

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Williams presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:11 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chair Rebecca Williams, Vice Chair Christopher Hudak, Commissioner James E. Baker Jr., Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, Commissioner Christopher Hudak, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, and Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, were present; with Commissioner Sergio Granados and 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

Note and File

Chair Williams called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Commissioner Garretson and seconded by Commissioner Mirabella roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

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, made comments relative to Chair Williams and her Chairship over the Board of County Commissioners, noting her as well-spoken and polite. He made comments relative to the budget and the running fund balance, insisting these funds could be used to offset municipal tax increases. Relative to Reso No. 2022-102, he asked for a breakdown of funds for CAD and RMS respectively. Relative to Reso No. 2022-103, he asked how the cost of the

shared services agreement of Roselle was calculated. Relative to Reso No. 2022-110, he inquired about the vendor's experience as it relates to the cited services.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-102, County Manager Oatman advised that he did not have those figures, but they would be provided to the public speaker following the meeting.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-103, County Manager Oatman advised that the cost for these services was based on volume of calls for the services being rendered to the Borough of Roselle.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-110, Administrator DiRado advised that this item had been awarded through an open RFP process, noting that the cited vendor had been one of two to submit a proposal. She added that the selected vendor had extensive experience and this would be the third time they had been employed by the County to provide related services. She noted that the vendor was also used for similar services by twelve additional counties within New Jersey.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

2022-90 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution sponsoring the Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee in the amount of not to exceed \$4,000 in support of their St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held on March 12, 2022.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-91 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution 2021-767 to add the following motels: the RATAN Secaucus LLC, - Roadway Inn, Secaucus NJ; RATAN LLC, North Bergen, NJ; and RATAN PALACE LLC, - Days Hotel, North Bergen, NJ under the Countywide Code Blue Emergency Shelter Initiative to be inclusive of dollars to be allocated in emergency sheltering situations and/or on days that qualify under the State of New Jersey's Code blue law for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, with no change in the total appropriation.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-92 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and to accept grant funds in the amount of \$74,247.00 for the Union County Rape Crisis Center (RCC) to provide services for sexual violence victims through the FFY19 Victims of Crime Act – Victim Assistance Grant (VOCA-VAG), Confidential Sexual

Violence Advocate (CSVA) Program with a required County In-Kind Match of not to exceed \$18,562.00 in existing RCC personnel expenses and CSVA volunteer hours, for a program grand total not to exceed \$92,809.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-93 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award 2022 HEART Grants through the Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs in the amount of not to exceed \$125,00.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-94 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to Amend Resolution Number 2017-042, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding (BA#9-2017) in accordance with Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40AA:11-1 et seq., to Mar-Bridge Enterprises, Inc., Matawan, NJ, approving Change Order No. 2 (final) for the Ash Brook Golf Course Clubhouse Project, Scotch Plains, County of Union, NJ. This change order will reduce the original contract amount by (\$1,752.00) for a new contract not to exceed \$10,085,790.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-95 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution Number 2018-746, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding (BA#11-2015) in accordance with Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Ritacco Construction Company of Belleville, New Jersey, approving Change Order No. 2 for the Replacement of Short Hills Avenue Culvert, SP-39, Township of Scotch Plains, New Jersey. This change order will increase the original contract amount by \$131,752.33 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$626,612.33 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-006c).

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-96 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Victory Industrial Supply Inc., Linden, New Jersey for the purchase of hardware, factory and mill supplies for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$44,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-97 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the option to extend a contract with Lorco Petroleum Services, Elizabeth, NJ for an additional 24 months from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$6,000.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-98 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the option to extend a contract with Electronic Manufacturers Recycling Management, LLC (MRM), Minneapolis, MN for the twenty-four month period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023 at no cost to the County.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-99 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with NJ Advance Media, Iselin, NJ for advertisement of collection and recycling events in Union County for the period beginning March 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$21,550.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-100 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: Amending resolution 2021-967, a contract awarded to MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City NY to reflect a change in appropriation accounts only.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-101 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into professional services contracts with three (3) per diem pathologists to be available in the absence of the County Medical Examiner for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-102 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an open ended contract with TriTech Software Systems (CentralSquare Technologies LLC), Lake Mary, FL, for maintenance/support renewal and domain security upgrades for the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) as they come due throughout the year for the

