



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Mirabella presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:22 P.M.

### **ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed Chairman Alexander Mirabella, Vice Chair Rebecca Williams, Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, Commissioner Sergio Granados, Commissioner Christopher Hudak, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, and Commissioner Andrea Staten were present; with Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded absent.

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 the Communications. On a motion made by Vice Chair Williams and seconded by Commissioner Staten, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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1. Thursday, August 12, 2021 - Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, August 12, 2021 - Regular Meeting

Chairman Mirabella called for a motion to approve the August Minutes. On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice Chair Williams, roll call showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the August minutes; with Chairman Mirabella and Commissioner Hudak abstaining and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

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**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 Vice Chairman Williams and seconded by Commissioner Granados, roll called showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

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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, asked questions and made comments relative to several Resolutions. Relative to Reso No. 2021-650, he asked what types of products would be purchased from the vendor. Relative to Reso No. 2021-658, he asked about lead detection equipment that had been previously purchased for use by the County. Relative to Reso No. 2021-662, Mr. Paterson inquired about the City of Rahway giving funds to the County. Relative to Reso No. 2021-665, he asked for additional information relative to the area plan contract. Relative to Reso No. 2021-666, he asked if this would be funded using federal stimulus monies. Relative to Reso No. 2021-667, Mr. Paterson asked if it was appropriate to use American Rescue Plan monies to fund these repairs. Relative to Reso No. 2021-672, Mr. Paterson asked about the cited \$77,000. Relative to Reso No. 2021-673, he asked why this contract was not awarded to a New Jersey based company and why the County's Department of Public Works couldn't complete the work. Relative to Reso No. 2021-677, Mr. Paterson asked about the additional monies added. Relative to Reso No. 2021-679, he asked why these expenses were being paid now. Relative to Reso No. 2021-688, he asked for additional information relative to these legal services. Relative to Reso No. 2021-689, Mr. Paterson asked if this was a duplicate expense.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-650, Director Anderson advised that the vendor would provide various outreach materials as well as giveaways and other resources for residents.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-658, Director Moran advised that the Health Department had previously purchased similarly equipment that was still in working order. He added that this item would allow for the inspection of contaminated homes as needed in a more timely fashion. He noted the resource was grant funded and reflected a not to exceed amount that would be used as needed.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-662, Director Taylor advised that this was a special item of revenue to recover funds expended on behalf of the City of Rahway for their special School Board Election. She added that expenses included postage, ballots, advertising, and IT support.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-665, Director Taylor advised that this item related to the acceptance of additional funds provided by the Department of Human Services to assist with making COVID-19 vaccines more accessible to older adults, individuals those with disabilities as well as caregivers affected by the pandemic.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-666, Director Taylor advised that this item related to a special item of revenue from the Department of State to administer early voting, consistent with Public Law 2021, Chapter 40. County Manager Oatman added that monies used for election purposes were necessary to ensure free and fair elections.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-667, County Manager Oatman advised that this was an appropriate use of funds as many city, county and local groups used this location to host meetings and other activities. He added that repairs would improve safety at the location.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-672, Director Graziano advised that local public contract law did not apply to professional services. He added that this item related to an ongoing dam project, noting that construction would commence that Wednesday.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-673, Director Graziano noted that this vendor had been chosen after a public bidding process, noting that only one additional bid had been submitted. He added that the monies being used for this item were from motor vehicle fines. He noted that this contract included one-year maintenance and watering for the trees to be planted along county roads and parks.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-677, Director Zuber advised that in previous versions of the meeting agenda, the vendor had been erroneously cited as This Is It! Productions. He added that the correct vendor was the Union County Latino Chamber of Commerce which was a 501 non-profit organization that would be organizing events within Union County in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-688, Counsel Bergen advised that this item related to a large project and the County was using outside council to help with some of the work. He added that additional litigation was needed to push the project forward and that the vendor would be paid for work completed as needed.

Relative to Reso No. 2021-689, Counsel Bergen advised that the same attorney would be handling the matter but through a different law firm after having closed his own. He noted that this matter had been filed a number of years ago at which time it was not known that the County would be represented by the Attorney General as prescribed by the courts. He noted that Attorney Generals nationwide would be negotiating the settlement, adding that it was beneficial for the County to have filed its own lawsuit with separate counsel.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere read Kenilworth resident Mr. John Bury's comments and questions into the record.

