



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020  
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:03 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, 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.

Chairman Mirabella addressed the public:

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

*We hope you and your families have enjoyed the summer months and that you are healthy. While COVID-19 restrictions continue to be eased, we ask that you take care and keep your guard up. If you or anyone you know needs a COVID-19 test, please go to our website at [www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org)*

*Today, I will keep my comments short as tomorrow marks a solemn day in the history of our nation: the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. We must never forget that day. Sadly, 60 Union County residents died on 9/11, and we mourn their loss. Their names are etched on the Union County memorial that stands in Echo Lake Park in Mountainside. And we certainly encourage you to visit it. Two girders recovered from the ruins of the World Trade Center are part of the memorial. An eternal flame represents all who perished on that day including members of the armed services and emergency responders. The memorial will be open from the morning hours until 9:00 p.m. tomorrow. The Union County Sheriff's Office will provide a uniformed Honor Guard standing watch at the memorial from 6:00 to*

*9:00 p.m. The public is invited to bring and light candles in memory of those lost in the attacks. The Union County Department of Parks and Recreation will also contribute candles to the memorial.*

*And now I would like to ask all to join me for a moment of silence as we reflect on the lives lost on 9/11...*

*And now, let's turn to tonight's agenda.*

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## **APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### Note and File

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

## **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Nicole DiRado, Administrator

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with A. Rifkin, Co., Wilkes-Barre, PA for the purposes of provided secure Vote by Mail Ballot transport bags as required pursuant to Executive Order 177 in the amount of \$22,614.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Relative to the upcoming election cycle, Administrator DiRado advised that her office had secured additional ballot drop-off boxes for the General Election, noting a total of 22 drop-off boxes to be scattered throughout the county.

Chairman Mirabella commended Administrator DiRado for being proactive and securing additional ballot drop-off boxes, noting it would give voters alternatives for returning their ballots in the event they preferred not to send it back via USPS.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

Laura Scutari, Director

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1. Approving the revised County of Union Drug and Alcohol CDL Policy. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Freeholder Hudak asked Director Scutari to explain the updates being made to the policy and also asked about safety-sensitive employees.

Director Scutari advised that the changes were relative to a recent NJ Transit on-site review, noting that following the review, the county was asked to include an appendix relative to safety-sensitive employees. She advised that the county employed four safety-sensitive employees which were responsible for conducting mechanic work on paratransit vehicles.

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Amy Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

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1. Amending resolution 2020-444 to further extend the contract with All Covered, 100 Dobbs Lane, Suite 208, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034, for three (3) additional months, while the County conducts a new procurement process due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide Technical Support Services for networks, servers and computers throughout the County, for the period beginning October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$70,395.00, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$281,580.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Chairman Mirabella asked for additional information relative to the extension.

Deputy County Manager/Director Wagner advised that this extension related to COVID-19, noting an additional, prior extension. She advised that the contract would be extended until the end of 2020, during which time this item would be going out to bid to secure the contract for 2021, commencing in January.

2. Authorizing the County Manager to distribute Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 Funds, with the intent to support activities that prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. The three providers of rental assistance services throughout the County are United Way, Urban League and Family Promise, the distribution of round (1) one of these funds are in an amount not to exceed \$1,350,000.00. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Freeholder Williams asked Deputy County Manager/Director Wagner to elaborate on this item.

Deputy County Manager/Director Wagner advised that HUD approval had been received and funds would be allocated to the aforementioned experienced organizations responsible for facilitating the program on the county's behalf. She confirmed only a portion of the funds would be furnished and then the initiative would be revisited, progress would be assessed, and remaining funds would be distributed as needed. She added that she expected current funding to assist upwards of 200 people.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

Joseph Graziano, Director

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1. Authorizing the County Manager to award a professional architectural services contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to Netta Architects, of Mountainside, New Jersey to provide architectural services for the demolition of the existing Union County Parking Deck at Caldwell Place & Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey and the construction of a new parking deck at the same location for an amount not to exceed \$1,093,769.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2019-026). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to award a professional civil engineering services contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to PS&S of Warren, New Jersey to provide civil engineering services for the demolition of the

existing Union County Parking Deck at Caldwell Place & Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey and the construction of a new parking deck at the same location in an amount not to exceed \$141,500.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2019-026). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

3. Authorizing the County Manager to award a professional geotechnical services contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to Remington & Vernick Engineers of Secaucus, New Jersey to provide geotechnical engineering services for the demolition of the existing Union County Parking Deck at Caldwell Place & Elizabethtown Plaza, in Elizabeth, New Jersey and the construction of a new parking deck in the same location in an amount not to exceed \$38,700.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2019-026). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Relative to Item Nos. 1, 2, & 3, Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded inquired about the time-line for demolition and construction on the project.

Director Graziano advised that the necessary personnel for the project had been secured through the appropriate channels, adding that he expected the preliminary planning and demolition to take a few months, with a year's worth of construction.