Department of Public Safety and the Sheriff's Office for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$264,034.58.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-103 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a ten (10) year Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Roselle for 911 Police, Fire and EMS Dispatching Services, commencing January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2032 in the amount of \$188,503.00 for the first year, with a 2% increase January 1st of each subsequent calendar year.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-104 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Gold Type Business Machines Inc. (GTBM), East Rutherford, NJ, for the purchase of an Automatic License Plate Reader System and accessories in an amount not to exceed \$31,600.00 utilizing the 2019 and 2020 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Funds.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-105 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Pursuant to New Jersey Laws of 2001, Chapter 371, the Union County Clerk is required to submit a five-year spending plan to the Board of County Commissioners for the use of the Document Trust Fund monies collected into the Union County Clerk's Trust Account.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-106 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of the Union County Prosecutor, to apply for and accept funding for the purpose described in the application from the Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor, State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, in the amount of \$250,000.00 for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, to continue efforts of insurance fraud investigation in Union County (Cycle 2022).

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-107 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of the Union County Prosecutor, to apply for and accept funding for the purpose described in the application from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of

Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the 2021 BJA FY21 DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program in the amount of \$876,280.00 for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-108 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Amending Resolution number 2021-633, authorizing on-call exam fees of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners/Forensic Nurse Examiners who serve as Independent Contractors as part of the Union County Sexual Assault Response Team, to add account number to financial impact. (All other terms remain unchanged.)

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-109 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of the Union County Prosecutor, to apply for and accept funding for the purpose described in the application from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families for the Child Advocacy Development Grants - Treatment Services, Programs, Technology and Capital Improvement in the amount of \$195,827.11 for the period of October 28, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-110 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Remington and Vernick, Secaucus, New Jersey for the purposes of redistricting and ongoing consulting services as it relates to the County's election information in the State Voter Registration System in Union County in an amount not to exceed \$28,270.00 for the period of February 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-111 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter agreements with various vendors for the purchase of law books, legal internet services and materials as is necessary for various departments, constitutional offices and agencies within the County of Union for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$18,750.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-112 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into contracts with West Publishing Corporation dba West, a Thomson Reuters business for the purchase of law books, internet services and materials as is necessary for various departments, constitutional offices and agencies within the County of Union for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$42,825.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-113 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Authorizing the Office of the County Counsel to engage and compensate experts such as court reporters, expert witnesses, examining physicians and other litigation support and specialists which are essential to the defense of the County of Union during the year 2022 in amount not to exceed \$47,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2022-114 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution offering this Board's sincerest condolences to the family of Shamika Wormley during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-115 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Oliver Brown, of Plainfield, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-116 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution extending this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Anna Russo, wife of County Adjuster Anthony Russo, who passed away peacefully in her home on January 14, 2022.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-117 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution offering this Board's sympathies to the family of Jane Moran, mother of Union County Public Safety Director Andrew Moran, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

2022-118 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution offering this Board's sympathies to the family of Doris Wooten, of Plainfield, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Baker roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded absent.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Garretson shared that she had the opportunity to usher in Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday by participating in several county-wide programs, including two very inspiring, inter-faith programs in Elizabeth and Plainfield. She added that MLK's Birthday was a day of reflection as a means to recharge and refocus efforts honoring Dr. King's legacy. She added that it was nice to see the community engagement relative to this event. On another note, she spoke about recent challenges and hardships experienced by residents related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the new emerging variant and encouraged residents to remain vigilant and prioritize safety, adding that the County was committed to taking the necessary steps to prioritize to do the same for all its residents. To close, she noted that she was looking forward to a productive year ahead under the leadership of Chair Williams and Vice Chair Hudak. She also extended a warm welcome to Commissioner Baker.

