



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:55 P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

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.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Thursday, June 4, 2020 - Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, June 4, 2020 - Regular Meeting
3. Thursday, June 18, 2020- - Agenda Setting Session
4. Thursday, June 18, 2020 - Regular Meeting
5. Thursday, July 9, 2020 - Special Meeting
6. Thursday, July 23, 2020 - Agenda Setting Session
7. Thursday, July 23, 2020 - Regular Meeting

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to approve the Minutes. On a motion made by Freeholder Williams and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the Minutes of June 4th, July 9th, and

July 23 Agenda Setting and Regular Meetings respectively; and eight votes in the affirmative for the Minutes of June 18th Agenda Setting and Regular Meeting, with Freeholder Staten abstaining.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

Clerk Pellettiere read the Ordinance by title.

817-2020 CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF THE EXISTING COUNTY PARKING DECK ON ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PARKING DECK ON SUCH SITE IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$13,500,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM CAPITAL SURPLUS OF THE COUNTY.

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Freeholder Sergio Granados, Fiscal Chairman, moved Ordinance Number 817-2020 for First Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The public hearing and final reading is scheduled to be held on September 3, 2020.

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

SUSPENSION OF RULES

Suspension of the rules to allow 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 to Suspend the Rules. On a motion made by Freeholder Williams and seconded by Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded, roll called showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting was opened to the public for the purpose of commenting on Resolutions being offered for adoption and any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere noted he had received email correspondence from Judith Martinez, of Scotch Plains and read her comment into the record.

Judith Martinez expressed her disapproval with the *Black Lives Matter* murals in Hillside and Roselle and questioned the Board's support of an organization with alleged ties to Marxism and the respective ideology.

Chairman Mirabella noted that he appreciated Judith's opinion, but disagreed with the claim that BLM was in any way associated with a Marxist regime, noting the Board's unequivocal support for the BLM movement.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to several Resolutions. Relative to Reso Nos. 2020-584 and 2020-590, Mr. Paterson asked for greater detail relative to spending and inquired about the vendor's administration fee. Relative to Reso No. 2020-588, he asked about the cited service and how much of the funding would be consumed in administrative fees. Relative to Reso No. 2020-605, Mr. Paterson asked why County employees had been tasked with making Census calls instead of hiring individuals that were facing unemployment. Relative to Reso No. 2020-609, Mr. Paterson made comments relative to the expected savings from the project. Relative to Reso No. 2020-605, he asked why County Counsel and the respective staff could not undertake the task. Relative to Reso No. 2020-601, he expressed his concern with the overdevelopment of luxury housing in various municipalities that did not include affordable housing units. Relative to Reso No. 2020-602, he made comments about what he perceived as double funding.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-584, Director Anderson advised that funds would be used to sanitize and sterilize two shelters in Union County so they could remain open and continue to function. She further advised that the vendor was not receiving an administration fee and that the expense was reimbursable through FEMA.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-590, Director Anderson advised that the increase was furnished through the Homeless Trust Fund account facilitated by the County Clerk's filing fees. She noted an increase in demand relative to COVID-19 and the subsequent restrictions. She confirmed that the vendor was a non-profit organization and would receive a 5% administration fee.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-588, Chairman Mirabella recognized the tremendous contributions of the organization and the program, noting that the garden grants would allow for various schools and municipalities to establish gardening resources.

Open Space Trust Fund Administrator Durbin-Drake, advised that 20% of funding would go towards administrative fees. She noted that due to COVID-19, funding had been interrupted and the future of the program was still uncertain as state mandates and restrictions were still in place and schools were not open. She added the allotted \$106,000 had not been spent.

Chairman Mirabella commended Freeholder Granados for being instrumental in the initiative and its subsequent success.

