



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:26P.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.

### APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

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Note and File

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

### SUSPENSION OF RULES

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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 Granados and seconded by Freeholder Williams roll called showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

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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.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments and asked questions relative to several resolutions. Regarding Reso Nos. 2020-643 and 2020-649, Mr. Paterson asked where funding was coming from for these items. Relative to Reso No. 2020-651, he asked why the additional bags were needed and how much each bag would cost. Relative to Reso No. 2020-662, Mr. Paterson asked about the terms of the agreement. Relative to Reso No. 2020-664, he asked why the residency requirement was being waived for the cited employee. Relative to Reso No. 2020-665, he asked for additional information relative to the changes and adjustments being made. Relative to the Executive Session, Mr. Paterson asked for additional information regarding the cited matters.

Relative to Reso 2020-643, Director Taylor advised that this item was meant to recuperate funds from UCC for the cited project to offset the County's cost.

Relative to Reso 2020-649, Director Anderson advised that HUD would be funding the initiative focused on homelessness prevention, furnished through nine non-profit organizations.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-651, Administrator DiRado advised that an additional 130 bags would be purchased at \$170.80 per unit, with a charge of \$410.00 for freight. She noted that she was confident in the vendor, as they had provided similar services and resources in the past.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-662, County Manager Oatman advised that no significant changes had been made to the agreement, noting it was a 3-year contract with a 2% increase each year.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-664, County Manager Oatman advised that Jessica Cohen was a part of the COVID-19 Response Team and an instrumental force in the Kean Drive-Thru Testing Center and Mobile Testing Sites.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-665, County Manager Oatman noted that this item related to transfers between departments and not new hires.

Relative to the Executive Session, County Counsel Bergen advised that he could not comment on the ongoing litigation and the Executive Session was a means to update the Freeholders relative to the matter and discuss a potential settlement.

Clerk Pelletiere advised that Michael Carvallo was also in the public cue.

Michael Carvallo confirmed he had no comments.

Clerk Pelletiere confirmed there were no additional public comments

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**RESOLUTIONS**

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The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

**2020-643 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

**2020-644 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

**2020-645 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

**2020-646 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

**2020-647 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

- 2020-648 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

- 2020-649 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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

- 2020-650 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN:** 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.

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

- 2020-651 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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.

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

- 2020-652 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Approving the revised County of Union Drug and Alcohol CDL Policy.

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

- 2020-653 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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.

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

**2020-654 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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.

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

**2020-655 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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).

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

**2020-656 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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).

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

**2020-657 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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).

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

**2020-658 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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)

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

**2020-659 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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).

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

**2020-660 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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.

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

**2020-661 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution to Amend Resolution 2017-763 to reflect a change from Weiner Group to HatfieldSchwartz LLC for various defense and labor personnel matters on behalf of the County of Union.

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

**2020-662 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Supervisor's Association Collective Bargaining Agreement January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020

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

- 2020-663 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-633, a resolution authorizing CARES Act Non-Profit Organizations Grants, to revise grant application and grant agreement guidelines.

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

- 2020-664 FREEHOLDER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Resolution requesting a waiver of the County's residency requirement for Jessica Marie Cohen, Office of the County Manager.

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

- 2020-665 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to adjust and/or change the Internal Position Control Schedules.

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

- 2020-666 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-4, a resolution adopting the Freeholder Standing Committee assignments for 2020.

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

- 2020-667 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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.

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

- 2020-668 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-7, a resolution appointing Freeholders to serve as representatives to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority.

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

- 2020-669 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** 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.

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

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**FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

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**2020-670 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating Burton Mandell, former 35 year educator of the Cranford Public School District, on the celebration of his 90th birthday.

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

**2020-671 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution recognizing Honorable Assemblyman Jamel Holley on the celebration of his 41st Birthday.

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

**2020-672 FREEHOLDER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Francis "Frank" D'Aversa in their time of sorrow.

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

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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To the extent known, the following item will be discussed in Executive Session:

- 1) Attorney-Client privileged communication and discussion relative to potential settlement in the matter entitled Emmanuel Mervilus v. UC, et als; and
- 2) Attorney-Client privileged communication and discussion relative to potential settlement in the matter entitled Wadlyne Stelus v. County of Union.

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to move into Executive Session. On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to return from Executive Session. On a motion made by Freeholder Granados and seconded by Freeholder Williams, roll call showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Garretson & Freeholder Hudak absent.

County Counsel Bergen advised that relative to the Executive Session, a settlement agreement had been reached by the Board in the matter entitled Wadlyne Stelus v. County of Union, et al, and would be subsequently voted on.



Clerk Pellettiere read Reso No. 2020-673.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

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The meeting was opened to the public for the purpose of commenting on Resolution 2020-673 being offered for adoption following Executive Session.

Clerk Pellettiere confirmed that no members of the public were in the cue and or had not submitted any comments/questions relative to Reso 2020-673.

**2020-673 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** A resolution authorizing Settlement of pending litigation in the matter entitled Wadlyne Stelus v. County of Union, et al., AOL Docket N. CSR 07994-2019 N, in accordance with the settlement agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$110,100.62.

On a motion made by Freeholder Williams and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Garretson and Freeholder Hudak absent.

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**FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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Freeholder Granados reminded residents about the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration taking place in Warinanco Park on September 19<sup>th</sup>, noting that Union County Health Officer Annie McNair would be honored at the event.

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded encouraged residents to register for the upcoming General Election, noting the close of voter registration on October 13<sup>th</sup>. She also spoke relative to the ballot boxes being installed by the Board of Elections, noting the importance and convenience of having one in each municipality. She closed by wishing everyone a successful school year.

Freeholder Kowalski recognized Burton Mandel and wished him a Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, noting his life-long contributions as an educator and an esteemed member of the community.

Freeholder Staten reminded residents about another Food Distribution Drive scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> at Kean University, encouraging interested residents to take advantage of the invaluable resource. She closed by wishing Assemblyman Jamel Holley a Happy Birthday.

Freeholder Williams reminded residents to respond to the 2020 Census which was quickly coming to a close. On another note, she spoke relative to the tragedy of 9/11 and the importance of remembering the many lives lost on that day.

Chairman Mirabella recognized and congratulated fellow Freeholder Angela Garretson for being recognized as one of NJBIZ's Best 50 Women in Business for 2020.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57pm

## 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