



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Williams presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:02 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 Lourdes M. Leon, and Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded were present with, with Commissioner Alexander Mirabella 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.

Prior to presenting the Agenda items, Chair Williams addressed the public:

Prior to moving on to tonight's agenda, sadly we find ourselves grieving the incomprehensible loss of 19 young, innocent, elementary school-aged children and their 2 beloved teachers as a result of the senseless mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. I would like to call upon us all to join me for a moment of silence.

And, it with remorse that our Union County family suffered two losses this past week: Union County Police Patrolman Alex Luzardo, who served his Country in the armed forces and this county as a patrolman since July 2017.

Union County also lost Carlo Bravo, who served Union County since November 2000 within the Department of Public Works and Facilities.

Please now join me in a moment of silence...

Commissioner Kowalski read the names of the victims of the shooting in Uvalde, Texas.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes would be offered for approval at the Regular Meeting.

1. Thursday, April 7, 2022 - Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, April 7, 2022 - Regular Meeting
3. Thursday, April 28, 2022 - Agenda Setting Session
4. Thursday, April 28, 2022 - Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Crisp Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with SpinCube Inc., Jersey City, NJ, to provide Bitdefender services to the County of Union for a three (3) year contract period beginning May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$357,743.75. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Joseph Graziano, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution granting permission to the Township of Scotch Plains to close Park Avenue from East 2nd Street to corner of Front Street and a portion of Front Street from Park Avenue to Senger Place on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm for Patrick's Downtown Race to Summer5K. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
2. Resolution granting permission to the City of Linden to hang a banner across Wood Avenue between Gibbons Street and Curtis Street from May 10, 2022 to May 23, 2022 to host the Polonia 5K run in association with the Polish American Sports Association taking place on Sunday, May 22, 2022. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
3. Resolution granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights, Downtown Beautification Committee to hang a banner on Plainfield Avenue from August 15 to September 20, 2022 to advertise Restaurant Month; and to hang a banner on Plainfield and Springfield Avenues from November 1 to December 5, 2022 for the Winter Walk. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**

4. Resolution granting permission to the Township of Springfield's First Aid Squad to hang a banner across Mountain and Meisel Avenues from May 23, 2022 to June 23, 2022 advertising the First Aid Squad. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Bibi Taylor, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution modifying the 2022 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$53,720.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for a program entitled: DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
2. Resolution modifying the 2022 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$4,000,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs for a program entitled: Clark Reservoir Dredging and Pollution Remediation Phase III Project. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
3. Resolution modifying the 2022 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$663,643.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a program entitled: Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
4. Resolution modifying the 2022 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$810,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State for a program entitled: UCBOE 2022 Poll Worker Pay Reimbursement (Primary and General Elections). **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Amending Resolution 2021-890, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with certain non-profit agencies to provide a range of programs and services for Union County youth and families involved or at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system with the goal of delinquency prevention and intervention under the Union County Youth Services Commission Spending Plan, to reflect a change in account number only. (All other terms remain the same.) **(Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
2. Amending Resolution 2020-881 to allow for the increase in the amount payable to both RATAN HOTEL Plaza LLC – D/B/A Ramada Hotel, located in East Orange, New Jersey, and the RATAN Hospitality Group D/B/A Travelodge Motel in Parsippany, NJ, both for-profit vendors of the Code Blue Emergency Initiative, which will now exceed the Pay to Play threshold of \$17,500 for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The total contract amount for Code Blue Emergency Initiative remains unchanged. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