Freeholder Granados noted that funding covered the necessary supplies and materials for the gardening project.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-605, County Manager Oatman advised that existing County personnel had been repurposed to conduct Census calls during the COVID-19 pandemic as a means to adhere to state social distancing guidelines and utilize employees working remotely. Relative to Reso No. 2020-609, County Manager Oatman noted that a financial analysis had been done that considered construction and all the associated costs on a new complex in comparison to the rental payments on the currently leased properties. He added that the analysis concluded that the former was the most practical and cost-effective option and determined the approximate savings of \$120 million in 30 years.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-605, County Manager Oatman advised that the firm would be paid the same fee as other outside counsel and would be relied on heavily to navigate through CARES ACT funding and spending, noting that approximately a 1/10 of CARES ACT funding was being used to fund this invaluable resource. He added that as the situation with COVID-19 developed, the County would continue to depend on the firm for guidance to ensure spending compliance.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-601, Deputy County Manager Wagner advised that the county had no control over these developments as they were part of an agreement established between the respective municipalities and the state. Relative to Reso No. 2020-602, she noted that this was a highly regarded initiative and that potential owners had a vested interest in the property as they would be expected to participate in the building and improvements of the units they would later occupy.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere confirmed that no other public participants were in the cue and that he had received no additional correspondence from any member of the public.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

- 2020-573 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-368 and further authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend funds from the New Jersey Department of Health for COVID-19 Response in the amount of \$331,000.00 to support COVID-19 activities related to contact tracing in Union County for a new amount of \$629,072.00 in the LINCS Grant.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-574 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and execute a Sub-Grant Agreement with Middlesex County for inclusion in the New Jersey Department of Health, Comprehensive Cancer Control Grant in the amount of \$48,205.00 for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-575 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Training Specialties Inc., Exton, Pennsylvania, to provide Foam Tender Training for the departments in the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) region, through the 2017 UASI grant, in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-576 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$50,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs for a program entitled: LEAP Fellowship Grant.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-577 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$71,976.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services for a program entitled: Area Plan Contract (APC).

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-578 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$331,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health for a Program Entitled: Local Information Network Communications (LINCS) Grant.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-579 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$48,205.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health and Middlesex County for a program entitled: Comprehensive Cancer Control Grant.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-580 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2019-917 to increase the amount payable to In Town Motor Lodge, Morris Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ, a for-profit vendor of the Code Blue Emergency Shelter Initiative, will now exceed the Pay to Play threshold of \$17,500.00 with requirement of properly executed pay to play disclosures. This request is directly related to the increase in

the number of homelessness due to the Shelter in place order due to the COVID-19 Pandemic which will provide shelter assistance to individuals and families for TANF, GA, and/or emergency assistance recipients for the period of July 23, 2020 through December 31, 2020. There is no change in the total amount of funds and no other for-profit vendor is yet also authorized to exceed the pay to play threshold.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-581 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution 2020-513, a contract with Mutual of America, Parsippany, New Jersey, for the implementation of an employee 401(a) benefits plan for county employees not covered under the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS), to reflect an adjustment to an appropriation account with no change in the total amount of the contract or terms.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-582 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution Number 2020-514, a contract with Mutual of America, Parsippany, New Jersey, for the provision of Group Life Insurance with Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan for employees not covered under the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS), to reflect an adjustment to an appropriation account with no change in the total amount of the contract or terms.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-583 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution Number 2020-461, to extend the contract with Geographic Solutions, Palm Harbor, FL for continuation of Workforce Information Management Data System, for an additional four months commencing September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the prorated amount not to exceed \$19,700.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-584 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution Number 2020-337 adopted on 4/23/2020, to reflect a four-month extension of the grant term through December 31, 2020 and award additional funds not to exceed \$236,128.00 for The Gateway Family YMCA to support emergency shelter operations as a result of COVID-19 expenses.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-585 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution Number 2019-964, a contract awarded to Family Promise, Summit, NJ to increase the contract award in the amount of \$25,000.00 for a new total amount of \$125,000.00, with no other change in terms.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-586 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a maintenance agreement with Visual Computer Solutions, Inc., of Freehold, NJ in an amount not to exceed \$8,767.50 to maintain the Division of Social Services' Time Management System/Time Clock for the period of September 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-587 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, New Jersey to promote youth, teen, and community development through prevention programs including self-empowerment and youth leadership, Interfaith initiatives and collaboration among community programs for youth and families for the period of August 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$50,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-588 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the third and final option to extend the contract pursuant to Resolution Number 2017-115 to Groundwork Elizabeth, Elizabeth, NJ for continuation of the administration and implementation of the Community Garden Grant in the amount not to exceed \$56,000.00, and continued administration of the Union County Kids Dig In!: A School Garden Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 both encompassed under the grant program entitled: "Union County Plant A Seed Grant Program" for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, for a total amount not to exceed \$106,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-589 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED: Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract extension originally obtained through advertised public bidding (BA#32-2018) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Engineering, Public Work & Facilities, Division of Facilities Management, New Jersey Overhead Door, Bayville, NJ for the purpose of providing Overhead Door & Gate Systems Service, twenty-four (24) consecutive months from August 31, 2020 through August 30, 2022, in an amount not exceed \$124,700.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-590 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED:** Amending resolution 2020-284 adopted on 3/26/2020 to reflect additional grant dollars in the amount of \$31,925 to Family Promise-Union County for a new total overall amount not to exceed \$190,736.00 as outlined in the attached spending plan; with no change to the grant term.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-591 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2019-963 to reduce the initial grant award for the FY2021 Municipal Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse program in the amount of \$372,451.00, to change the grant period to October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and to execute contracts based upon a revised Spending Plan.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-592 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2019-918 to reflect a reduction in NJ Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) funds by \$372,451.00, and to reflect a revised grant period of October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for the FY2021 Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-593 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to award FY2021 One-Time Alcohol and Drug Abuse Innovative (ADAI) funding in an amount not to exceed \$169,574 to CURA, Inc., from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 and further authorizing the County Manager to terminate funds during the contract period if the listed agency fails to meet contractual obligations.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-594 VICE CHAIRMAN ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Authorizing the County Manager to adopt the Non-Discrimination policy in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, for the County of Union Paratransit System.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-595 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the only option to extend the contract with SSDC, Novi, MI for medicare

