

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021
REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

DURING THE RECESS PRE-RECORDED VIDEO REMARKS BY HONORED GUESTS, NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS AND THE 2021 CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS WERE STREAMED ON VIA FACEBOOK.

U.S. SENATOR CORY BOOKER :

I am so grateful for Union County to be able to share a few words with you... words of congratulations, words of thanks. This has been a trial of a year like we have never seen in our lifetime and now more than ever it's a day of celebration as you all reorganize, an affirmation again of great leadership in Union County. Servant leaders who are there to stand in the darkness... light workers; the people we need to help us pull out of a year that was one of a pandemic, economic downturn, and a host of other challenges. Today is a day of celebration as we renewal great leadership in Union County and I want to thank them personally. Of course, I would like to thank Sheriff Peter Corvelli for being a strong leader; our Clerk Joanne Rajoppi for your leadership as Clerk. I would also like to thank the Commissioners, Commissioners Garretson, Hudak, and Leon and celebrate them and their leadership. Thank you for stepping up into these extraordinary important roles. Thank you Commissioner Chairman Alexander Mirabella and Vice Chair Rebecca L. Williams; thank you for taking on these incredibly important leadership roles. All of you in the collective as well as all of the County servants give such an affirmation to the truth of who we are. We are a people that make it through; we are Jersey strong because of the strength of leaders like yourselves. This was a tough year but I believe that in 2021 we will continue to see the best of who we are and I think that Union County will reap the harvest from the seeds that you all are planting... seeds of hope, seeds of promise, seeds of love. Thank you all for your commitment to community. Thank you for making our state greater and I know with you help we will see God's blessings in the New Year.

U.S. SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ:

While I wish I could be with you in person today, I am pleased to join all of you in celebrating Union County's Annual Reorganizational Ceremony. Allow me to congratulate Commissioner Angela R. Garretson and Commissioner Christopher Hudak on their re-election and Commissioner-elect Lourdes Leon on her election victory. Let me also thank Chairman Alexander Mirabella for his continued service and recognize former Commissioner Angel Estrada for his many years of service. I also want to

congratulate County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi and Sheriff Peter Corvelli on their re-election. And to all of you swearing and oath today, you do so at a time of extraordinary challenges. Union County has lost nearly 1,500 citizens to COVID-19 and like so many local governments across America, you have faced a one-two punch of soaring Coronavirus response costs and plummeting tax revenues. That is why I continue to push for billions of dollars in fiscal relief for state and local governments who were left to shoulder this crisis, largely on their own. The months ahead are going to be tough. The battle to rebuild our economy will be long, but as the Jersey senior Senator, I want you to know that I will always be your partner, fighting for you in Washington D.C. I look forward to working with all of you to put this pandemic behind us and restore the promise of our economy, here in Union County and throughout the great state of New Jersey. Thank you and best wishes.

NJ SENATE PRESIDENT STEPHEN M. SWEENEY:

It's a pleasure to join all of you for the 2021 Reorganization of Union County. 2020 has been a year we will all remember, and I'm sure is one we wish we could forget. The impact of COVID-19 has been substantial and has been felt through every community and State. The Community Food Bank of NJ had projected that food insecurity in our state will increase by 56% due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Union County went to work by doing numerous Emergency Food Distributions to ensure that members of the community being hit the hardest had food to put on their table. Our state's first COVID-19 testing site was here in Union County. This government has expressed their commitment to the health and safety of the community and their response to this event has shown that. I want to recognize the efforts of State Senators Nicholas Scutari, Joseph Cryan and Thomas Kane for their steadfast commitment and hard work throughout this pandemic, not only to Union County but to NJ as a whole. I want to congratulate Sheriff Peter Corvelli, Clerk Joanne Rajoppi for their successful re-election; it's a wonderful feeling to win re-election and Union County voters expressed their approval of your hard work with their votes. Something really special is happening in Union County. This upcoming year, six of the nine Members of the Board of County Commissioners will be women, one of which, Commissioner Lourdes Leon will be the first Latina commissioner in the County's history. This is a major accomplishment and something we should be proud of as women continue to break barriers in all forms of government and professions. It also signifies Union County's commitment to diverse and progressive leadership that will help lead NJ into a better tomorrow. Despite the chaos of 2020, Union County experienced a 0 % tax increase. This is a testament to the leadership of this County and you should all be very proud of the hard work that you do. County government is a very special form of government, a form of government that can get things done. I held a job as Freeholder Director in my County government...a job that I loved because you can get a lot done by working together. Congratulations to

everyone in Union County. I wish you the best and a very prosperous New Year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER CRAIG J. COUGHLIN

Hello, Union County. It's an honor and pleasure to join you for today's County Reorganization Meeting. For the first time, in the state's history, a Board of Chosen Commissioners will be sworn in. I'd be remiss if I didn't recognize Commissioner Angela R. Garretson for her efforts in leading that cause. I'd also be remised if I didn't commend the tremendous leadership from Union County in the State Legislature on both sides of the aisle. Union County has and continues to be a powerhouse in the halls of Trenton. You serve your constituents well and I am proud to call you my colleagues and my friends. I congratulate Constitutional Officers Sheriff Peter Corvelli and County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi on your re-election and today's swearing in. I also want to congratulate Commissioner Angela R. Garretson and Commissioner Christopher Hudak on their swearing in, and the newest Commissioner Lourdes Leon. As your immediate neighbor to the south, I've long admired your stellar work and operations. You are so good in fact that my son Craig and his wife left Middlesex County and bought a house in Cranford. I want to commend your incredible efforts this past year, particularly your stellar COVID-19 testing operation and response as well as your herculean effort to collect and distribute food to families in need. It's times like these government needs to step up; you've answered the call. Union County should be proud; I know NJ is. I congratulate all of you on this special day and wish you success in the years ahead.