3. Amending Resolution 2021-767 to allow for the increase the amount payable to RATAN HOTEL Plaza LLC – D/B/A Ramada Hotel, East Orange, New Jersey; the JAI Shree Ram Inc. D/B/A In Town Motor Lodge, Elizabeth, NJ and the RATAN Hospitality Group LLC., D/B/A/ Travelodge Motel Parsippany, NJ, for-profit vendors of the Code Blue Emergency Initiative, which will now exceed the Pay to Play threshold of \$17,500 for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The total contract amount for Code Blue Emergency Initiative remains unchanged. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
4. Amending Resolution Number 2021-767 for the addition of Govan LLC Travelodge by Wyndham Hotel Group Jersey City, NJ; G.I.F. Corp., Days Inn Jersey City, NJ; South Hackensack Hotel LLC, Travelodge South Hackensack, NJ; and Magrat LLC Rodeway Inn Jersey City, NJ to the list of Code Blue Shelters and motels for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
5. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Bridgeway Rehabilitation, Elizabeth, New Jersey for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 for reimbursement in the amount of \$7.00 per one-way trip to the County of Union for the provision of transportation service through the Union County Paratransit System for Partial Care Clients attending their programs. Transportation will be provided by the County based upon scheduled trips on Monday through Friday. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
6. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a revenue generating agreement with SAGE Eldercare, Summit, New Jersey, for the provision of transportation services through the Union County Paratransit System for Adult Day Care clients attending their programs based upon scheduled trips provided by the County on Monday through Friday in the reimbursement amount of \$6.00 per one-way trip for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
7. Authorizing the County of Manager to enter into a revenue generating agreement with Inroads to Opportunities, Roselle, New Jersey for the provision of transportation services through the Union County Paratransit System for Partial Care clients attending their programs based upon pre-scheduled trips provided by the County on Monday through Friday in the reimbursement amount of \$6.00 per one-way trip for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
8. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Homefirst, Inc., Plainfield, New Jersey, to assist the nonprofit in a close-out and transition of programs to assure community residents continue to receive services in an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 for the period June 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Andrew Moran, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with HazMatt & Associates Training LLC, Point Pleasant, New Jersey, to provide training to members of the Decon Task Force from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Region, through the 2021 UASI grant, in an amount not to exceed \$27,275.00. **(Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Mitchell Semsel Callen PC, of Teaneck NJ, to provide forensic accounting and expert witness services to the County of Union, related to the on-going litigation matter entitled H.C. Equities vs. County of Union in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Kingtson Coventry, LLC of Parsippany-Troy Hills, NJ., to provide General Counsel and potential litigation services to the County of Union, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
3. Amending Resolution 2022-137, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement for the acquisition of property from 735 Springfield Avenue, LLC in the amount of \$2,585,000.00, to reflect an additional amount not to exceed \$50,000, for a new total amount not to exceed \$2,635,000.00. **(Commissioner Alexander Mirabella)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

Edward Oatman, County Manager

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Resolution awarding a contract to Mast Construction Services, Inc., Little Falls, NJ for the Ash Brook Golf Course Clubhouse remediation and construction investigation in an amount not to exceed \$62,700.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
2. Resolution granting the right of use request with the Eruv committee of Linden; and further entering into a right of use agreement with the Eruv committee of Linden defining the Sabbath bounds throughout Union County, in accordance with the Jewish religious law, for a period of fifty (50) years in the total amount of \$1.00. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution congratulating Pastor R. Lenton Buffalo, Jr. on his 34th Pastoral Anniversary on June 12th, 2022. **(Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, & The Entire Board)**

2. Resolution offering this Board's sincere gratitude to former President & CEO, Donna Lowe Alexander for 35 years of service and dedication to the Urban League Movement and the greater Union County community. **(Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, & The Entire Board)**
3. Resolution welcoming Crystal A. Orr as the Interim President/CEO of the Urban League of Union County; and further congratulating her on significant endeavors taken since her appointment in January, 2022. **(Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, & The Entire Board)**
4. Resolution sponsoring the Elmora Youth League's Parade Day held on April 2, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$1,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
5. Resolution supporting 1 Community Family's Pre-Mother Day Bingo held on April 30, 2022 in an amount of not to exceed \$500.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
6. Resolution supporting the City of Rahway's following events in the total amount of not to exceed \$10,000.00: Hot Rods & Harleys (May 14th), Ready Set Glow 5K (May 26th), 4th of July Firework Celebration (July 3rd), Drive in Movies (July 7th, 14th, 21st, & 28th), Halloween Spooktacular (Oct 29th), & Holiday Tree Lighting and Santa Parade (November 25th). **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
7. Resolution sponsoring the Portuguese Instructive Social Club's Outdoor Cultural Festival on May 21st, June 5th & June 25th in the total amount of not to exceed \$2,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
8. Resolution sponsoring the Elizabeth Portugal Day Parade Committee's Portugal Day Flag Raising on June 3, 2022 and Portugal Day Parade on June 5, 2022 in the total amount of not to exceed \$4,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
9. Resolution sponsoring the Queen City Film & Television Workshop's Queen City Film Festival held between October 21, 2022 and October 23, 2022 in the total amount of not to exceed \$2,500.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
10. Resolution sponsoring the Township of Scotch Plains' 2022 Independence Day Fireworks being held on July 2, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$4,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
11. Resolution sponsoring the Township of Cranford's 2022 Independence Day Fireworks Celebration being held on July 2, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$4,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
12. Resolution sponsoring the City of Plainfield's 2022 Independence Day Concert and Fireworks Celebration being held on July 4, 2022 in the total amount of not to exceed \$4,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**