and disability monitoring services for one 24-month period. Contract shall lead to reductions in cost for the self-insured health plans of the County. Fees shall be paid only when savings have been certified to occur in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for the 24-month period.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-596 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Medcom, Birmingham, AL to provide Retiree Benefit Billing and COBRA Administration Services from November 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed 42,000.00, with one 24-month option to extend based on the recommendation of our insurance broker.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-597 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to MTE Turf Equipment Solutions, Inc. West Henrietta, NY for the purchase of Jacobsen lawn mower parts in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-598 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with F&S Tire Corporation, Edison, NJ through State Contract #19-FLEET-00708, for the purchase of car and truck tires in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-599 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution declaring various goods as surplus and no longer needed for use by the County, and further authorizing the County Manager to advertise and hold a public auction for said surplus goods.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-600 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Authorizing the County Manager to amend Resolution 2019-447 dated May 23, 2019 approving the Year 45 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan to include additional CARES Act Funding for ESG, and to apply for and receive funds through the Department of Housing and Urban Development 2019-2020 Substantial Amended Annual Action Plan (Year 45) including the Community Development Block Grant Program and Emergency Solutions Grant Program application for HUD CARES Act Funds. In response to COVID-19 the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) allocated an additional \$2,770,145.00 to the County's CDBG program

(CDBG-CV) and \$3,359,923.00 to the County's Emergency Solutions Grant Program for a revised total of \$6,130,068.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-601 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Elmwood Square Urban Renewal LLP in the amount for \$500,000.00 of HOME Funds, for the development of five (5) Low Income Units (58 total) in Plainfield. Funds will be used from repayment of Center for Hope Hospice project.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-602 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Authorizing the County Manager to accept HOME Investment contract reassignment for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plainfield and Middlesex County (GPMC) to Morris Habitat for Humanity, INC (MHfH). The merger is to alleviate some financial restraints currently on GPMC operations and will continue to assist Union County residents in the purchasing of affordable single family homes, for the contract period of August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2021 (Year 42) , in an amount not to exceed \$280,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-603 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: 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 T.R. Weniger, Inc., Piscataway, New Jersey for the replacement of East Hazelwood Avenue Bridge, City of Rahway, New Jersey for a contract amount not to exceed \$510,360.00, subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (BA# 17-2020; Union County Engineering Project # 2012-021).

