



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:42 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, Freeholder Andrea Staten, Freeholder Rebecca Williams were present; with Vice Chairman Angel G. Estrada absent.

Also present were County Manager Edward T. Oatman, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, 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.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Freeholder Williams and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Thursday, April 2, 2020 - Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, April 2, 2020 - Regular Meeting
3. Thursday, April 23, 2020 - Agenda Setting Session
4. Thursday, April 23, 2020 - Regular Meeting

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to approve the April Minutes. On a motion made by Freeholder Williams and seconded by Freeholder Staten, roll call eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative for all April Minutes; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION

813-2020 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION" BY AMENDING: PART 1-THE UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, CHAPTER 1, UNION COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, ARTICLE III, BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS §1-13 POWERS OF THE BOARD; AND, ARTICLE XXIII, OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL §1-139, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union that the "Laws of Union County" are hereby amended as outlined in the attached Schedule A:

SCHEDULE A**PART I -
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE****Chapter 1, UNION COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE**

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union 4-28-1976 by Ord. No. 1; amended in its entirety by Ord. No. 9-1984. Subsequent amendments noted where applicable.]

ARTICLE III, Board of Chosen Freeholders

[Amended 12-19-2019 by Ord. 811-2019]

§ 1-13. Powers of Board.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders, in its dual role as an area-wide agency of state government empowered to administer state functions within the County and as an instrumentality of the people to provide area-wide services for their use and benefit:

- A. Shall appoint a County Manager in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, County Manager, § 1-24. [Amended 8-21-1997 by Ord. No. 454]
- B. Shall appoint a Clerk of the Board, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board or for such term not to exceed three years and keep the records and minutes of the Board.
- C. Shall appoint a County Counsel to serve at the pleasure of the Board, who shall head the Office of County Counsel, and such Deputy and Assistant County Counsel as the County Counsel shall recommend and the Board

approves. [Amended 8-21-1997 by Ord. No. 454; 6-10-1999 by Ord. No. 499; 1-4-2009 by Ord. 680-2009; Amended 2020, by Ord.]

ARTICLE XXIII, Office of the County Counsel

[Amended 11-30-1985 by Ord. No. 232; 9-10-1987 by Ord. No. 275; 6-14-1988 by Ord. No. 297; 7-18-1991 by Ord. No. 337; 6-20-2002 by Ord. No. 553; 9-13-2018 by Ord. 797-2018; Amended 2020- by Ord.]

§ 1-139. Functions and responsibilities of the County Counsel.

A. The County Counsel shall be the head of the Office of County Counsel and shall be responsible to the Board for its operation. He shall be appointed by the Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The County Counsel shall have at least five (5) years' experience as a practicing attorney licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting was opened to the public for the purpose of commenting on Ordinance 813-2020 being offered for adoption only.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, asked for additional information relative to this item.

County Manager Oatman advised that the revision would establish the position of County Counsel, which previously was a 3-year term, to serve at the will of Board.

Freeholder Rebecca Williams, Policy Chair, moved Ordinance Number 813-2019 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

On a motion made by Freeholder Williams and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

814-2020 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARY FOR COUNTY COUNSEL**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARY FOR COUNTY COUNSEL**

Be It Ordained by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union as follows:

Section 1. The salary for County Counsel shall be as hereinafter set forth and shall be effective as of June 1, 2020.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the time and manner provided by law.

Section 3. That the Clerk of this Board be and he is hereby authorized to publish a notice in the appropriate newspaper of such Introduction and of a public hearing on May 21, 2020, and shall forward one certified copy of final passage to each Clerk of all Municipalities located within the County of Union.

Position	2020 Salary
County Counsel	175,000

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting was opened to the public for the purpose of commenting on Ordinance 814-2020 being offered for adoption only.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, asked about the current salary amount as well as the revised salary. He also made comments relate to the 0% tax increase and thanked the Board for their hard work in achieving that feat.

County Manager Oatman advised that the current salary of \$179,996 was being reduced to \$175,000.