4. Amending Resolution Number 2020-95, adopted January 23, 2020, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding (BA# 47-2019) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Smith-Sondy Asphalt Construction of Wallington, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 for the 2020 Road Resurfacing Project, Various Municipalities, County of Union, New Jersey. This change order will increase the original contract amount by \$406,008.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$7,346,918.05 by adding Springfield Ave from Central Ave to Maple Street in New Providence (Union County Engineering Project Number 2018-020) **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
5. Amending Resolution Number 2019-248 adopted March 28, 2019, a professional engineering service contract with Mott MacDonald, of Morristown, New Jersey, to provide additional engineering design and construction inspection services associated with the Lenape Park Dam Rehabilitation Project, in an amount not to exceed \$25,900.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$180,700.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-044). **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
6. Amending Resolution Number 2012-171 adopted on February 9, 2012 to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the County of Union, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the reconstruction of the Gordon Street Bridge over "Out of Service" Conrail, Boroughs of Roselle and Roselle Park, County of Union, New Jersey. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

Freeholder Staten asked Director Graziano to elaborate on this item.

Director Graziano noted that this project had been started under former County Manager Alfred J. Faella. He advised that this item would allow for the necessary documentation to be updated in order to proceed with the multi-year project. He added that he expected the project to go out to bid in the coming winter and reconstruction to commence later that spring.

Chairman Mirabella commended the progress being made on this project, noting the long-standing debate between Roselle and Roselle Park relative to the bridge and which municipality was responsible for the upkeep.

7. Resolution granting permission to close Park Avenue from Grand Street to East 2nd Street in Scotch Plains from 8am to 6pm on Sunday, October 4, 2020 for Scotch Plains Day 2020. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten)**

#### DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Bibi Taylor, Director

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$100,000.00 as a result of notification received from Union County College for a program entitled: Union County College Oak Ridge Project. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
2. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$5,596.88 as a result of notification received from the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials for a program entitled: CARES Act - Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
3. Resolution modifying the 2020 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$87,451.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: VOCA-Sexual Assault Response Team/Forensic Nurse Examiner (SANE) Grant. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

#### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

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1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Community Access Unlimited, Inc., Elizabeth, NJ, to provide supportive services to enhance employment goals in partnership with the American Job Center, for the period September 28, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in the total amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, with the option to renew the contract for an additional 12 months. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Freeholder Granados asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised this item related to supportive services relative to employment.

2. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into contracts with the agencies on the attached list under the American Job Center 2020 Youth Comprehensive Career Services Spending Plan, to provide comprehensive career services to enhance employment goals for youth ages 14-24 for the period of September 28, 2020 through June 30, 2021, with the option to renew the contracts for an additional 12 months, in the total amount not to exceed \$125,000.00. This resolution further authorizes the transfer of funds among the agencies should the needs of the County of Union change or if one or more of the agencies fail to meet its contractual obligations. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Freeholder Williams asked Director Anderson for additional information relative to this item.

Director Anderson advised that this item would be facilitated through a third-party non-profit organization and would provide a variety of youth services including tutoring and mentoring, among others for in-school and out-of-school youth.

3. Amending Resolution Number 2020-510, to reflect an extension to a contract awarded to Prevention Links, Inc., of Roselle, NJ to provide operation services to the mandated Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC) for the County of Union, for an additional one (1) month for a new contract term of January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 and to reflect additional dollars in the amount of \$4,717.00, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$62,808.00. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to award 2020-22 HEARTH Emergency Solutions (HES) Grant one-time subcontracts for the period of March 9, 2020 to July 31, 2022 in the amount not to exceed of \$3,081,295.00 and further authorizing the County Manager to transfer funds among the agencies listed during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the listed agencies fail to meet contractual obligation. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

Freeholder Granados asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised that this item was facilitated through HUD and would furnish homelessness prevention services, including: shelters, rapid rehousing, and outreach services, among others.

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL**

Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution to Amend Resolution 2017-763 to reflect a change from Weiner Group to Hatfield Schwartz LLC for various defense and labor personnel matters on behalf of the County of Union. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER**

Edward Oatman, County Manager

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Supervisor's Association Collective Bargaining Agreement January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020 **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
2. Amending Resolution Number 2020-633, a resolution authorizing CARES Act Non-Profit Organizations Grants, to revise grant application and grant agreement guidelines. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
3. Resolution requesting a waiver of the County's residency requirement for Jessica Marie Cohen, Office of the County Manager. **(Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to adjust and/or change the Internal Position Control Schedules. **(Freeholder Sergio Granados)**

#### **FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

Chairman Mirabella thanked the Board for taking on additional responsibilities and assignments in light of former Vice Chairman Estrada's retirement.

1. Resolution congratulating Burton Mandell, former 35 year educator of the Cranford Public School District, on the celebration of his 90th birthday. **(Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski & The Entire Board)**
2. Resolution recognizing Honorable Assemblyman Jamel Holley on the celebration of his 41st Birthday. **(Freeholder Andrea Staten & The Entire Board)**
3. Resolution offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Francis "Frank" D'Aversa in their time of sorrow. **(Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams & The Entire Board)**

Freeholder Williams thanked the Board for their support of this item.

4. Amending Resolution Number 2020-4, a resolution adopting the Freeholder Standing Committee assignments for 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
5. Amending Resolution Number 2020-5, a resolution appointing members of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders as liaisons to various Advisory Boards for the Year 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
6. Amending Resolution Number 2020-7, a resolution appointing Freeholders to serve as representatives to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**
7. Amending Resolution 2020-8, a resolution appointing a Union County Delegate to Meadowlink/EZ Ride for a term commencing January 1, 2020 and expiring December 31, 2020. **(Chairman Alexander Mirabella)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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