

## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022  
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Williams presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

### ROLL CALL

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

Chair Williams advised that the Communications would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

### OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR

William Daniel, Prosecutor

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Foster and Freeman USA Inc., Sterling, VA for the purchase of equipment and providing related training for the period of March 24, 2022 through September 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$28,115.13. (Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)
2. Amending Resolution Number 2022-124 a contract with Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments Inc., Tewksbury, MA, for the purchase of proprietary reagent, supplies and service agreements for instrument maintenance, to reflect a

change/addition of account numbers only. (All other aspects of the agreement remain the same.) **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

#### DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Laura Scutari, Director

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1. Resolution renewing the Union County Commodity Resale System, ID 99016-UCCRS offering cooperative purchasing opportunities for Union County municipalities to participate in the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

Commissioner Mirabella asked Director Scutari to elaborate on this item, including how many municipalities currently participated in the service.

Director Scutari advised that this item related to a shared service offered through the County to various municipalities related to the use of County fueling sites, adding that nine municipalities currently used the service. She noted that per state requirement, the County had to renew the co-op every five years.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Crisp Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

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1. Amending Resolution Number 2022-131, a contract with Edmunds Gov Tec, Northfield NJ for the provision of maintenance and technical support for the County's financial accounting and electronic requisition system, to increase the contract award in an amount not to exceed \$636.15, for a new total amount not to exceed \$21,841.15 with no other changes to contract date or terms and conditions. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

Commissioner Garretson asked Deputy County Manager Wagner to provide the term dates for the cited contract.

Deputy County Manager Wagner advised that the contract would run from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

2. Resolution of the Union County Board of County Commissioners to concur with Resolution No. 2022-11 of the Union County Workforce Development Board's Executive Committee to award a contract to Union County College, for the provision of Affiliated American Job Center Operator for Career Services to WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers Services in the total amount not to exceed \$650,000.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

Commissioner Granados asked for additional information related to this item.

Deputy County Manager Wagner noted an earlier presentation that included inspiring student testimonials related to participation in the cited programs. She advised that these programs were federally funded and offered a myriad of training opportunities, including on-the-job training and soft-skills training, among others. She noted the success of many students following completion of the program.

Commissioner Granados expressed his approval for this item as it relates to providing residents with essential employment training.

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

Joseph Graziano, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Imwoth LLC dba IDSAutoshred, Toms River, NJ to provide Paper Shredding Services for County Paper Shredding Events from March 26, 2022 through October 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 (grant funded, at no cost to the County). **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for the 2021 NJDEP Recycling Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$469,800.00 and to execute all necessary documents and adopt the proposed spending plan. The Grant will fully and partially fund recycling-related positions, recycling events and programs and associated advertising costs. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**

Vice Chair Hudak asked Director Graziano he if expected to receive the full amount in grant funding and how that amount compared to previous years.

Director Graziano confirmed that he expected to receive the full amount of grant funding, adding that the Department had received \$477,900 the previous year. He noted that the awarded grant monies were determined by the various recycling events organized throughout the County.

Commissioner Hudak further inquired about the costs covered under this grant as well as any forthcoming recycling events taking place throughout the County.

Director Graziano advised that funding would fully cover a variety of recycling events including paper shredding and scrap metal collection, adding that it would also cover the salaries for a recycling coordinator and two additional staff members.

Vice Chair Hudak inquired about forthcoming community-based events, particularly, as it related to the looming plastic and paper bag ban.

Director Graziano petitioned the Board to allow his Department to make a presentation during the next Commissioner meeting related to the pending bag ban taking effect in May. He advised that the Department had been working with Public Information Director Kelly Martins to educate residents about the upcoming change.

Vice Chair Hudak suggested potentially using the County's recycling coach app to alert residents about upcoming events, including the bag ban.

Director Graziano noted that additional information related to upcoming recycling events could be accessed on the County's website. He added that the paper shredding events would start that coming Saturday and continue into September.

Commissioner Baker asked Director Graziano if he anticipated any impact to the County's recycling program as a result of the plastic/paper bag ban. He also inquired about potential revenue impacts related to the change.