CLERK JOANNE RAJOPPI ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC:

Good afternoon everyone and Happy 2021. Thank you governor Murphy for administering the Oath of Office to me; you're doing a wonderful job of leading our state during this crisis and I salute your efforts and many accomplishments and look forward to working with you in the years to come. I'm coming to you today in the age of Zoom, one way we stay connected now. I have learned a lot about how to do this in the past year, basically we have to be brief and smile so I will do my best to adhere to that.

First, thanks to the Union County Democratic Committee and State Senator and Chair Nicholas Scutari for re-nominating me to the position of County Clerk and to my own senator and municipal chair Joseph Cryan for his untiring support. Congratulations to my hardworking running mates, Sheriff Peter Corvelli and Commissioners Angela R. Garretson, Christopher Hudak, and Lourdes Leon. To my staff who did an incredible job during this global pandemic in maintaining statutory deadlines and conducting two unprecedented vote-by mail elections, the first of their

kind. Your commitment and dedication is a model for all. A special thanks to my Deputy Clerk Clara C. Fernandez, Election Supervisor Lisa Hugelmeyer and Alexa Rodriguez and my assistant Donna Connell who went beyond the call of duty.

Most importantly, I am grateful to the voters of Union County who have supported me over the years and who overwhelmed and astounded me with their tremendous vote this past November, receiving a record number of votes for re-election.; thank you so much. This will be my 6th term as County Clerk and altogether having served as a Commissioner, County Registrar, Assistant Secretary of State, Mayor, and Councilperson, and School Board Member, I will be starting my 46th year in government.

I'm privileged to have the opportunity to serve you in such a rewarding and challenging way. I've also been blessed to have two sons who have followed me into public service and who share my vision that in giving back we truly make a difference. Peter is a supervisor in the US Patents and Trademark Office in Alexandria, Virginia and Andrew is a Sheriff's Officer here in Union County. Their love and support and that of my lovely daughter-in-law, Jackie and beautiful, smart grandchildren enrich my life a thousand-fold. Please be assured that you have my commitment to serve you to the best of my ability with integrity and honesty. Thank you and God bless everyone.

SHERIFF PETER CORVELLI ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC:

Good Afternoon.

I would like to begin by saying that I am both honored and humbled to be re-elected as the Sheriff of Union County.

There are many individuals I would like to thank, including State Senator Nicholas Scutari, the many volunteers that worked on the campaign, and running mates--we truly had a fantastic ticket, from the top all the way down—and of course my family; my wife Kelly and two daughters Alyssa and Rylee who without their support and encouragement, this would have been an impossibility. I'd like to thank the residents of Union County for placing their trust in me to continue to run an office with over 230 men and women, dedicated to protecting and serving residents of Union County. Lastly, I would like to thank my mother and father who led by example in raising my sister and I, having instilled in us their work ethic, determination, dedication, and desire to help others.

This is my 28th year in law enforcement and has been by far one of the most challenging. As Sheriff, I have worked to continue all strategic law enforcement partnerships to provide effective, primary support services

for municipal, county, and state agencies. We increased the efficiency of the sheriff labor's assistance program (SLAP) and expanded the sheriff's project life saver and clear programs for residents in need; It is through the tireless work for the men and women in the office and their willingness to help others. Whether it's managing a COVID testing site, lending a helping hand at a food distribution site, or providing other community outreach like a drive-by birthday party for an individual shuttered down in their home. I am confident we will all come out of this pandemic a stronger Union County.

I would also like to say that although the last three years have been both challenging and rewarding, I also realize there is much more to be done. The office will continue our robust training program, educating officers, and providing them with the most up-to-date equipment and technology. I will also reassure the residents of Union County that under my watch, the Union County Sheriff's Department will continue to serve our residents with the utmost respect and compassion and the office will continue to be transparent and be held accountable in every way. In closing, I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC:

Greetings and Happy New Year.

My name is Angela Garretson and I am a member of the Union County Board of Commissioners and I am so pleased to be here. I want to first express my condolences to all who suffered any loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I congratulate my fellow running mates and candidates from each level of government. To all the voters of Union County, I appreciate each one of you. I express gratitude to my family, friends, and dignitaries whose support has been unwavering as we celebrate the occasion of my second term. I also extend a special thank you to Governor Phil Murphy for swearing me in as a Chosen Commissioner in 2018 and as a County Commissioner in 2021. Proudly, the state law that changed these county titles took effect on the first day of the New Year and New Jersey is no longer the last to use the term coined when only white, male land owners could hold public office. It is fitting that the Governor joined Union County in person today to share this important moment because it was in the great County of Union that I engaged him to change the title from Commissioner to Commissioner. We gained support and formed an even stronger partnership that will impact generations of New Jerseyans through our efforts. The bold move reflects New Jersey's evolution on the historic issues of gender disparities and racial injustices that we faced. While 2021 will leave haunting memories, the year did produce unprecedented levels of global unity, world-wide calls for fairness, equity,