Freeholder Sergio Granados, Fiscal Chair, moved Ordinance Number 814-2019 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Williams, roll called show eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

2020 BUDGET TITLE & COLA/CAP BANK RESOLUTIONS

The meeting was open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Resolution Numbers 2020-364 & 2020-365. Resolution Number 2020-364 allows governments to adopt the budget by title, rather than reading each line item of the budget; and further declares that the public hearing conditions set forth in N.J.S.A.:40A:4-8(1a)(1b) have been satisfied. Resolution Number 2020-364 authorizes the County to exceed the County tax levy limit and to establish a CAP Bank as allowed by state statute.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made additional comments relative to the CAP bank and its use amidst cash surplus and COVID-19 stimulus monies.

2020-364 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution determining that the 2020 Union County Budget shall be read by title and declaring that the public hearing conditions set forth pursuant to N.J.S.A.:40A: 4-8(1a)(1b) have been satisfied.

On a motion made by Freeholder Hudak and seconded by Freeholder Granados, roll called show eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

2020-365 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Resolution to exceed the County tax levy limit and to establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.14).

On a motion made by Freeholder Hudak and seconded by Freeholder Granados, roll called show eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

2020 UNION COUNTY BUDGET ADOPTION RESOLUTION

Chairman Mirabella spoke relative to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on residents and business owners, noting he had urged Fiscal Chairman Granados and County Manager Oatman to tighten the budget to achieve a zero percent tax increase. He noted that the task was not an easy one to achieve and thanked Finance Director Taylor, County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner and all the other staff that would tirelessly to achieve the goal. He added that the 2020 Budget continued to fund all essential services, with no layoffs, while also maintaining the County's bond rating which is the highest attainable.

Fiscal Chairman Sergio Granados addressed the public:

As the 2020 Chairman of the Fiscal Committee, I have helped lead the review of this year's budget over the past few months and we are ready to pass tonight.

We know our residents and businesses have been hurt by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we have announced a zero percent increase in Union County's 2020 budget. This is the first zero percent budget in nearly 20 years.

We worked hard to build a budget that would fund the response, avoid layoffs, maintain essential services, and hold the bottom line. We are also maintaining our credit rating, which is the highest obtainable.

During the next several months, we will receive sharply less or nothing from the County's top revenue sources, including our parks, golf courses, and Sheriff's sales. Even the fees we receive from the County Clerk's Office will be sharply less.

At the same time, we have millions in expenses due to the COVID-19 Emergency response.

We had to take a number of steps to get to zero:

We implemented a County-wide hiring freeze and eliminated all funded vacancies (non-public safety) in the budget; reviewed the budget line-by-line for savings and asked departments to make cut backs; used millions in funds from our surplus account.

In other areas, we realized savings from the elimination of many county programs and events due to the Covid-19 emergency. Due to the partial shutdown of government services, we also saved money on certain operational expenses, including fuel, and things like that. The COVID-19 emergency has created a tremendous challenge, but I am pleased to report that we have a great County team and we all came together to meet our goal.

In closing, I would like to thank my colleagues on the Freeholder Fiscal Committee: Freeholders Christopher Hudak, Rebecca Williams, and Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded.

I would also like to thank County Manager Edward Oatman, Deputy County Manager Amy Wagner and Finance Director Bibi Taylor and her staff for leading the effort. I would also like to thank all the County Directors who were asked to adjust their budgets accordingly.

Finally, I wish to thank all the County employees who have continued to come to work and serve the public throughout this emergency.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2020 UNION COUNTY BUDGET

The meeting was opened to the public for the purpose of commenting on the 2020 Union County Budget resolution only. This public comment portion is the official Public Hearing on the 2020 Union County Budget.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, thanked the Board for achieving the zero tax impact. He made comments relative to additional savings that could be realized. He cited various decreases in revenue as a result of COVID-19.

Mr. Hann asked how long the hiring freeze would remain in place.

County Manager Oatman advised that the hiring freeze would remain in place for the foreseeable future and would remain in place for as long as necessary. He added that he expected it to be in place until the end of the calendar year.

Dennis Taft thanked the Board, County Manager Oatman, and the entire county staff for their hard and diligent work achieving a 0% tax increase.

2020-366 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Resolution Adopting the 2020 County of Union Budget.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the board voting in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

PRESENTATION BY THE BOARD

A Presentation was made relative to the 2020 Union County Infrastructure Grant awards.

Freeholder Granados announced the sixth year of the Infrastructure Grant Programs, announcing yet another award of \$1.5 million to all 21 municipalities. He recognized Freeholder Hudak who conceived of the program in 2015.