Director Graziano confirmed that he did not expect revenue to be impacted, adding that residents and stores would face the brunt of the impact. He noted that people were under the impression plastic bags could be reused and or recycled, advising that this material negatively affect waste equipment and had a detrimental effect on wildlife.

Commissioner Mirabella expressed his hope that Governor Murphy's ban would result in the reduction of plastic bag waste. He noted a program offered by Trex that collects plastic bags and turns them into community benches, noting that this was a unique opportunity that could be pursued to dispose of plastic bags.

Director Graziano advised that he was familiar with the program, adding that certain stores already offered special receptacles for plastic bag disposal.

3. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to TAPInto, New Providence, NJ for advertising and promotion of the Union County Recycling and Clean Communities Initiatives and promotion of the Union County Recycling events in an amount not to exceed \$23,800.00. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**

Chair Williams asked if this item would cover all townships that have TAPInto and also inquired about the length of the contract.

Director Graziano advised that this contract would cover a year of events and confirmed that all towns with TAPInto were included.

#### DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Bibi Taylor, Director

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Amending the 2022 Temporary Budget Ch. 96 P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20). **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

#### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

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1. Authorizing the County Manager to renew the Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and Robert Wood Johnson Hospital for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (one part-time employee) to process YR 2021 Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 at no cost to the County of Union (State and Hospital funded in full). **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to renew the Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and Robert Wood Johnson Hospital for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (one part-time employee) to process YR 2022 Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 at no cost to the County of Union (State and Hospital funded in full). **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

Chair Williams asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised that this item related to the out-stationing of Social Service Medicaid employees to Robert Wood Johnson Hospital to assist patients with the processing of Medicaid applications to ensure access to healthcare insurance. She added that these Social Services employees would be assigned to the site on a part-time basis for 16 hours a week.

3. Amending Resolution 2021-867 a contract with Foveonics Document Solutions, Clinton, NJ to include an additional amount of \$5,880.34 to cover excess cost of scanning all medical records for 2021, for a new total amount not to exceed \$86,857.78. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

#### DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Ron Zuber, Director

1. Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to execute an access agreement with Rutgers University to Study Pollinating Bees in Watchung Reservation through June 30, 2022. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and execute a grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust, Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund, 2022 Capital Preservation Grant Program for rehabilitation work at House #4 at The Deserted Village of Feltsville, Berkeley Heights, NJ in an amount of \$191,248.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with This Is It! Productions, Jersey City, NJ for the planning, production, promotion and management of the 2022 Rhythm and Blues by the Brook Concert to be held on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at Cedar Brook Park, Plainfield, NJ, in an amount not to exceed \$148,950.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

Vice Chair Hudak asked if these were in-person concerts.

Director Zuber confirmed this to be the case.

4. Authorizing the County Manager to enter in to a contract with Athletic Fields of America, Montville, NJ (under Shaw Sports Turf ESCNJ 18/19-55 contract), for the installation of Synthetic Turf at the John Russell Wheeler Spray Park, Linden NJ in the total amount of not to exceed \$288,510.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

Vice Chair Hudak asked Director Zuber to elaborate on this item.

Director Zuber advised that in addition to the installation of turf, the softball area had been eliminated due to permit issues and had been replaced with a youth soccer field. He noted that the project had passed inspection yesterday and today was the first day it was open for operations.

5. Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding (BA# 10-2022) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Parks and Recreation: Johnny on the Spot, LLC, Old Bridge, NJ for the purpose of providing Portable Toilet

Rental & Septic Pumping Services, for a period of 24 consecutive months upon execution of the contract, in the amount of not to exceed \$104,372.48, with an option to extend for an additional 24 months. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

6. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with This Is It! Productions, Jersey City, NJ, for the planning, production, promotion and management of the 2022 Summer Arts Festival Concert Series for the County of Union for the period commencing with contract execution through September 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$121,050.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

Unrelated to the items on the agenda, Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded recognized Clark student Lila Stubbins at that evening's meeting, noting that Lila had written a letter to her and Vice Chair Hudak related to the Clark Reservoir and things she would like incorporated in the area she utilizes to fish with her grandparents. Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded asked Director Zuber to share with Lila some of the work being done at the Clark Reservoir and any future plans slated for the location.