and a more just society. People of every political stripe, religion, creed, and color sent a message that public servants have a responsibility to act in ways that uphold human dignity and carry out policies that reflect and respect the collective interest of the human family. I urge us all to continue to take our cues from the people. As a member of the Union County Board of Commissioners, I recognize smooth seas do not make skillful sailors. My goal for this term is to leverage skills to tackle county issues such as economic instability and supply critical resources that are important to the people that we collectively represent. I will accomplish these goals by taking direct action and developing policy solutions driven by sound data and best practices. For residents and small businesses, my voice will continue to be heard in the corridors of power in Trenton and Washington, D.C. to make sure Union County gets what we deserve. In closing, please know that I value all of the help and encouragement that I received as a leader. It is truly a privilege to have your confidence and I will do my very best to continue to represent you well. Thanks again for your support and God bless.

COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC:

To the voters of Union County, thank you for again placing your trust in me to serve on the Board of County Commissioners. Thank you to our campaign staff and volunteers, Chair Scutari and my colleagues on this Board. I also wish to express my love and appreciation for my wife, Terri and our two children, Catherine and Jackson; I simply can't do this without you. Nearly ten years ago and in this room I took my first oath to serve on this Board. A decade later, through all types of adversity, natural disasters, and economic downturns--I could not be prouder of our Union County government. There is literally no challenge we cannot overcome; a fact demonstrated by the global pandemic. The ongoing Coronavirus emergency is a once-in-a-century crisis. The pandemic has taken the lives of over 1,500 members of the Union County family and has affected thousands more; strained our health care system; impacted how we live our day-to-day lives and created severe economic hardships for too many. I am proud of our response. We have tested the sick, over 100,000 residents served. We have fed the hungry with over 2 million meals served at our weekly distributions and we have assisted local governments, businesses, and essential workers with millions of dollars in grants. In the coming weeks and months, our team will vaccinate the residents of Union County. What is remarkable is that on March 15th, none of these programs existed and I am awed by ingenuity of the men and women that serve Union County taxpayers. Time and time again you have come up with creative solutions to address this crisis. As a County Commissioner, you have my pledge to support you with policies and resources required to

continue to make impactful change in our County under the direst of circumstances. So many of our citizens need assistance. Working together, we will meet the challenge, unlock new opportunities, and make sure the people of Union County have what they need to persevere and thrive. Again, thank you for the privilege to serve. In 2021, the governing body has a new name Union County Board of County Commissioners. This change better reflects Union County's diversity and inclusive nature. As a County Commissioner, you have my commitment to keep Union County an amazing place to live for all residents. Let's get to work.

COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC:

Good afternoon.

I am honored and humbled that the voters have placed their faith and trust in me to represent them at the County level. This is a responsibility that I will not take lightly and will endeavor to work for you with utmost transparency, dedication, and assurance. I was born in Cuba and my family immigrated to Elizabeth in 1971 and we have called the city of Elizabeth our home ever since. I am extremely proud to be the first Hispanic woman to be elected to the Union County Board of County Commissioners. The past year has tested everyone around the world as we were faced with an epidemic we knew nothing about. As I embarked on this campaign trail, I was very lucky to witness how Union County and its Commissioners worked tirelessly and came to the aid of its residents with food distributions, a COVID-19 testing center, among other numerous things done to help the residents of Union County. There are so many great people that I have to thank for getting me here, but first I would like to thank my parents for all they've done for my brother and I; my entire family and my best friend Maria, whom I dragged all over the place during this difficult campaign. Many thanks to Union County Democratic Committee Chair Senator Nicholas Scutari, Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Chief of Staff Tony Texeira, Joseph and Nick from the UC Democratic Committee for their unconditional support and guidance. All the volunteers who tirelessly worked to help achieve this accomplishment as well as all the municipal chairs for their unending support. A big thank you to all my running mates who showed me the way and gave me much support throughout this journey. In closing, I want to again thank everyone for giving me the privilege and opportunity to serve and represent them. Muchisimas Gracias.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL MESSAGE

Chairman Alexander Mirabella delivered the Chairman's Annual Message as stated:

"Union County Rising"

To our residents, our family of County employees and directors, and my colleagues on the Union County Board of County Commissioners, thank you for joining us today. Happy New Year. 2021 will be a better year; it has to be. It has been my highest honor to serve the people of Union County as Chair of the Commissioner Board in 2021 and I am deeply honored to continue in this role under the new title, Chair of the Union County Board of Commissioners. The change from Commissioner to Commissioner should not go unnoticed. NJ retired an old, outdated, and non-inclusive term and acquired a more appropriate, progressive title as Commissioner. I thank my colleagues for re-nominating me. I would also like to thank our Democratic Party Chair and State Senator Nicholas Scutari for his confidence and his support. Senator Scutari is not only a leader in our County but in the entire State of New Jersey. I appreciate his hard work and on behalf of our residents, I value our friendship.

I want to publically thank Governor Murphy, not only for being with us earlier today, but for his outstanding leadership throughout this pandemic. His steady, confident leadership had protected our state and set us up for a path to put this pandemic behind us. I want to congratulate Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, Sheriff Peter Corvelli, and re-elected Commissioners Christopher Hudak and Angela R. Garretson as well as our newest colleague, Commissioner Lourdes Leon. I am looking forward to working with all of you in 2021; as well as Vice Chair Rebecca Williams and the remaining Commissioners of the Board; we have a great team in Union County.