Mr. Bury recognized the Commissioners and thanked them for the format of their meetings which allowed for public comment and input in a respectful manner. He added that despite some of his comments over the years, the Board had customarily been respectful and considerate. He advised that he had not been extended the same courtesy from Kenilworth. He noted that he had inquired about campaign donors receiving millions of dollars in fees to complete work for developers, funded by taxpayer monies. He added that due to the lack of response from the Borough, he provided mailers to households within Kenilworth and had received certain responses that he deemed threatening; he advised that as a result he had sought security resources for his personal protection. Relative to Union County, Mr. Bury advised that he had looked into the accountants doing work for the County and their respective campaign donations and found that Suplee, Clooney & Company were no longer auditors after 20 years. He also noted that Bowman & Company did work for four counties throughout the state and had made about \$1.2 million in donations but he could not determine if these donations were made to the same counties they were auditing at the time. He asked if accountants and or auditors doing municipal work were either limited or barred from making campaign donations to those who hired or will hire them to do work in the future.

County Manager Oatman thanked Mr. Bury for his kind words relative to the established meeting process for Commissioner Meetings. He advised Suplee, Clooney & Company still did work with the county as did other companies. He added that orders were based on a competitive process open to anyone interested and that the County was not privy to campaign donations made by these vendors.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere confirmed there were no remaining members of the public wishing to comment and he had not received any additional correspondence to be read into the record.

#### **RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION**

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The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

- 2021-647 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, New Jersey to promote youth, teen and community development through prevention programs including self-empowerment and youth leadership, Interfaith initiatives and collaboration among community programs for youth and families for the period of August 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in the amount of not to exceed \$50,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-648 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into contract with Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, NJ, the agency listed on the American Job Center 2021 Youth Comprehensive Career Services Out of School Youth Spending Plan, to provide comprehensive career services to enhance employment goals for youth ages 14-21 for the period of October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in the total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-649 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, NJ the agency listed on the American Job Center 2021 Youth Comprehensive Career Services In-School Youth Spending Plan, to provide comprehensive career services to enhance employment goals for youth ages 14-21 for the period of October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, in the total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-650 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into agreement with A & B Promotions, Cranford, NJ, for the purchase of promotional materials for the period of August 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in the total amount not to exceed \$7,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-651 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-475 with Village Super Market, Inc. dba ShopRite of Union, Springfield, NJ, for the purpose of providing food for the Union County COVID-19 Emergency Food Distribution events for the period of October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$770,000.00, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$1,785,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-652 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-477 with Frank M. Gargiulo & Son, Inc. dba Gargiulo Produce, Hillside, NJ, for the purpose of providing food for the Union County COVID-19 Emergency Food Distribution events for the period of October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00, for a new total amount not to exceed \$1,030,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-653 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending resolution 2020-885 with The Gateway YMCA, Elizabeth, NJ to operate the Dudley House Veterans Transitional Housing Facility for homeless male veterans, as well as homeless males, with no other changes.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-654 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with TriTech Software Systems, a CentralSquare Company, Lake Mary, FL, for maintenance/support renewal and domain security upgrades to the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) operated by the Union County Department of Public Safety for the contract period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$236,891.34.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-655 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Spec Rescue International, Virginia Beach, Virginia to coordinate, conduct, evaluate and review the annual Metro UASI Strike Team Training Exercise through the 2020 UASI grant, in an amount not to exceed \$35,025.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-656 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and execute a Sub-Grant Agreement with Middlesex County for inclusion in the New Jersey Department of Health, Comprehensive Cancer Control Grant in the amount of \$35,785.00 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-657 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) Grant Funds to support CEHA activities for the contract period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$251,524.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-658 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Mandell Lead Inspectors, Inc. dba Mandell Environmental Consulting, Totowa, NJ, for the inspection of lead in homes of children with elevated blood lead levels through grant funds, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-659 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$462,626.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Body-Worn Camera Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-660 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$35,785.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health and Middlesex County for a program entitled: Comprehensive Cancer Control Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-661 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$90,476.19 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: SFY Operation Helping Hand Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-662 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$55,123.96 as a result of notification received from the City of Rahway, New Jersey, for a program entitled: Rahway 2021 Special School Election Reimbursement Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-663 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$251,524.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection for a program entitled: County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-664 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$115,647.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families, Division on Women for a program entitled: Domestic State Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-665 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$222,655.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services for a program entitled: Area Plan Contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-666 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2021 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$726,523.05 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State for a program entitled: UCBOE Early Voting Reimbursement Phase II Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-667 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Execute a Grant Agreement Awarding American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Improvements to the Assemblyman Gerald B. Green Plaza.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-668 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Sponsoring the NAACP Elizabeth Branch's Community Day held on August 7, 2021 at the Elizabeth Water Front in the amount not to exceed \$200.00.