Director Zuber advised that the Clark Reservoir project was still in the rehabilitation phase and cleaning of organic debris was underway in the area. He added that environmental testing on-site had determined that the body of water was relatively clean, noting that he hoped to see recreational activities incorporated in the area following the clean-up.

Chair Williams asked Lila Stubbins what kind of features she would like incorporated at the Clark Reservoir.

Lila advised she would like a fishing pier and a community garden.

Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded suggested to Director Zuber that Lila and other students like her could possibly serve as junior ambassadors and participate in the planning and revamping of the area.

Vice Chair Hudak asked about the process of stocking fish at the Clark Reservoir.

Director Zuber advised that the State was responsible for fish stocking, adding that the Clark Reservoir was currently not on the list of stock ponds even though fishing was done on-site. He noted that the State Division of Fish and Wildlife would have to be contacted to determine what type of fish could thrive in the area and then a stocking plan would be established for the site.

Vice Chair Hudak noted his support in keeping the Clark Reservoir as a viable fishing area.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Andrew Moran, Director**

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County Manager Oatman represented the Department.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to designate a 1997 Ford E-350 (Braun Ambulance) vehicle as surplus, no longer needed for County purposes, and further

authorizing transfer of title to the City of Plainfield Rescue Squad. **(Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

Chair Williams asked when the vehicle would be transferred.

County Manager Oatman advised that if the Resolution was adopted later during tonight's regular meeting, the transfer would be done the following morning.

#### **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL**

**Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel**

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution appointing Kologi Simitz, Linden, NJ to represent Captain Richard Cederquist of the Union County Sheriff's Office in the matter entitled Beverly D. Figueroa v. County of Union, et als, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
2. Resolution appointing Renaud & DeAppolonio, LLC, Cranford, NJ to represent the County of Union and Sheriff Peter Corvelli in the matter entitled Beverly D. Figueroa v. County of Union, et als, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
3. Resolution appointing Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli, Tipton & Taylor, LLC, New Providence, NJ, to represent Lt. Gaetano Bracciale in the matter entitled Beverly D. Figueroa v. County of Union, et als, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
4. Resolution appointing Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs, LLC, Oakland, NJ, to represent Undersheriff Jonathan Parham, Undersheriff Dennis Burke and Lt. Frank Miller in the matter entitled Beverly D. Figueroa v. County of Union, et als, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
5. Resolution appointing Gluck Walrath, LLP, Freehold NJ, to represent Undersheriff Amilcar Colon in the matter entitled Beverly D. Figueroa v. County of Union, et als, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
6. Amending Resolution 2021-1004 authorizing the County Manager to effectuate payment of the remainder of the settlement amount of not to exceed \$242,604.71 in the Settlement of Litigation entitled Monique Hall v. County of Union, et al. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
7. Resolution appointing Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli, Tipton & Taylor, LLC, New Providence, NJ, to serve as Special Counsel in all matters related to the Clark Reservoir, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
8. Amending Resolution 2021-407 to increase funds to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli, Tipton and Taylor, LLC to assist the County in procuring funds and obtaining regulatory guidance and compliance with the requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021/Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery

Funds (ARPA) by an additional amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$70,000.00 **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

#### **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER**

Edward Oatman, County Manager

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There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA 108A-Sheriff Superior Officers effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