We begin with our hearts filled with hope and our minds set on overcoming the pandemic which has impacted every aspect of life as we know it. This is the greatest public health crisis in more than a century, but we are now on the verge of defeating it. Our hearts go out to all those residents and loved ones that we lost and we must continue to soldier on. I would like to take a moment of silence for all those that we lost due to COVID-19... Thank you.

Union County was dealt a severe blow by the pandemic in every way... socially, economically, and physically. Yet we did what we always do when faced with tough times; we came together, we helped each other, and we healed each other and now we must move forward.

First, I'd like to thank the courageous efforts of the first responders, health care workers, and all the essential workers who heroic efforts continue to inspire and help us through these times. Next the residents of our great county stepped up; elected officials, business owners, PBAs, church groups, all came to help our

frontline workers. County employees and students from local high schools and Kean University all came out to help in food distributions. I'd like to thank Kean University, starting with then President Dawood Farahi, and continuing with President Lamont Repollet for allowing us to use their campus for the COVID-19 Drive-Up Test Center and providing so many other resources. Together we created a unique, one-of-a-kind partnership with Kean that resulted in a drive-thru testing strategy. We have expanded this collaboration to include another first, on-site test results, and opportunities for research and student employment. Special thanks to the Township of Union for being such gracious hosts, providing meals, security, and traffic assistance. On the County side, I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of our Union County family, including the leadership efforts of my fellow commissioners, County Manager Edward T. Oatman, Deputy County Manager Amy C. Wagner, our team of directors, employees, and all who stepped up in this emergency. Union County responded quickly and comprehensively to this pandemic and set a series of first. We were the first in the County to open a free COVID-19 test center, in partnership with Kean University. We were the first to expand mobile testing into our community. We were the first to develop a unique partnership with Kean to develop drive-up testing. We have tested over 110,000 residents and continue these efforts in this new year.

We followed up with free flu shots for our residents throughout the county as well. We have conducted door-to-door and phone outreach throughout the county, contacting tens of thousands of residents. We raised awareness about the importance of getting tested and referred those in need to life-saving services. Our contact tracers have reached out and assisted without breaks when they occurred. We were among the first to do county-wide food distributions and have served nearly two million meals, more than any other county in the state. As I have joined my fellow commissioners at these events, it has been inspirational to see our County employees and our Directors working together with community volunteers to distribute meals to those in need.

We are on pace to distribute tens of millions of dollars in federal CARES Act COVID Relief Funds to our municipalities, restaurant owners, non-profits, small business, schools, libraries and families in need of respite care and child care. It is important to note that we've accomplished all of the above and delivered a zero budget increase; but we can't stop there. To paraphrase a quote the journey of a thousand miles that began with a single step, now has an ending in site. Vaccines are on the way and Union County will once again play a leadership role in ensuring as many residents as possible are vaccinated. We are on the road to recovery; we are resilient and we will be resurgent. With this in mind, this year our initiatives are called Union County Rising.

First lets address the rollout of vaccinations. The County of Union is finalizing plans to make the COVID-19 vaccine available to our residents and is ready to begin vaccinations as soon as they arrive. Having administered COVID-19 tests throughout the County of Union, the infrastructure is in place to allow a transition to a vaccination program immediately. We have purchased freezers and ancillary supplies to deliver the vaccine. Union County will be provided

vaccinations according to the priorities established by the State of New Jersey. When massive vaccines are provided by the State, Union County will be ready. We urge all adult residents to get vaccinated. If we are to survive this pandemic, we face no more important challenge than educating our constituents on the importance of getting vaccinated. The County has set up a website at ucnj.org/vaccinations for those seeking medical information about the COVID-19 vaccines. While we await the delivery of mass vaccines, we will continue to test our residents for COVID-19, contact trace, and distribute food to those in need and conduct outreach. Our COVID-19 test center will remain open four days a week and our mobile testing center will be out in our communities two days a week.

Now that we have addressed our response to the pandemic, life needs to go on as it should. Union County will continue to deliver high-quality services that our residents depend on. We had outlined a number of initiatives in the previous year that were disrupted by the pandemic, but now require our attention. This year we will be completing many of them and adding new programming as well. We will begin with public safety. Last year I asked the Department of Public Safety to begin work on the expansion of the Union County Regional Dispatch Center. This is an important shared service, handling emergency calls for the County and many of our municipalities. Currently, the facility handles calls for fourteen municipalities and two medical centers, along with six county regional units. This saves our municipalities hundreds of thousands of dollars each year. We expect participation to grow. I am happy to report the expansion to move forward this new year and we anticipate the newly expanded facility to open at the end of this year. Second, We will repurpose the former Juvenile Detention Center in Linden as a fire academy. I had the chance to visit this location recently; it is well suited for the educational and physical requirements necessary to train firefighters throughout our County. Our firefighters deserve a modern, updated facility to train so they can protect our community.