On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-669 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2021- 83, a contract with NV5 Inc., Parsippany, New Jersey, to provide additional On- Call Traffic Engineering Services for an additional amount of \$10,000.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2020-016).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-670 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement between the County of Union and Township of Hillside for the County to install a LED Pedestrian Crosswalk Sign at Conant Street (C.R. 630) and Sanford Street in Hillside. The system will be maintained by the Township of Hillside.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-671 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-810, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding (BA# 16-2019) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to T.R. Weniger, Inc of Piscataway, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 2 (final) for the 2018 Bridge Improvement Project, various municipalities, County of Union, New Jersey. This change order will reduce the original contract amount by (\$10,498.99) for a new contract amount not to exceed \$961,471.01 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2017-024).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-672 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2020-659 a contract with Mott MacDonald, 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 \$77,000.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$257,700.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-044).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-673 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertising public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts laws, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq.: to Louis Barbato Landscaping, Holbrook, New York (BA UCCP #33-2021) for the purpose of providing and planting trees throughout Union County Parks and Roadways for the Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management for a twelve (12) month contract period commencing upon execution of the contract in the amount not to exceed \$90,210.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-674 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the County's option to extend the contract awarded to Mutual of America, Parsippany, New Jersey, for the implementation of an employee 401(a) benefits plan for county employees not covered under the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) in an amount not to exceed \$66,389.00 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-675 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the County's option to extend the contract awarded to Mutual of America, Parsippany, New Jersey, for the provision of Group Life Insurance with Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan for employees not covered under the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS), in an amount not to exceed \$12,926.00 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-676 COMMISSIONER ANDREA STATEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter in to an Agreement with the City of Plainfield to host their House Music Festival for Prostate Cancer Awareness at the County's Cedar Brook Park, Plainfield, NJ on September 18, 2021; this is at no cost to the County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-677 COMMISSIONER ANDREA STATEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-90, authorizing the 2021 HEART Grant Program, to include the Union County Latino Chamber of Commerce for the Union County Hispanic Heritage Celebration in the amount of \$4,000.00, for a total grant award in an amount not to exceed \$119,700.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-678 COMMISSIONER ANDREA STATEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Trinitas Regional Medical Center, Elizabeth, NJ for the provision of wraparound services to eligible Union County residents experiencing Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), under the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) FY2022 One-Time Alcohol and Drug Abuse Innovative (ADAI) funding in the amount not to exceed \$169,574.00 for the period September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-679 VICE CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending Resolution Number 2019-1042, authorizing a lease agreement with Runnells BH Operating Inc, for the operations of Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital, for an additional amount of \$22,506.65 to cover all lease and tax payments in 2020, for a new total amount not to exceed \$4,601,498.05.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-680 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-99, a contract to Royal Printing Services, West New York, New Jersey, to provide additional printing services to facilitate early voting in the additional amount not to exceed \$14,020.00, for a new contract amount of not to exceed \$144,020.00 and to include a grant account number.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-681 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-102, a contract to The Liberty Group, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, to provide additional transportation services for early voting equipment and electronic poll books on election day in an additional amount of \$8,300.00 for a new contract amount of not to exceed \$68,300.00 and to include a grant account number.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

- 2021-682 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-101, a contract with University Van Lines, Rahway, New Jersey, to provide additional transportation services of electronic poll books for election day in an additional

amount of \$5,600.00 for a new contract amount of not to exceed \$30,600.00 and to include a grant account number.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-683 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-97, a contract to Election Systems and Software, LLC (ES&S), Omaha, Nebraska, for the purpose of adding a grant account number to purchase consumable items for early voting (no change in contract amount).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-684 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution 2021-103, a contract to A. Rifkin & Co., Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of providing secure election supplies, to include a grant account number and include purchases for early voting (no change in contract amount).