#### **COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution recognizing the month of April, 2022 as Alcohol Awareness Month (AAM); and declaring April 22, 2022, as "Wear Purple Day" throughout the County of Union. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr & The Entire Board)**
2. Resolution congratulating Al-Nisa Tucker, Fatima Rodrigues, Reverend Tyrese Wooten - Outlaw, Councilwoman Patricia Perkins Auguste, Dee Perez, Evelyn Harris, and Stacey Rembrandt for being honored as recipients of Councilwoman Andrea Hyatt's 2022 Women of Excellence, at the 4th Annual Her Story Month Celebration in Hillside on March 31, 2022. **(Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, & The Entire Board)**
3. Resolution recognizing the 2nd Annual Panhellenic Sunday at Union Chapel AMEC Virtual Panhellenic Sunday on March 20, 2022, Honoring Divine Nine Public Servants including, Acting Essex County Prosecutor, Ted H. Stephens, Newark Mayor, Ras J. Baraka, Newark Councilman, Larry Crump, Former Newark Council President Mildred Crump, East Orange Mayor Ted Green Jr., East Orange Councilman, Vernon Pullins Jr., Orange Mayor, Dwayne D. Warren, Union County Commissioner, Dr. Angela R. Garretson, Hillside Mayor, Dahlia Vertreese, Hillside Council President, Craig Epps, Hillside Councilwoman, Andrea L. Hyatt, and Hillside Councilman, Christopher D. Mobley. **(Commissioner Angela R. Garretson & The Entire Board)**
4. Resolution offering the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Silvio Salerno of Elizabeth, during their time of sorrow. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados & The Entire Board)**
5. Resolution congratulating Elizabeth High School senior Greg McQueen who secured the NJSIAA meet of champions' title on March 5, 2022, which tied for the fourth-fastest time in meet of champions' history. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados & The Entire Board)**
6. Resolution recognizing the Portuguese Instructive Social Club (PISC) as they celebrate their centennial Anniversary on March 19th, 2022. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon & The Entire Board)**



7. Proclaiming the month of April 2022 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) throughout the County of Union. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados & The Entire Board)**
8. Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Dorothy A. Baniewicz "Dottie," mother of County employee Megan McGowan (Personnel), during their time of sorrow. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski & The Entire Board)**
9. Resolution recognizing Union Fire Chief Mike Scanio upon his retirement after 32 years of dedicated service. **(Commissioner Alexander Mirabella & The Entire Board)**
10. Resolution recognizing the month of April, 2022 as "Autism Acceptance Month" throughout Union County; and further recognizing and emphasizing the shift from "Awareness" to "Acceptance". **(Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded & The Entire Board)**
11. Resolution recognizing the month of March as National Multiple Sclerosis Awareness and Education Month throughout Union County. **(Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded & The Entire Board)**
12. Resolution congratulating Terence M. Downey of Boy Scout Troop 104 on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout and commending him on his Eagle Scout Project dedicated to the Kohler Academy in Mountainside, NJ which is a school that provides services to students with developmental disabilities. **(Vice Chair Christopher Hudak, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski & The Entire Board)**
13. Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Theodore J. Bassman, Jr., during their time of sorrow. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams & The Entire Board)**
14. Resolution congratulating the following recipients of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick's 2022 Union County Distinguishes Service Award: Mike McCabe and Michael Glackin; Charlie Douglas, Union County Military Service Award; Sean Flannery, Irishman of the Year and Andrew Moran, Director of Public Safety, Distinguished Service/Public Service Award; Charles Dino and Philip Brennan, recipient of the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick 2022 Scholarship at their annual St. Patrick's Dinner on March 10, 2022. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams & The Entire Board)**
15. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with the Union County Performing Arts Center, Rahway, NJ to produce a theatrical play on June 30, 2022 in recognition of Pride Month in an amount not to exceed \$28,045. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams & The Entire Board)**

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chair Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Kowalski a voice vote showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 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

February 3, 2022  
February 17, 2022

March 3, 2022  
March 24, 2022

April 7, 2022  
April 21, 2022

May 12, 2022  
May 26, 2022

June 9, 2022  
June 23, 2022

July 14, 2022

August 11, 2022

September 15, 2022

October 6, 2022  
October 20, 2022

November 10, 2022

December 1, 2022  
December 15, 2022

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

January 20, 2022

February 3, 2022  
February 17, 2022

March 3, 2022  
March 24, 2022

April 7, 2022  
April 21, 2022

May 12, 2022  
May 26, 2022

June 9, 2022  
June 23, 2022

July 14, 2022

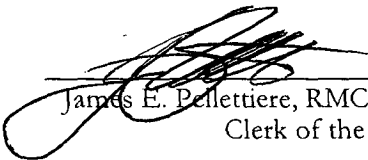
August 11, 2022

September 15, 2022

October 6, 2022  
October 20, 2022

November 10, 2022

December 1, 2022  
December 15, 2022

  
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 6:00pm and the Regular Meeting to commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session, unless otherwise noted.

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