13. Resolution sponsoring Groundwork Elizabeth's Tour De Elizabeth being held on May 22, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$2,500.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
14. Resolution sponsoring the Portuguese American Civic Association's Festival on June 3rd & June 4th, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$2,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
15. Resolution sponsoring the Portuguese American Association of Hillside's Festival being held on June 26, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$2,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
16. Resolution sponsoring the Club Cubano of Elizabeth's Cuban Parade held on May 22, 2022 in the amount of not to exceed \$1,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
17. Resolution wishing to extend its congratulations to the New Jersey Lions Club upon its One Hundred and One years of service on May 20, 2022. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, & The Entire Board)**
18. Resolution calling on the United States Senate to adopt House Bill H.R.8; the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021, which was introduced by Rep Mike Thompson (CA-5) on March 1, 2021 and adopted by the House of Representatives on March 11, 2021 by a vote of 227-203. House Bill H.R.8 establishes new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties and, more specifically, prohibits a firearm transfer between private parties unless a licensed gun dealer, manufacturer, or importer first takes possession of the firearm to conduct a background check. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
19. Re-appointing the following members to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board: Ruby Contreras, Darius Tullis, and Maria Carvalho to a term beginning on January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023; and reappointing Veronica Sala Baez, Nicole DeAugustine, Clara Fernandez and Nancy Piwovar, for a term beginning on January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, & The Entire Board)**
20. Resolution offering this Board's most sincere gratitude to Elisse Glennon for all of her noteworthy contributions to the County of Union in her capacity as Executive Director of the Sharing Network, and further offering its best wishes on all her future endeavors. **(Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**
21. Resolution congratulating Len Vanderwende, Chief Financial Officer of the Union County Performing Arts Center, on his well-deserved retirement; and further thanking Len Vanderwende on his many contributions to the success of the Union County Performing Arts Center. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams, & The Entire Board)**
22. Resolution honoring Reverend Howard Bryant, of Townley Presbyterian Church in Union and a lifelong resident of Hillside, for his many efforts promoting social justice and his commitment towards the eradication of all forms racism and

discrimination within the greater Union County community. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams, Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, & The Entire Board)**

23. Resolution recognizing the month of June as LGBTQ Pride Month at their Pride Flag Raising Ceremony on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 to honor the history of the LGBTQ liberation movement and to support the rights of all citizens to experience equality and freedom from discrimination. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams, & The Entire Board)**
24. Resolution recognizing the significance of Governor Murphy's signing of Executive Order No. 295 instructed the New Jersey Department of the Treasury to establish a state-backed certification program for LGBTQ+ owned businesses; and further acknowledging all LGBTQ+ businesses and business owners throughout Union County. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams, & The Entire Board)**
25. Resolution offering this Board's sincere condolences to the family of Union County's own, actor Ray Liotta, co-star of the movies "Goodfellas" and "Field of Dreams," during their time of sorrow. **(Chair Rebecca Lynne Williams, & The Entire Board)**

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 P.M.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022 at 6:30 pm
Administration Building, 6th Floor
Commissioner Meeting Room

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 20, 2022

February 3, 2022
February 17, 2022

March 3, 2022
March 24, 2022

April 7, 2022
April 28, 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 28, 2022*

May 12, 2022
May 26, 2022

June 9, 2022
June 23, 2022

July 14, 2022

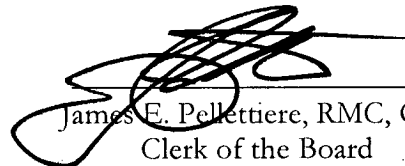
August 11, 2022

September 15, 2022

October 6, 2022
October 20, 2022

November 10, 2022

December 1, 2022
December 15, 2022



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

* April 21, 2022 Agenda Setting Session and Regular Meeting have been rescheduled for April 28, 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 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.