We are also going to reinvigorate an initiative called Union County Means Business For All. This pandemic has caused deep pain in our business community. Our partners at the Union County Economic Development Corporation have crafted programs that foster inclusion and will get folks back to work. The UCEDC has started taking applications for the Virtual Incubator Programs (VIP). This is limited to minority and underserved populations. It's an online business training that will be coupled with support from the UCEDC mentoring staff. They are looking to hold a special class for Union County residents in late spring and early summer. Another new program is the Entrepreneurship As a Second Chance (ESC), which will be held in April or May. This program will be for Union County registrants and the UCEDC is accepting applications now. The training will assist individuals explore new business ownership. There are a number of other loan programs including the Open for Business initiative, which is designed to help underserved, small businesses stay open and save jobs. I strongly recommend residents and business owners go to UCEDC.com. Another program we started last year is Project Fresh Start. This is inclusive and developed through the Human Services Department. It will provide

mobile shower and laundry services to people in need and for the homeless and will roll out later this year.

As the pandemic lingers, more pain is likely to come for our residents, especially if the State's moratorium on evictions is allowed to expire in February. I've instructed Deputy County Manager Amy C. Wagner to restart the Union County Foreclosure Task Force which was created to help those in need after the financial crash in 2009. In its new form the task force will also include tenants at risk of eviction. Under the Union County Means Business for All initiative, we have also developed new programs that reflect the value that we place on inclusion and acceptance throughout all our county programs.

First, I have asked the office of LGBTQ Affairs to work with the national and New Jersey LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce to develop a virtual job-fair for accepting business that value LGBTQ diversity in their workforce and offer an affirming working environment s where all are welcome. The culture of equality creates trust and innovation and fosters business growth. In line with this, we are working with the Union County EDC to develop an open-for-business, open-for-everyone diversity and inclusion symposium for business owners, managers, and entrepreneurs. This will focus on internal policies and practices to create affirming work environments for employees and best practices for being open for business to all people. Upon completion of the LGBTQ+ diversity and inclusion training, businesses will be invited to sign the open-for-business, open-for-everyone pledge and receive a window decal or sticker for their establishment.

Although we expect all our parks to be safe, I have asked the office of LGBTQ Affairs to work with our parks department to develop plans for a unique, LGBTQ + inclusive and welcoming space for all to enjoy at Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield. Our goal is to create a garden, trail, reflection area in the park's extension on Stelle Avenue. It is our intention to further evaluate and implement national recreation and park's association inclusion programs that prioritizes LGBTQ inclusion.

As noted by the NRPA, true to the very philosophy of public parks and recreation is the idea that all people, no matter their gender identity or sexual orientation, have access to quality programs, facilities, places and spaces that make their lives and communities great. Our Park's Department will continue to review what began last year as signage to our County Parks to ensure that everyone feels at home and included.

Work in ongoing, in conjunction with the Department of Human Services, to ensure ADA compliance, county-wide as well. The Park's Department as a whole will have a busy year, moving forward with the new facilities and new programs.

All throughout the pandemic, our residents sought parks and other outdoor spaces as a safe place to get out of their homes and enjoy a movie or some entertainment. We have been able to accomplish both through our drive-up movies and concerts. Concerts and movies have proven to be very popular and I

am happy to announce we will continue and resume this programming, free of charge, to our residents in the spring.

This year, we opened the following projects. First, work should be completed by summer on the newly renovated Ulrich Pool in Rahway. We've installed a new pool, a spray element, and playgrounds for everyone to enjoy. Second, a new turf field baseball facility at Synder Ave Park in Berkeley Heights will open in the spring. Third, we've budgeted money for the construction of a new, outdoor riding ring for those with disabilities at Watchung Stables in Mountainside; This ring should be completed by the end of the year.

We also expect to complete the Master Plan for the Clark Reservoir in the next few months. Through State Senator Scutari's efforts, the County received a quarter of a million dollars in State funds to be used for their reservoir, which sits off Lake Ave in Clark. We are looking forward to making these improvements that will enhance the use of this reservoir by the public.

Last year, we announced plans to transform the County property on Kushing Rd into a working farm, as part of a unique and educational opportunity for those students at UCVTS in Scotch Plains. The farm will connect the campus with emerging trends in bio-science, sustainability, urban agriculture, and the farm-to-table economy. This project will move forward to fruition this year. And for the final part of our initiatives for this year, I've saved one of the most important.

We anticipate the groundbreaking on one of Union County's largest and most important economic development projects ever, the construction of two County office buildings on West Grant Ave in Elizabeth. The plan is to consolidate employees from the current administration building and several other leased facilities into these two new buildings. By financing through the UC Improvement Authority and eliminating these leases, the County will save \$120 Million over 30 years. We will work with our union labor partners, where the construction will create dozens of new jobs as well. The project will be managed and financed by the UCIA and we expect completion in 2023.

I've said it before and I will say it again, I am proud of each County employee who in their own way enabled us to continue providing essential services, while managing the challenges brought on by the pandemic, including testing, tracking, tracing, emergency food distributions, CARES ACT grant programs. I do want to highlight four County employees who continue to make a difference, Alex Chappotin, Sean Faughnan, Robert Charkowsky, and Jessica Cohen; they all stepped up in 2021. We are facing formidable challenges again this year, but together we will rise above it all. Together we can, we must and we will get over the pandemic and move Union County forward.

I would also like to thank my family, my children, Alex and Micayla, and my wife Phyllis; they are my backbone. They provide me with so much help and inspiration, and I will need it more than ever in this coming year. I love you all.

I thank you all for watching today. I look forward to working with you all towards a healthier, safer, and more prosperous New Year in Union County. May God Bless you and, this great county and nation.