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-604 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: 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 Sparwick Contracting, Inc., Lafayette, New Jersey for the replacement of Stelle Avenue Bridge, (Pa-1) City of Plainfield, New Jersey for a contract amount not to exceed \$963,312.00, subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (BA# 18-2020; Union County Engineering Project # 2016-028).

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-605 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Amending Resolution Number 2020-354, a contract with Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Capelli, Tipton & Taylor, LLC, of Rochelle Park, NJ, for Special Legal services related to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES ACT"), to increase the appropriation in an additional amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-606 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Amending Resolution Number 2020-354, dated April 23, 2020 to reflect a change only to the Account Number utilized to allocate funds to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Capelli, Tipton & Taylor, LLC, of Rochelle Park, NJ, for Special Legal services related to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES ACT").

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-607 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds Grant Subaward Agreements with Union County School Districts in a total amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-608 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution Authorizing CARES Act Library Grants in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2020-609 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Union County Improvement Authority and the County of Union, State of New Jersey for the planning, design and construction of a new Union County Government Complex to be undertaken, financed and completed pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Local Redevelopment and Housing Law N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2020-610 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN, FREEHOLDER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution extending the Board's most heartfelt condolences to the family of Shirley Rice, wife of New Jersey Senator Ronald Rice.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-611 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Resolution acknowledging and celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Red, Black and Green (RBG) flag, representing the colors of the African race and descendants that was first adopted by the United Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) in 1920; and then, nations, and now is a symbol of Black freedom for thousands of Black organizations and movements.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-612 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating the Cranford Baseball Team on winning the 2020 Last Dance World Series Tournament Championship.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-613 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution recognizing August 26, 2020 as Women's Equality Day and commemorating 2020 Women's Equality Day as the Centennial Anniversary of the adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2020-614 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's sincerest condolences to former Freeholder Deborah P. Scanlon and her family on the passing of her husband, former Mayor and long-time community activist Patrick Scanlon, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded spoke relative to the COVID-19 mobile testing units facilitated by the County, reminding Westfield residents that a unit would be visiting Tamaques Park the following week to administer testing. She noted her pride in the Union County family and her fellow Board members for their leadership in progressive ideals. She commended the Board's achievements as they relate to the creation of the LGBTQ Office and the erection and continued operation of the Kean COVID-19 Testing Center. She noted the Board's support for the BLM movement and the respective murals in Hillside and Roselle, noting the rich diversity of Union County.

On another note, Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded commended the County's management of CARES ACT funding and the respective expenditures, noting the importance of providing financial assistance to schools, libraries, and small businesses that continue to suffer as a result of COVID-19 and the subsequent restrictions. She closed by recognizing all the parents throughout the county, offering her best wishes as they navigate through tough schooling decisions.

Freeholder Kowalski recognized County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner, and the Departments of Public Safety and Public Works for their efforts in addressing the power outages and other issues that arose as a result of the recent storm. She extended her condolences to former Freeholder Deborah Scanlon on the recent loss of her husband, Patrick Scanlon. Freeholder Kowalski also recognized State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari for presenting legislation to fund a flood study of Rahway River Valley, noting that she hoped to finally have some progress on this long-standing issue. She closed by recognizing the parents throughout the County and the challenges and decisions they faced as the new school year loomed.

Freeholder Williams offered her condolences to the Scanlon family and the family of Senator Ronald L. Rice for the recent loss of his wife Shirley. On another note, she commended the County and the Board for their efforts relative to COVID-19 and respective testing, noting the mobile-testing center's successful visit to Mount Olive Baptist Church in Plainfield.

Chairman Mirabella recognized Mayor Adrian Mapp for being instrumental in making mobile testing available for residents in Plainfield that did not have access to a personal vehicle and or did not have the means to get testing at the COVID-19 Drive Thru Testing Center at Kean University.

Freeholder Garretson echoed the sentiments of her Board members and extended her condolences to the Scanlon and Rice families. On another note, she spoke relative to a recent Executive Order signed by Governor Murphy relative to in-person and hybrid schooling. She thanked her Freeholder colleagues for being unapologetically outspoken on social and civil issues. Relative to BLM, she noted her support for the movement and its ideals, comparing it to the revolutionary civil rights movements of the past. Freeholder Garretson also spoke relative to the Red, Black and Green flag and the 100th anniversary of its adoption. She closed by praising the Union County family for its diversity and rich culture, noting the importance of embracing and celebrating differences as a means towards better understanding among different communities and hopefully peace.