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-685 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Intersection Media LLC, Secaucus, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing print advertising on buses and at NJ train stations for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program for a contract period of September 6, 2021 through September 26, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$29,998.25.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-686 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-583 dated July 12, 2021 approving the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan to include projects funded with Community Development Program Income Funds received from the City of Rahway and City of Plainfield.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-687 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Numbers 2020-479 and 2020-540 approving the 2020-2021 Annual Consolidated Action Plan to increase CDBG funding to include \$9,506.16 for the Neighborhood House Project for an installation of a HVAC system.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-688 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-316 to increase the appropriation to Lum, Drasco & Positan, LLC of Roseland, NJ to provide legal representation in regards to legal services associated with Redevelopment Projects (Union County Government Complex) in the City of Elizabeth, NJ in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for a total sum not to exceed \$150,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-689 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Amending Resolution Number 2018-260 to reflect Wilentz, Goldman, Spitzer, P.A., is replacing The Keefe Law Firm, to pursue litigation related to the opioids epidemic.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

#### COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

**2021-690 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Wanda M. Payne of Newark, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-691 COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER HUDA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating Kathryn Noonan and Dowlings Irish Pub on being honored by the Union County Police Fire Pipes and Drums at their 20th Anniversary, on Friday, November 5, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-692 COMMISSIONER ANDREA STATEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution recognizing September 2021 as National Suicide Prevention Month and September 10, 2021 as National Suicide Prevention Day.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-693 COMMISSIONER ANDREA STATEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution recognizing September, 2021 as National Recovery Month.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-694 VICE CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating John and Sheila O'Malley on the occasion of their family reunion.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-695 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating Eddie Donnelly, Irishman of the Year and Jen Bradshaw-Lowney, Irishwoman of the Year on being honored by the Union County Emerald Society 39th Annual Pub Nite, Saturday, October 9, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-696 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution extending best wishes and sincerest appreciation to Judge Karen Cassidy, Superior Court Judge, upon this, the occasion of her retirement, after years of loyal and dedicated service to the County of Union and its citizenry.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-697 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution designating September, 2021 as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month."

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-698 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** A Resolution proclaiming Friday, September 17, 2021 as POW/MIA Remembrance Day throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

**2021-699 CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution recognizing Leonard Komar, Grand Knight of Columbus' 2020/2021 Grand Knight, on his dedication and leadership to the Knights of Columbus Council #4504 and further congratulating him on his honor at the annual Past Grand Knights dinner on Saturday, October 9, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Granados and seconded by Vice Chair Williams roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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Commissioner Leon extended her gratitude to the Union County staff for their tireless efforts last night and throughout the evening in response to the unprecedented damage provoked by Hurricane Ida. She added that her thoughts and prayers were with those affected by the storm, particularly those that had lost a loved one. On a different note, she advised that she was looking forward to the many activities scheduled for Hispanic Heritage Month, with a flag raising event on September 12<sup>th</sup>. She wished everyone a happy Labor Day and encouraged residents to stay safe.

Commissioner Kowalski offered her condolences to the families of those that were lost during the previous evening's storm as well as those that experienced damage and loss of property. She thanked the various Departments throughout the County including Public Safety, Engineering and Facilities Management, and Parks and Recreation for their continued work throughout the night and the subsequent cleaning underway. She advised that Cranford had experienced severe flooding, noting that similar flooding had occurred during many of the severe storms of the past including Superstorm Sandy. She noted that the local Mayors and Flood Control Commissions had been working diligently for a long time to get a major flood control project underway in the area. She added that Democratic representatives in Washington, D.C. were also working in support of this project but had not yet received approval from the Army Corps of Engineers. She advised that with the help of Senators Menendez and Booker as well as Congressmen Malinowski and Payne, the Board was hopeful that some progress would be made to better prepare the area for future weather-related events.

Commissioner Granados thanked the First Responders for their tireless efforts during the storm and throughout the night. He also noted his appreciation for the residents of Union County for helping one another during these precarious times. He added that this was a testament to the resilience of residents and their willingness to help each other during times of need. He closed by thanking the Board, County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner, and the many Directors throughout the County, including Director Moran, for their efforts relative to the storm.

Commissioner Hudak noted that the previous evening he had joined Chairman Mirabella, Commissioner Granados, County Manager Oatman and Director Moran at a ceremony to

discuss the expansion of the UC Dispatch Center. He noted that the Dispatch Center customarily received 500 calls in a 24-hour period. He advised that due to the storm the Dispatch Center had received approximately 800 calls an hour, totaling 3,147 calls. He added that he had received great feedback relative to the assistance being provided by the County, especially during perilous times as seen the previous evening. He commended the First Responders as well as Local Law Enforcement and Fire Officials for taking the necessary steps to provide essential resources and assistance to residents. He offered his condolences to the family of those that lost a loved one during the storm. On another note, he spoke relative to the increased frequency and intensity of storms in the area, noting that elected officials would have to improve infrastructure as well as response to these types of events that would only get more destructive due to climate change.