RETURN FROM RECESS

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to return from Recess. On a motion made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative to Return from Recess.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to approve Communications. On a motion made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Garretson, 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 Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Staten 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.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, asked questions relative to several resolutions. Relative to Reso No. 2021-18, he inquired about the special projects cited. Relative to Reso No. 2021-40, he made comments relative to personnel involved with the vendor Acrisure. Relative to Reso No. 2021-52, he asked whether the cited amount was for annual costs or the total for the 5-year contract. Relative to Reso No. 2021-57, Mr. Paterson asked for the original name of the vendor. Relative to Reso No. 2021-62, he inquired about the cited position and who would be appointed to the position as well as monies involved.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-18, County Manager Oatman advised that the vendor had previously assisted with the new government complex project and would continue to assist with upcoming and ongoing projects. He added that the cited monies were a "Not to Exceed" amount that would be used as necessary. Relative

to Reso No. 2020-62, County Manager Oatman advised that Director Graziano of the Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities Management would be taking the position. He added that he Director Graziano would be compensated \$30,000 for the position paid for Berkeley Heights to the County. He added that the position was contracted for 3 years.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-40, Director Scutari advised that the vendor assisted with medical prescription and benefits and that the cited item reflected a renewal option of services for 2 years.

Relative to Reso No. 2020-52, Director Anderson confirmed that the cited amount reflected only one year of service. She added that actual yearly expenses were often less than the cited amount, noting an average of \$3.1-3.2 million in expenses. Relative to Reso No. 2020-57, Director Anderson advised that the original name was Cornerstone.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

- 2021-1 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Adopting the Bylaws and Rules of Procedures for the Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-2 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Adopting the Meeting Schedule of the Union County Board of County Commissioners for the Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-3 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Designating Official Newspapers for legal notices of the County of Union for the Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-4 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Adopting the Commissioner Standing Committee assignments for 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-5 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Appointing members of the Union County Board of County Commissioners as liaisons to various Advisory Boards for the Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-6 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Appointing the following as representatives to the New Jersey Association of Counties for the term commencing January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2021: Commissioner Angela Garretson (Delegate) and Commissioner Sergio Granados (Alternate).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-7 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Appointing the following as representatives to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority for the term commencing January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2021: Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski (Delegate) and Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon (Alternate).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-8 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Appointing Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon as the Union County Delegate to Meadowlink/EZ Ride for a term commencing January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-9 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution appointing James E. Pellettiere as Clerk of the Union County Board of County Commissioners for a three (3) year term commencing February 1, 2021 through January 31, 2024.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-10 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Adopting the Temporary Budget for the Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-11 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Establishing change funds for Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-12 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Establishing Petty Cash Funds for Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-13 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Updating Petty Cash Custodians for the County Counsel's Office.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-14 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Updating Petty Cash Custodians for the Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-15 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Designating depositories wherein all public monies and funds of the County of Union shall be kept for Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-16 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Designating signatories for Calendar Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-17 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Approving a list of pre-qualified financial advisors for the Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-18 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Awarding a contract to Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP, to provide financial advisory services in connection with special projects for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in the amount not to exceed \$150,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-19 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Awarding a contract to Rogut McCarthy, LLC, to provide specialized counsel services in connection with the issuance of bonds, or notes by the County of Union from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2021-20 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Awarding a contract to Suplee, Clooney & Company, Westfield, NJ to provide statutory audits of Constitutional Offices of

the County of Union and other services as required from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-21 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Wielkottz & Company, Pompton Lakes, NJ to provide statutory audits of accounts of the County of Union and its agencies from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Kowalski abstaining.

- 2021-22 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Renewing the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund to administer and provide excess insurance for the following: Liability (other than motor vehicles), Property Damage (other than motor vehicles), Motor Vehicles, Public Officials Liability/Employment Practices Liability, and Workers Compensation for the budget period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$2,542,889.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-23 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** A resolution approving a list of Qualified Shorthand Reporters for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-24 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** A resolution approving a list of Qualified Litigation Defense and General Counsel for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-25 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** A resolution approving a list of Qualified Labor/Personnel Counsel for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-26 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Hatfield Schwartz Law Group, Cedar Knolls, NJ to serve as Labor and Personnel Counsel for twelve

(12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$205,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-27 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Eric M. Bernstein & Associates, LLC, Warren, New Jersey, to serve as Personnel Counsel, for twelve (12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$115,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-28 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Ruderman & Roth, LLC, Springfield, New Jersey, to serve as Personnel Counsel for twelve (12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-29 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Florio Perrucci Steinhardt Cappelli Tipton & Taylor, LLC, New Providence, NJ to serve as Personnel Counsel, for the twelve (12) consecutive month period of period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-30 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Rainone Coughlin Minchello, LLC, Iselin, NJ, to serve as Personnel Counsel, for the twelve (12) consecutive month period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an estimated amount not to exceed \$45,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-31 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Leitner Tort DeFazio & Brause, P.C., Edison, NJ to provide Worker's Compensation Defense Counsel Services for twelve (12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, with any sums to be paid through the Third Party Administrator.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-32 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to Biancamano & DiStefano, P.C., Edison, NJ to provide Worker's Compensation Defense Counsel