Freeholder Hudak spoke relative to the Infrastructure Grant Program, noting the program aimed to promote economic development growth and improvements throughout the County. He thanked the Fiscal Committee, chaired by Freeholder Granados, as well as Freeholders Palmieri-Mouded and Williams. He also thanked Deputy County Manager Wagner and Kathleen Addressa for their diligent work relative to the program.

Berkeley Heights: \$60,000 – Roadway Improvements to Plainfield Ave
Clark: \$50,000 – Roadway Improvements (Denman Ave, Evans Terrace...)
Cranford: \$87,500.00 – Brookside Place Drainage
Elizabeth: \$130,000- Pine Street Parking Lot
Fanwood: \$50,000- Paterson Road, Phase 2 and Ridgeway Improvements
Garwood: \$35,000 – Sidewalk, Tree Repairs, Sanitary Sewers
Hillside: \$55,000 – Orchard Street Terrace Drainage Improvements
Kenilworth: \$65,000 – Records Management Scanning
Linden: \$97,500 – Resurfacing of East Linden Ave
Mountainside: \$50,000 – Borough Hall Safety Upgrades; Resurfacing Dunn Parkway
New Providence: \$50,000 – Municipal Roadway Project
Plainfield: \$110,000 – Roadway Improvement Project for Prospect Avenue
Rahway: \$90,000 – Municipal Roadway Paving Project
Roselle: \$60,000 – Columbus Avenue Roadway Improvements
Roselle Park: \$55,000 – Improvements to West Sumner Avenue; ADA Improvements at Municipal Complex
Scotch Plains: \$100,000 – Roadway Assistance Program
Springfield: \$57,500 – Tooker Ave Improvements
Summit: \$90,000 – Huntley Road Area Improvement Project; City Hall Records Management Improvement Project
Union: \$95,000 – Township Road Rehabilitation Project
Westfield: \$97,500 – Improvement to North Chestnut Street
Winfield: \$10,000 – Street Signs, Salt Spreader, Surveillance Camera

SUSPENSION OF RULES

Suspension of the rules allowed for the joining of both Public Comments on resolutions being offered for adoption, and Public Comments on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion for the Suspension of Rules. On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Hudak roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments and asked questions relative to several resolutions. Relative to Reso 2020-371, made comments relative to the increasing costs of the dispatch center. Relative to Reso 2020-373, he made comments to the cited amount and requested the resolution be more thoroughly considered. Relative to Reso 2020-379, he inquired about the disposal of the land. Relative to Reso 2020-381, he asked for additional information relative to the spraying and potential hazards. Relative to Reso 2020-396, he asked for additional information.

Relative to Reso 2020-371, Director Moran advised that shared services allowed for municipalities to save tax dollars that could be used elsewhere. He also added that the dispatch center could better coordinate these services. He noted that other Counties were also expanding their shared services, which required an expansion of space. He noted that Union County was expanding by using existing space which would save money that could be employed elsewhere.

Relative to Reso 2020-373, Director Taylor advised that this item related to the selling of bonds for previously authorized improvement projects as far back as 2003.

Relative to Reso 2020-379, County Counsel Barry advised that the land would be sold.

Relative to Reso 2020-381, Director Graziano advised that the chemicals were not harmful to residents or animals.

Relative to Reso 2020-396, County Manager Oatman advised that agreements were being thoroughly reviewed to determine how these funds could be spent. He added that the federal government would also be overseeing the distribution and use of these funds.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

- 2020-367 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement for Tuberculosis Services with the New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute for a one-year period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$89,624.94.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-368 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend the New Jersey Department of Health Grant Award for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (LINCS Grant) in the amount of \$298,072 for a contract period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-369 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for, accept and expend a grant award from the NJ Department of Health for continuing the Right to Know compliance program in Union County in an amount not to exceed \$16,401.00 from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-370 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bid: BA 10-2020, in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Public Safety: Beyer Ford, Morristown, New Jersey, for the purpose of purchasing one Ford F450 cab & chassis in the amount of \$36,668.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-371 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to amend resolution 2020-223, an agreement with PS&S, Warren, NJ, to alter the scope of the project regarding the expansion of the Union County Dispatch Center, Froehlich Bldg, Westfield, in the additional amount of \$57,698.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$310,053.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-372 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution approving a plan amendment to the 457B Deferred Compensation Plan to add provisions under the CARES ACT.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-373 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution authorizing the publication, printing and distribution of a Notice of Sale and the publication of a Summary Notice of Sale and prescribing the forms thereof for \$59,700.00 bonds consisting of \$53,960,000

