-16, Structure 2020016, Town of Westfield, County of Union, New Jersey (Union County Engineering Project Number 2018-024). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
5. Amending Resolution Number 2019-500 adopted June 20, 2019, (BA# 16-2019) a contract awarded through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to T.R. Weniger, Inc. of Piscataway, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 for the 2018 Bridge Improvement Project, County of Union, New Jersey. This change order will increase the amended contract amount by \$95,000.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$971,970.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2017-024) **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
6. Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Foggia Trinity Electric, LLC of Scotch Plains, New Jersey for the Intersection Improvements at River Road (CR649), Chatham Road and Miele Place, City of Summit, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$360,188.36 (BA# 15-2020; Union County Engineering Project # 2017-007). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Bibi Taylor, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$180,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey,

Department of Environmental Protection for a program entitled: County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) Grant. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

2. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$300,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Workforce Development for a program entitled: DOL COVID- 19 Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG) New Jersey Endures. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Chairman Mirabella asked Director Taylor to confirm that these items reflected receipt of grants.

Director Taylor confirmed this to be the case.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into agreement with Visual Computer Solutions, Inc., Freehold, NJ to provide maintenance for the Division of Social Services employees for the services of Time Management System/Time Clock for the period of December 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$2,922.50 to be charged to Account number 0-01-27-790-128-649. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to accept funding and execute the FY2022 Alliance Grant to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program Grant contract in the amount of \$244,862 from the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) for the grant period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for the purpose of providing prevention of alcohol and drug abuse in local municipalities in Union County. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to award FY2022 Alliance Program funding subcontracts for a 12-month budget cycle from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$244,862.00 as specified in the attached spending plan; and to further authorize the County Manager to transfer funds among the municipalities listed during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the listed municipality/agencies fail to meet contractual obligation. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to endorse the Union County 2020-2023 Comprehensive Alcohol and Drug Abuse Plan as required and to apply, accept and execute the CY2021 Alcoholism/Drug Abuse (A/DA) contract in the amount of \$983,736.00 from the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for the grant period of January 1, 2021-through December 31, 2021 for the purpose of providing residents of Union County with mental health/substance abuse prevention education/early intervention, and treatment for those living in poverty and/or without insurance. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**

5. Authorize the County Manager to designate the Union County Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC), under the Union County Department of Human Services, Division of Individual & Family Support Services, located at Administration Building, 4th Floor, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ 07207 for the purpose of providing State-mandated 12 -Hour education, alcohol/drug substance abuse evaluation, and treatment referral for persons charged and/or convicted of Driving While Intoxicated/Driving Under the Influence as required by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Intoxicated Driving Program for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022 at no cost to the County. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
6. Authorize the County Manager to designate and enter into agreement with Straight and Narrow, Inc., located at 182 First Street, Passaic, NJ for the purpose of providing State-mandated 48-Hour education, alcohol/drug substance abuse evaluation, and treatment referral for persons charged and/or convicted of second or repeat Driving While Intoxicated/Driving Under the Influence as required by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Intoxicated Driving Program for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022 at no cost to the County. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
7. Amending Resolution Number 2020-739 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 an additional amount not to exceed \$44,565.00 to reflect a new total of \$6,152,018.00. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**
8. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract agreement with Unitronix Data Systems, Raritan, New Jersey, to provide software License and Software Maintenance for the Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services in an amount not to exceed \$130,508.52 for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. A Resolution Approving a Settlement in the matter entitled Deandra Wallace v. Union County Department of Corrections, et al. Docket No. UNN-L-697-19, in the amount not to exceed \$80,000.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
2. Approving a list of Pre- Qualified Attorneys for Redevelopment Counsel Services. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
3. Resolution appointing Redevelopment Counsel, for the UC County Government Complex in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

County Counsel Bergen advised that items no. 2 & 3 related to pre-qualifying law firms and appointing new counsel to the redevelopment project as the original attorney involved withdrew relative to a conflict of interest.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGEREdward Oatman, County Manager

1. Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into COVID-19 Rest Easy Caregivers Grant Agreements with Union County Non-Medical Respite Care Providers to Family Caregivers with In Home Care, for a total funding amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for the period of November 6, 2020 through December 30, 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella & The Entire Board)**

Freeholder Granados asked County Manager Oatman to elaborate on this great initiative.

County Manager Oatman referred to Director Anderson.

Director Anderson advised that this initiative would extend caregivers an opportunity to take a break from the challenging demands of their jobs while also ensuring proper care of their patients. She noted that this would also be extended to families with children suffering from developmental issues.

2. Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to Resolution 2020-710 Approving Emergency Restaurant Grant Agreements by Expanding the Eligible Reimbursement Period to April 1, 2020 to December 15, 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella & The Entire Board)**

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

1. **FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution recognizing and congratulating the honorees of Hispanic Law Enforcement Association of Union County (HLEAUC): Louis DeMondo, Leadership Award; Linda Flores-Tober, Community Partnership Award; Carmen Rivera, Community Service Award and Michelle Salermo, Humanitarian Award. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados & The Entire Board)**

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 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 6:30pm 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 6:30pm 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

* March 18, 2020 Special Meeting at 5:30pm was held via conference call due to state of emergency relative to the COVID-19 coronavirus.

** Meeting conducted remotely and electronically due to state of emergency relative to the COVID-19 coronavirus.

*** Meeting cancelled.



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