Commissioner Staten offered her thoughts and prayers to everyone affected by Hurricane Ida. She thanked the Emergency Management Team and First Responders for their efforts, noting that they were still working hard to address the aftermath of the storm. On another note, she spoke about the County's First Annual Car Show the previous Sunday, in honor of First Responders and Frontline Heroes, adding that the event was a huge success. She thanked the Board for facilitating the event as well as those that helped organize and run the event. To close, she wished Commissioner Granados a Happy Birthday.

Commissioner Garretson noted that as a former Mayor of Hillside she recalled many weather-related events that impacted the Town. She added that she had received notice from a friend that had been stuck in Linden and had not managed to make it home until the following morning due to the precarious conditions throughout the area due to the storm. She reminded residents that the Commissioners continued to be on the frontlines during these difficult times to ensure residents have access to essential resources.

Commissioner Garretson also spoke relative to the recent 2021 Multicultural Entertainment Day at Conant Park in Hillside noting the participation of UC Sheriff Officers in a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. She recognized them for their professionalism and leadership as well as for serving as an inspiration to the many young men and women throughout the community. She thanked the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Department of Human Services for their efforts relative to the celebration. She also noted that the mobile vaccine clinic on-site that day had administered several doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to younger adults. On another note, she also extended her well wishes to students and teachers returning to the classroom in the coming days. To close, she wished Commissioner Granados a Happy Birthday.

Vice Chair Williams thanked First Responders as well as County and Local Government agencies for their collaborative efforts in response to Hurricane Ida. She also offered her thoughts and prayers to those that lose someone in the storm as well as those that had suffered damage to their property. She noted that she was hopeful that the Board and County would increase resources to help residents affected. On another note, she reminded residents about an upcoming commemoration ceremony on Saturday, September 11th in remembrance of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 and all the lives tragically lost. She wished everyone a wonderful Labor Day and wished her Commissioner colleague, Commissioner Granados a Happy Birthday.



Chairman Mirabella spoke relative to the recent Union County Car, Truck, and Bike Show at Oak Ridge Park in Clark, noting the event as a success. He wished Alexis Staten, daughter of Commissioner Staten, luck as she entered into her first year of college. He also congratulated the many students throughout the County, adding that it was nice that students could finally return to the classroom for in-person instruction. On another note, he congratulated Union County Vicinage Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy on her retirement, adding that she had been a terrific ally to the County Administration and Board of Commissioners over the years, having allowed the Board to utilize her courtroom for their Reorganizational Meetings in the past. He thanked her for her many contributions over the years and wished her health and happiness in her retirement. He also wished his colleague, Commissioner Granados, a Happy Birthday. To close, he recognized State Senators Cryan, Kaine, and Scutari for remaining in constant communication with communities, mayors and town administrators to discuss COVID-19 testing and vaccination efforts as well as Emergency Response Preparedness. He also advised that he had been in contact with Governor Murphy and thanked him for reaching out and offering resources and support.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Mirabella asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Vice Chair Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 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. Pelletiere, 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.

In adherence to the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) guidelines, the County Commissioners' meetings will be open to the public by electronic means, and as such, will be conducted through a teleconference via ZOOM Webinar. All members of the public may view the meeting by livestream at [ucnj.org/commissioners](http://ucnj.org/commissioners). Any member of the public wishing to participate in the teleconference meeting, may do so by downloading ZOOM to their individual electronic device and must email the Clerk of the Board at [jpellettiere@ucnj.org](mailto:jpellettiere@ucnj.org) <<mailto:jpellettiere@ucnj.org>> to receive the meeting-specific link and password to gain access to the teleconference. All requests **must** be submitted and received by the Clerk of the Board **no later than noon of the corresponding meeting date.**

Members of the public who prefer not to, or do not have the means to, participate in the teleconference, may continue to participate in the County Commissioners meetings by emailing comments relative to resolutions being offered for adoption and/or on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county to the Clerk of the Board at [jpellettiere@ucnj.org](mailto:jpellettiere@ucnj.org) <<mailto:jpellettiere@ucnj.org>>. All relevant comments received will be read into the record during each Regular Meeting's Public Comment Portion, prior to the Board's consideration of resolutions for adoption, and will be addressed accordingly by the Board. All emails **must** be submitted and received by the Clerk of the Board **no later than noon of the corresponding Regular Meeting date** and, as is always the case, **must** include the public member's **full name** and **town of residence** and **resolution number** to which comments are being referred for the record. Agendas will be posted for the public's viewing on the County's official website at: [www.ucnj.org/commissioners](http://www.ucnj.org/commissioners) <<http://www.ucnj.org/commissioners>>.

Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908-527-4140.