General Improvement Bonds of 2020, \$1,840,000 County Vocational-Technical School Bonds of 2020, (New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act) and \$3,900,000 County College Bonds of 2020, each issue date June 15, 2020, approving the preparation, distribution and execution of a preliminary and final official statement for such bonds, undertaking to provide continuing disclosure of financial information, covenanting to comply with the internal revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and authorizing various matters in connection with electronic bidding for the bonds.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-374 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution combining several authorizations of bonds into a single issue and prescribing the details and bond form thereof for \$53,960,000 General Improvement Bonds of 2020 dated June 15, 2020.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-375 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution combining several authorizations of bonds into a single issue and prescribing the details and bond form thereof for \$1,840,000 County Vocational-Technical School Bonds of 2020 (New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act) dated June 15, 2020.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-376 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution combining several authorizations of Bonds into a single issue and prescribing the details and Bond form thereof for \$3,900,000 County College Bonds of 2020 dated June 15, 2020.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-377 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for, accept and execute the FY2020 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) COVID-19 CARES Act funding in the amount of \$430,446 from NJ Department of Community Affairs (NJDCa) for the grant period of April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022 for the purpose of providing community programming for low income residents of Union County, and would also 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.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-378 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2020-189, extending a contract to Prevention Links of Roselle for professional services in the form of licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselors (LCADC) to provide clinical assessment, referral and program compliance for the Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC), to further extend the contract by two (2) months for a new contract period of January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, and to reflect additional contract dollars in the amount of \$12,015 for a new contract total not to exceed \$43,015.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-379 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution supporting pre-application to New Jersey State House Commission, pursuant to NJDEP/Green Acres regulations, for disposal of a quarter acre of contaminated land in Passaic River Park in Berkeley Heights, NJ.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-380 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Resolution re-appointing the following members to the Union County Youth Service commission to another two (2) year term ending December 31, 2021: Thomas Beck, Executive Director of Jewish Family Services (Human Services Advisory Council Representative) and Donald M. Johnson, Supervisor City of Elizabeth Office of Youth Services (Community Based Organization Representative).

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-381 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN:** Resolution authorizing aerial dispensing operation county-wide by the Union County Bureau of Mosquito Control.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson; roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-382 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution 2019-239 a contract awarded to ES&S, Omaha, Nebraska, to reflect onsite personnel support services provided during the 2019 General Election day.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-383 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with ES&S, Omaha, Nebraska, for the purposes of providing onsite Election Day support for the year 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-384 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to award funding for the 2020 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.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-385 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution supporting the Township of Berkeley Heights' application for Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) funding with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Services (DLGS) relative to the shared service agreement with the County of Union for the provision of Department of Public Works Director Services.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-386 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager through the Union County Department of Economic Development to provide documentation to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in order to guarantee the County's ongoing participation in the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. One of the requirements for said qualification includes authorization from the Freeholder Board consenting the County of Union's participation in these programs.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-387 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's resolution 2020-7 approving the amendment to the Program Year 2019 Union County Workforce Area Budget, in the form attached hereto and made a part hereof, in accordance with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Final Rules and in accordance with 20 C.F.R. 679.370(i).

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-388 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's resolution 2020-8 approving the Board to employ First-In, First-Out (FIFO) accounting practices to transfer WIOA expenses in the amount of \$709,756.25 from of Program Year 2019 to Program Year 2018 and thereby free-up the commensurate amount of available funds in Program Year 2019.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-389 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution requesting the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, pursuant to WIOA sec. 121(c) and 20 CFR 678.500, 34 CFR 361.500, and 34 CFR 463.500, to enter into an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which includes an Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA), with the Union County Workforce Development Board and the American Job Center Partners in the one-stop delivery system as authorized by resolution 2020-6 of the Workforce Development Board on May 13, 2020.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-390 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders to concur with the with Resolution No. 2020-04 of the Union County Workforce Development Board to award a contract to the International Rescue Committee for employment and training services to refugees resettled in Union County in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the time period beginning February 14, 2020 and ending January 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-391 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders to concur with Resolution No. 2020-05 of the Union County Workforce Development Board to award a contract to the Plainfield Public Library to expand opportunities for basic to intermediate digital literacy training to qualifying individuals in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for the time period beginning March 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-392 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2018-745, a Professional Engineering Service contract with T & M Associates of Middletown, New Jersey to provide ongoing LSRP Environmental Consulting Services associated with the Meisel Park Project for an additional two year period in an amount not to exceed \$ 13,350.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$ 72,400.00 (UC Engineering Project # 2011-030).