Services for twelve (12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, with any sums to be paid through the Third Party Administrator.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-33 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution 2020-918 dated December 10, 2020 to increase the appropriation to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Capelli, Tipton & Taylor, LLC, of New Providence, NJ, for Special Legal services related to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES ACT") in the amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$350,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-34 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** A resolution awarding a contract to Manuel R. Grova, Esq. as Special Counsel to the Union County Planning Board for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 at an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-35 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the use of NJ State, Somerset County, Educational Services Commission of NJ, and Cranford Police Cooperative contracts as exceptions to bidding pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-10,11 and 12 and NJAC 5:34-Subchapter 7 for 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-36 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution authorizing a program of pre-approved reimbursement for completed job related courses by Union County full-time employees in a total amount not to exceed \$ 150,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-37 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract Beckerman & Company, Colonia, NJ for the purpose of providing General Insurance Consultant/Broker Services for the period of February 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023 with one option to extend the contract for an additional 24 months, for a total amount not to exceed \$84,583.00 for the first 35 month contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-38 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the second and final option to extend a contract with FMLASource, a ComPsych affiliate, Chicago, IL, for the provision of a comprehensive State and Federal Family Leave Administration Program to County employees for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$46,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-39 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an open ended contract for essential Telecommunication Services with Verizon Inc. of New Jersey, a Board of Public Utilities regulated supplier, for an estimated not to exceed amount of \$315,000.00 for the period of twelve (12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-40 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the final option to extend the contract with Acrisure LLC, Woodbridge, NJ, and Business & Government Insurance Agency, Woodbridge, NJ, for the provision of Health Insurance Consultant/Broker Services and Voluntary Benefits Services from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-41 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Atlantic Health Systems, Atlantic Medical Group, Clark, New Jersey for the provision of pre-employment medical examinations, drug screenings and other related medical services for the County of Union (Division of Personnel and Sheriff's Office) for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-42 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with ComPsych, Chicago, IL, for the provision of a comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to County employees and their families for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$54,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-43 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Institute of Forensic Psychology, Oakland, NJ to provide Psychological Evaluation Services to the Departments of Administrative Services

(Division of Personnel), Sheriff's, Corrections, Prosecutor's and Public Safety for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in a total amount not to exceed \$51,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-44 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Dr. Susan A. Furnari, Licensed Psychologist, Nutley, NJ, to provide Psychological Evaluation Services to the Departments of Administrative Services (Division of Personnel), Corrections and Prosecutor's for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in a total amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-45 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Awarding a contract to James Jude Plaia, Esq., Verona, NJ to provide Worker's Compensation Defense Counsel Services for twelve (12) consecutive months of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, with any sums to be paid through the Third Party Administrator.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-46 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Newark Gateway Travel Services Inc., 759 Bloomfield Avenue #224, West Caldwell, New Jersey as the vendor to provide Travel Agent Services to all County entities at a not to exceed amount of \$65,000 for a period of 24 consecutive months with one option to extend for an additional 24 months.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-47 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to renew the County's Dental Insurance Contract with Delta Dental and Flagship Health Systems, Parsippany, New Jersey to provide Dental Coverage for the contract period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$1,750,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-48 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with International Healthcare Services/Healthplex, Uniondale, New York to provide dental insurance for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$325,000 per year for two (2) years for a total amount not to exceed of \$650,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-49 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Equipment Maintenance Insurance Policy with Specialty Underwriters, Oak Creek, WI for the provision of coverage for maintenance costs of electronic office equipment for the contract period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$215,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-50 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing a payment to Beckerman, Inc., the County's General Insurance Broker of Record, to renew the Marine Insurance Policy covering UC Marine 2, the Union County Police Fire Boat, with North American Specialty for the twelve (12) consecutive month period of January 22, 2021 through January 21, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$5,693.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-51 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing a payment to Beckerman & Company, the County's General Insurance Broker of Record, to obtain an Equine Mortality Policy with Great American Assurance Company, Cincinnati, OH for the period of February 24, 2021 through February 23, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$2,750.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-52 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the County's fourth and final option to extend the contract with MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, New York, pursuant to competitive contracting law (RCCP 12-2016), for the provision of transportation services in the form of Routing, Scheduling & Dispatch and Road Operator Services for the Union County Paratransit System for the contract period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, representing Year Five (5) of the total five (5) year contract, in the total amount not to exceed \$4,833,461.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-53 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-580 to reflect that Knights Inn, Elizabeth, NJ, is authorized to exceed the Pay to Play threshold amount of \$17,500.00 with requirement of properly executed pay to play disclosures, without an increase to the total contract amount for all vendors, of not to exceed \$350,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-54 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-740, a contract with MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY, for the provision of Transportation Services, to reflect a change in appropriation accounts only.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-55 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-881 for the addition of Knights Inn, Elizabeth, NJ to the list of Code Blue shelters and motels for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-56 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, Elizabeth, NJ for the period of January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, to provide emergency shelter housing placements for homeless individuals in Union County through the Operation Warm Heart Program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-57 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution 2020-775 to correctly reflect a change in the name of the company as Salina Support Services, LLC, Pinehurst, NC with no other changes to the terms of the contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-58 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to designate the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs as the Official County Cultural and Heritage Agency of the County of Union for Year 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-59 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to allow the Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs to apply for private and public funding for grants to be used for the purpose of developing and implementing programs and services in the arts, education, history and preservation for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-60 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2018-829, exercising the option to extend the contract with Advanced Data Processing Inc., Chappaqua, NY (formerly dba Intermedix) to provide ambulance billing services for Union County Emergency Medical Services for the 6 month period of October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 at a service fee cost of 5.15% of the total revenue collected, in an amount not to exceed \$23,274.46.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-61 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-790, a Shared Service Agreement by and between the County of Union and the Borough of Kenilworth for the sharing of a Certified Public Works Manager, to extend the agreement three (3) months through March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$5,500.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-62 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-168, to exercise the final 12 month option to extend the shared services agreement by and between the County of Union and the Township of Berkeley Heights for the sharing of a certified public works manager, for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2021-63 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Frank Paparatto during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2021-64 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Elijah Johnson, Sr during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded congratulated her Commissioner colleagues, Commissioner Garretson, Commissioner Hudak, and Commissioner Leon relative to winning their recent elections to the Board. She also congratulated