Freeholder Staten thanked everyone for joining the meeting that evening. She also extended her condolences to Senator Rice on the recent loss of his beloved wife Shirley, a former esteemed educator of Essex County. On another note, she thanked the Board for their support of the BLM mural in Roselle, noting that the majority of residents were pleased with the addition. She thanked Director Graziano and his staff for their hard work on the project. She congratulated former Councilman-at-Large Mr. Reginald Atkins for his new position as Mayor of Roselle. She noted that she looked forward to their continued work together in

his new capacity. She also spoke relative to another food distribution drive schedule for August 27th at Kean University, and encouraged residents in need to take advantage of the invaluable resource. She closed by sending her well wishes to parents faced with upcoming schooling decisions.

Freeholder Hudak thanked the Board for their approval of Reso No. 2020-608 and allowing for the allocation of these funds, funded through the CARES ACT, to the struggling libraries throughout the community. He also expressed his approval relative to the community garden grants. On another note, he spoke relative to the construction of a new government complex, noting this as a project that had been long considered and would provide cost-saving benefits as well as construction related employment. He made comments relative to affordable housing projects and the lack of support for these types of initiatives. He also made comments relative to the undermining of the USPS, noting the invaluable service they provide, in light of Governor Murphy's decision to conduct the November Presidential Election primarily by mail. He noted his confidence in the vote-by-mail process, noting the success of the Primary Election held in July. He closed by extending his condolences to former Freeholder Deborah Scanlon on the loss of her husband, Patrick.

Freeholder Granados thanked the Freeholder Board, County Manager Oatman and Deputy County Manager Wagner as well as all the Directors and employees throughout the county for the support and efforts in bringing to fruition various initiatives, in particular those relative to COVID-19. He noted his pride in Union County for being at the forefront of these efforts, providing essential services and resources to residents in need. He noted the recent food distribution at Kean and thanked all the volunteers. He closed by acknowledging Tony and Teo who were tuning in to the meeting.

Vice Chairman Estrada extended his condolences to former Freeholder Deborah Scanlon on the loss of her husband, Patrick Scanlon, recognizing them both as dedicated public servants and cornerstones of the community. On another note, he warned that although NJ seemingly had a better handle on COVID-19, in comparison to other states, residents should continue to maintain a strong commitment to safety. He spoke relative to contact tracing efforts and questioned the unwillingness of some residents to respond, noting the importance of the resource in keeping everyone safe. He closed by acknowledging Tony and Teo watching at home.

Chairman Mirabella recognized Jessica Cohen, Chief of Staff for Senator Joseph Cryan, for her unyielding efforts relative to the Kean Drive Thru COVID-19 Testing Center, noting her as a fixture of the site. He also thanked Senator Cryan for his generosity in allowing his staff to volunteer at the testing site. On another note, he spoke relative to Patrick Scanlon and extended his deepest sympathies to the family on their loss. He recognized Patrick as a charitable and dedicated community servant/advocate; a staple in the Irish-American community and a supportive husband.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Mirabella asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Hudak and seconded by Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded, voice vote showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Staten absent at time of the motion. Chairman Mirabella thanked all for participating and noted that Freeholder Staten had returned just after the vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 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

January 23, 2020

February 6, 2020
February 20, 2020

March 5, 2020
March 26, 2020**

April 2, 2020**
April 23, 2020**

May 14, 2020***
May 21, 2020

June 4, 2020
June 18, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 13, 2020

September 3, 2020
September 10, 2020

October 1, 2020
October 15, 2020

November 5, 2020
November 12, 2020

December 3, 2020
December 10, 2020

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 23, 2020

February 6, 2020
February 20, 2020

March 5, 2020
March 26, 2020**

April 2, 2020**
April 23, 2020**

May 14, 2020***
May 21, 2020

June 4, 2020
June 18, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 13, 2020

September 3, 2020
September 10, 2020

October 1, 2020
October 15, 2020

November 5, 2020
November 12, 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