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-393 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to amend Resolution Number 2020-102, dated January 23, 2020 to increase the appropriation to Kologi Simitz of Linden, NJ in the matter entitled Emmanuel Mervilus v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-394 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to Amend Resolution 2020-211 dated February 20, 2020 to increase the appropriation to Aloia Law Firm of Bloomfield, NJ in the matter entitled Reginald Curry v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-395 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** A Resolution appointing Laura Scutari, Amy Wagner and Claudia Martins as Commissioners to the Union County Insurance Fund Commission for a term commencing January 15, 2020 and ending on January 14, 2022 or for the remainder of their service in office as officials, whichever is less.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-396 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds Grant Subaward Agreements with Union County Municipalities.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2020-397 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating the graduating students throughout Union County; and further recognizing their achievements during this unprecedented year, as a 2020 graduate.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-398 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering the Board's sincere condolences to the family of Charles (Charlie) Newman, former Director of the Union County Office for the Disabled; and further recognizing his dedicated service to the Disability Community of Union County and his outstanding leadership as the previous Director of the Union County Office for the Disabled within the Department of Human Services/Division of Individual & Family Support Services.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-399 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS, VICE CHAIRMAN ANGEL G. ESTRADA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution urging the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to reverse their April 2, 2020 decision of closing down a military veterans' clinic in Elizabeth which serves over 1,200 patients and will limit the ability of veterans to access care in their community.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-400 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS, VICE CHAIRMAN ANGEL G. ESTRADA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Proclaiming the month of May as Haitian Heritage Month throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-401 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Keith David, of Roselle, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-402 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Eleanor Ruth Pringle, formerly of Cranford, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-403 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI, FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN, FREEHOLDER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, VICE CHAIRMAN ANGEL G. ESTRADA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating Theresa Gazaway on becoming New Providence's first female Police Chief.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-404 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN, FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON & FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Resolution recognizing the month of May as "Mental Health Awareness Month" throughout Union County; and further encourage those living with anxiety, depression, and co-occurring disorders and their loved ones find treatment, support, and resources.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-405 VICE CHAIRMAN ANGEL G. ESTRADA, FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Resolution recognizing the month of May as "Older Americans Month" throughout Union County; and further recognizing the 2020 theme for Older Americans Month 2 is: Make Your Mark.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-406 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Danielle Ceceri, daughter of Kenilworth Councilwoman Kay Ceceri, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-407 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Deborah Bye Kean, the former first lady of New Jersey and mother of Senator Thomas Kean Jr., during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-408 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Michele "Shellie" Brown, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

- 2020-409 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution urging the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, that all resources be brought to bear to expedite the process to approve all unemployment insurance claims and, in doing so, alleviate the pain and suffering overwhelming Union County residents.

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Granados extended his gratitude to residents for this continued efforts in helping and supporting one another during the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted Board's efforts in working with non-profit organizations to provide essential resources including food donations to needy families. He also reminded residents that Social Services remained opened. He noted a Resolution requesting legislators to pursue and providing additional resources to contend with various consequences of COVID-19, including rising unemployment claims.

Freeholder Granados also spoke relative to 2020 graduations being cancelled due to the pandemic and announced that Deputy County Manager Wagner and the Board had come together to celebrate the momentous occasion by placing banners throughout various locations, including County Parks to recognize and celebrate the graduates.

Freeholder Kowalski thanked the volunteers at the Kean Testing Center for their tireless efforts as well as those that had made donations to the site. She noted that approximately 20,000 tests had been conducted on-site, recognizing the center as an invaluable resource to public health. On another note, she congratulated current and upcoming graduates on their achievements.