Commissioner Mirabella and Commissioner Williams for their appointments as Chairman and Vice Chair respectively. She closed by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and noted that she looked forward to a better and brighter 2021.

Commissioner Garretson spoke relative to the Reorganizational Ceremony and thanked Governor Murphy for administering the Oath of Office to her earlier as well as all his support throughout the year.

Commissioner Granados wished everyone a Happy New Year, congratulating his colleagues Commissioner Garretson, Commissioner Hudak, and Commissioner Leon on their election success and earlier swearing in. He noted the tremendous leadership and comradery amongst members of the Board, noting that he looked forward to continue success and championing for the residents of Union County.

Commissioner Kowalski congratulated her Commissioner colleagues Commissioner Garretson and Commissioner Hudak on their re-election as well as Commissioner Leon on her election win. She also congratulated Commissioner Mirabella and Commissioner Williams for their appointments as Chairman and Vice Chair to the Board of County Commissioners. She also thanked everyone throughout the County, including County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner and staff for all their efforts relative to COVID-19.

Commissioner Kowalski expressed the Board's recommitment to addressing the needs and concerns of County residents in particular, as it relates to COVID-19.

Commissioner Staten wished everyone a Happy New Year and expressed her hopes for 2021, including health and equality as well as a safe and productive year for all. She assured residents that Union County was ready to provide essential services and resources, including food distribution to combat food insecurity and the COVID-19 vaccination roll out. She closed by congratulating her colleagues Commissioner Garretson, Commissioner Hudak, and Commissioner Leon on their election victories and appointments to the Board.

Commissioner Leon wished everyone a Happy New Year, noting how excited she was to embark on this new journey as Union County Commissioner. She thanked everyone for welcoming her so warmly and thanked the voters for their support, committing herself to working hard for the betterment of the County and its residents.

Vice Chair Williams congratulated Commissioner Garretson, Commissioner Hudak, and Commissioner Leon as well as Sheriff Peter Corvelli and Clerk Joanne Rajoppi on their respective wins. She also congratulated Commissioner Chairman Mirabella for his reappointment as chairman and thanked the Board for their confidence and support relative to her appointment as Vice Chairman. On a different note, she recognized the County for its proactive response to the COVID-19 pandemic and thanked County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner as well as all the Directors involved for their commitment to providing necessary resources to County residents in light of the pandemic and getting residents back to work safely.

Commissioner Hudak issued his congratulations to Commissioner Garretson and Commissioner Leon as well as Commissioner Mirabella and Commissioner Williams on their appointments to the position of Chairman and Vice Chair of the Board respectively.

Chairman Mirabella congratulated Commissioner Garretson, Commissioner Hudak, and Commissioner Leon for their election wins and earlier swearing-in ceremonies, noting that the Board and its members were a good team to continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and provide the necessary resources to affected residents. He noted Union County's response to the pandemic, having quickly set up one of the first testing sites in the state. He thanked County Manager Oatman and Deputy County Manager Wagner and all the Directors involved with this effort. He also thanked Governor Murphy for his participation in the swearing-in ceremony. He recognized Clerk Pellettiere, Robert Charkowsky, Dave Pilmenstein for their efforts and assistance in helping facilitate the Commissioner meetings virtually.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Mirabella asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Commissioner Leon, voice vote showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2021 MEETING SCHEDULE**

**REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021 at 12:00 pm
Courthouse Plaza, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ & Remotely
Through Teleconference via Zoom Webinar**

2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 21, 2021

February 4, 2021
February 18, 2021

March 4, 2021
March 25, 2021

April 8, 2021
April 22, 2021

May 6, 2021
May 20, 2021

June 10, 2021
June 24, 2021

July 22, 2021

August 12, 2021

September 2, 2021
September 23, 2021

October 7, 2021
October 21, 2021

November 4, 2021
November 18, 2021

December 2, 2021
December 16, 2021

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 21, 2021

February 4, 2021
February 18, 2021

March 4, 2021
March 25, 2021

April 8, 2021
April 22, 2021

May 6, 2021
May 20, 2021

June 10, 2021
June 24, 2021

July 22, 2021

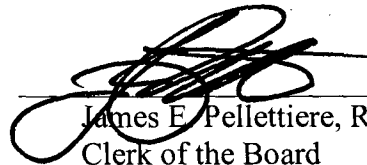
August 12, 2021

September 2, 2021
September 23, 2021

October 7, 2021
October 21, 2021

November 4, 2021
November 18, 2021

December 2, 2021
December 16, 2021


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

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings are to be regularly held on Thursday evenings and are scheduled to be held on the same evening, with the Agenda Setting Session to commence at 5:00pm and the Regular Meeting to commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session, unless otherwise noted.