Commissioner Leon thanked the MLK Committee of Elizabeth for inviting her to participate in their 37th annual inter-faith service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King on Monday. She referenced the tremendous impact and contributions of Dr. King, noting that we should honor him by living in unity, peace, and equality. On another note, she advised that the U.C. Sheriff's Office had positions available for qualified candidates and encouraged interested residents to visit the County website for additional information relative to the application process. She added that she, as well as her colleagues on the Board, respected and valued the commitment to excellence and professionalism demonstrated by these officers. To close, she encouraged residents to get their COVID-19 vaccinations if they hadn't already done so, and or get their booster, as a means to contend with the emerging variant.

Commissioner Kowalski congratulated Chair Williams and Vice Chair Hudak on their new roles on the Board and welcomed Commissioner Baker, adding that she looked forward to once again serving with her colleagues in the coming year. She noted the several events that took place throughout the County in honor of Dr. King, adding that she was looking forward to the upcoming events next month in honor of Black History Month.

Commissioner Baker shared that he had the honor and privilege to attend an MLK celebration in Rahway, adding that the occasion allowed for an opportunity to reflect on Dr. King's accomplishments and the effects the civil rights movement of the time have had on this nation. He noted the importance of expanding upon the ideals and principles of Dr. King. He added that Dr. King believed in the United States of America and the

principles and ideals upon which this Country was founded, noting the importance of living our lives accordingly in honor of Dr. King's legacy. Commissioner Baker noted he was honored to be able to serve on the Commissioner Board, adding that he was committed to helping Union County grow and develop in a positive way for all residents.

Commissioner Mirabella had no comments.

Vice Chair Hudak advised that on Wednesday, January 26th, the County would be offering a free online workshop focused on financial education for special needs families, adding that Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded would be serving as the moderator for the online course. He noted that the workshop would feature helpful information from financial experts from the Mid Atlantic Resource Group, including budgeting and estate planning, with a focus on unique obstacles faced by households with special needs children.

Chair Williams recognized the many partnerships formed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic between the County and other organizations to ensure that residents had access to essential resources, including testing and vaccinations. She thanked the NJ Department of Health and Plainfield Mayor Adrian O. Mapp for facilitating a new testing site in Plainfield at the Plainfield Performing Arts Center, noting that the site would be open six days a week to all County residents. On another note, she spoke relative to the numerous upcoming events scheduled in honor of Black History Month, beginning with the raising of the tri-color red, black, and green flag on February 1st in front of the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth. She noted that Black History Month was a time to recommit to the future and continue honoring and rediscovering achievements and obstacles of the past and present. She also highlighted an upcoming performance of August Wilson's Fences on February 18th at the U.C. Performing Arts Center in Rahway. She also reminded residents about an upcoming free virtual lecture on February 24th by Professor Keith E. Walcott of Union County. College entitled, "African American Survival: from Jim Crow to Civil Rights and Beyond" and encouraged interested residents to register for the lecture.

ADJOURNMENT -

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021 at 6:00 pm Courthouse Plaza, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

AGENDA SETTING SESSION January 20, 2022	REGULAR MEETINGS January 20, 2022
February 3, 2022	February 3, 2022
February 17, 2022	February 17, 2022
March 3, 2022	March 3, 2022
March 24, 2022	March 24, 2022
April 7, 2022	April 7, 2022
April 21, 2022	April 21, 2022
May 12, 2022	May 12, 2022
May 26, 2022	May 26, 2022
June 9, 2022	June 9, 2022
June 23, 2022	June 23, 2022
July 14, 2022	July 14, 2022
August 11, 2022	August 11, 2022
September 15, 2022	September 15, 2022
October 6, 2022	October 6, 2022
October 20, 2022	October 20, 2022
November 10, 2022	November 10, 2022
December 1, 2022	December 1, 2022
December 15, 2022	December 15, 2022

Please note that the County of Union's 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 6:00pm and the Regular Meeting to commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session, unless otherwise noted.

All meetings are to be held in the Commissioner Meeting Room within the Administration Building, 6th floor located at 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth New Jersey, 07207. Due to the Covid-19 coronavirus concerns, County Commissioner meetings may be held remotely via Zoom webinar under the procedures

ellettiere, RMC, QPA Clerk of the Board conducted, as published, in 2021. If said procedures are deemed necessary, the Clerk of the Board will revise said Public Notice according to law.

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