Freeholder Kowalski spoke relative to Memorial Day and thanked veterans and those currently serving in the armed forces for their sacrifice and service to our country. She wished everyone a safe and happy holiday and insisted residents continue to exercise good judgment and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Freeholder Williams echoed the comments of her colleagues regarding the County coming together during these trying times. She thanked first responders as well as public safety and health professionals for being on the frontlines and sent them her well wishes. She offered her condolences to the families of those lost to COVID-19. She encouraged residents to continue supporting each other as a means to overcome these difficult times.

Freeholder Garretson spoke relative to the Board's involvement in various food distributions as well as the donation of masks to the various Union County municipalities through the "Mask UP UC" initiative.

Freeholder Garretson made comments relative to her position as a delegate for NJAC, noting her ongoing conversations with out-of-county Freeholders and other elected officials relative to reopening measures and best practices to address the growing concerns relative to COVID-19. She thanked Public Safety for a productive meeting and thanked everyone for their participation, in particular Director Moran.

Freeholder Staten congratulated the various graduates throughout the County for their success. She noted that despite social distancing, she enjoyed seeing the various photographs of the occasion on social media, noting how proud the Board was of the 2020 graduates.

Freeholder Staten spoke relative to the various food distributions that took and continued to take place throughout the County to address growing needs. She encouraged interested residents to register to receive their food distribution. She recognized the reward of being able to help the less fortunate in times of need. She closed by wishing everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day.

Freeholder Hudak thanked everyone involved in the preparation and presentation of the 2020 Budget. On another note, he noted that approximately 30,000 meals had been delivered through the County's Meals on Wheels program. He advised that Social Services had remained opened through the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that the department had received several thousand new SNAP applications. He closed by

recognizing the importance of these and other valuable resources including healthcare and shelters during times of crisis.

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded echoed the sentiments of her colleagues and thanked everyone for stepping up during these difficult times to make a difference, whether by donating their time or goods. She recognized the 2020 graduates and the unusual and disappointing circumstances they face, including not having a graduation ceremony. She expressed her gratitude for social media which facilitates the sharing of these momentous occasions despite physical distance. She encouraged residents to continue adhering to social distancing guides. She closed by recognizing the residents lost to COVID-19, expressing her deepest condolences.

County Manager Oatman made comments relative to PPE donations and thanked all those who donated, including Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, for donating masks.

Chairman Mirabella expressed his pride in Union County and their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted the success of the Kean Testing Center and it now offering services to a broader range of residents including those with no symptoms. He advised that increased testing was key as well as quarantining those infected to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the safety of those around them.

On another note, he made comments relative to the 2020 Budget, recognizing the tremendous achievement of passing a budget with a 0% tax increase, while also maintaining the highest bond rating. He noted that the successes of the presented budget reflected strong management and financial leadership and residents should feel reassured that their tax dollars are being responsibly managed and spent. He recognized Freeholder Granados for his tremendous work on the 2020 Budget, noting how important this 0% increase would be amidst the financial difficulties evoked by COVID-19.

Chairman Mirabella thanked Governor Murphy for his cautious reopening strategy which did not encourage an immediate return to normalcy. He noted that reopening should be done slowly in accordance with available information to mitigate additional spread of the virus. He closed by recognizing the 2020 graduates, noting that his daughter was among them, and had to experience her graduation virtually although she held onto hopes of returning to campus in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Mirabella asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Garretson voice vote showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Vice Chairman Estrada absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.

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 6, 2020

February 20, 2020

February 20, 2020

March 5, 2020

March 5, 2020

March 26, 2020

March 26, 2020

April 2, 2020

April 2, 2020

April 23, 2020

April 23, 2020

~~May 14, 2020~~

~~May 14, 2020~~

May 21, 2020

May 21, 2020

June 4, 2020

June 4, 2020

June 18, 2020

June 18, 2020

July 23, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 13, 2020

August 13, 2020

September 3, 2020

September 3, 2020

September 10, 2020

September 10, 2020

October 1, 2020

October 1, 2020

October 15, 2020

October 15, 2020

November 5, 2020

November 5, 2020

November 12, 2020

November 12, 2020

December 3, 2020

December 3, 2020

December 10, 2020

December 10, 2020


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

