



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, JUNE 09, 2022  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Williams presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:25 P.M.

### ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chair Rebecca Williams, Vice Chair Christopher Hudak, Commissioner James E. Baker Jr., Commissioner Sergio Granados, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, and Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded were present, with Commissioner Garretson 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 Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Garretson 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, asked for additional information relative to Reso 2022-489. Relative to Reso No. 2022-490, he asked about additional information relative to the increase. Relative to Reso No. 2022-501, he asked if this item would be covered under the American Rescue Plan Act. Relative to Reso No. 2022-507, Mr. Paterson asked for additional details. Relative to Reso No. 2022-509, he asked why the property had not been acquired by the County as a means to enhance open space.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-489, Deputy County Manager Wagner advised that the County often had a need for advertising services for various programs being offered, noting that the County often utilized TAP Into for these services. She advised that these services fell under bid thresholds, adding that rather than bid out each item, the County could employ an agency that could facilitate these services and as a result consolidate expenses. She advised that a competitive contract process would be used to secure the cited service.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-490, County Manager Oatman advised that the price increase was related to an increase in need for the cited service.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-501, County Manager Oatman confirmed that the cited service was an eligible expense under the American Rescue Plan Act.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-507, Counsel Bergen advised that this item related to ongoing litigation concerning rental property occupied by the County, adding that the issue had been going on for quite some time. He further advised that in part, NJ's Supreme Court had ruled in the County's favor but additional issues related to the lease still remained requiring additional legal counsel services.

Commissioner Garretson arrived to the meeting.

Relative to Reso No. 2022-509, Open Space Administrator Durbin-Drake advised that the property had been previously designated for an affordable housing plan by the Town of Westfield. She reaffirmed the Board's commitment to working with municipalities to conserve open space, adding that the location of Williams Nursery was simply not available for acquisition.

Councilman Daniel Sullivan, of Summit, noted Reso No. 2022-479, adding that the pond in Bryant Park was a source of query among residents and he wanted to make sure that this issue would be addressed. On another note, he noted Reso No. 2022-512, and thanked the Board for their support relative to gun legislation. He added that it was important to know where everyone stood on this issue, advising that he was proud to stand alongside the Board of Commissioners in calling for additional gun legislation to ensure the safety and well-being of all.

Director Zuber advised that the pond in Bryant Park was on the list for treatment, adding that additional work was being conducted in the area and the Department was waiting for permits in order to proceed. He noted that they had a 24-hour generator installed to churn the sediment and conduct clean-flow processing.

There were no additional questions or comments from the public.

---

## RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

---

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

**2022-470 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution of the Union County Board of County Commissioners concurring with the Union County Workforce Development

Board to approve the Revised Program Year 2021 Union County Workforce Area Budget, through UCWDB Resolution No. 2022-01, for the purpose of inserting additional New Jersey Department of Labor Funding in the amount of \$12,971.00, to FutureWork Systems, LLC, from the WIOA Data Reporting and Analysis, for services rendered to the Union County American Job Center.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-471 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter in to a contract with Community Coordinated Child Care of Union County, Inc., Rahway, New Jersey, for the Union County Child Care Subsidy program for the period of June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in the amount not to exceed \$37,500.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-472 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to the Urban League of Union County, Elizabeth, New Jersey, for the Reconnections Program to assist persons returning to the community from incarceration to access services designed to develop meaningful, productive skills, for the period of June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in the total amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-473 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with the Union County Fatherhood Initiative Coalition, Inc., Rahway, NJ to deliver the 2022 Fathers Empowerment Program for the period commencing June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-474 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2021-69 to increase the contract amount to Geneva Worldwide Interpretation Services, New York, NY for the purpose of providing interpretation services to clients of the Union County Department of Human Services, by an amount not to exceed \$6,291.47 for a new total amount not to exceed \$21,291.47 for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-475 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2022-296, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding (BA# 13-2022) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Maffey's Security Group, Elizabeth, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 for Locksmith

and Locking Hardware Services to increase the original contract amount by \$20,000.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$237,150.00 for the period of April 21, 2022 through April 20, 2024

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-476 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2021-811 a contract awarded to Primepoint LLC, Mt. Holly, NJ, for Integrated Human Resource and Outsourced Payroll System, to include Time & Labor Management Services for the Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services and the American Job Center in an amount not to exceed \$5,074.00, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$194,674.00 with no other changes to the terms or conditions of the contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-477 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to SSP Architects of Somerville, New Jersey to provide Architectural Services for the Union County Parks, Various Restroom Facility Upgrade, County of Union, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$105,000.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2022-005).

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-478 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Matrix New World Engineering, Florham Park, NJ, to provide engineering design services, construction administration and inspection services for the Master Gardeners Site Improvement Project for the County of Union, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$33,060.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2022-008).

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-479 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding (BA#17-2022) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Parks and Recreation: Aquatic Analysts, Inc of Middleville, NJ, for the purpose of providing a Lake Management Program for the period beginning upon the execution of the contract through December 31, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$249,590.00, with an option to extend for one additional 24 month period.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-480 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution 2022-245, 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 to

include an additional event in the amount of \$150,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$271,050.00; no other changes to the terms and conditions of the contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-481 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute an Agreement with the Township of Cranford to have its Community Day Firework Display at Nomahegan Park on Saturday, July 2, 2022, with no proposed rain date.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-482 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute an Agreement with the City of Plainfield to have its Community Day Firework Display at Cedar Brook Park on Monday, July 4, 2022, with a proposed rain date of Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-483 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute an Agreement with the City of Rahway/to have its Community Day Firework Display at Rahway River Park, Sunday July 3, 2022, with a proposed rain date of Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-484 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute an Agreement with the Township of Springfield to have its Community Day Firework Display at Meisel Park, Monday July 4, 2022, with a proposed rain date of Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-485 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Salary Reimbursement Agreement with Rutgers Cooperative Extension for the provision of State and Federal mandated agriculture and resource management, family and community health sciences, and 4-H youth development programs for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$113,414.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-486 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and to receive funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for

the 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan on behalf of the Union County Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investment Partnerships Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program so that projects as listed therein may be undertaken within the County of Union.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-487 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-583, a resolution approving the 2021-2022 Consolidated Action Plan, to increase CDBG funding, utilizing Contingency Funding, to (3) three Projects, as follows: Township of Berkeley Heights Senior Citizen Project to reflect an increase in the amount of \$2,500.00 to \$16,750.00 for the expansion of activities post pandemic and newly growing senior citizen population; Senior Citizens Housing Corporation of Scotch Plains to reflect an increase in the amount of \$6,680.00 to \$36,680.00 for the provision of the project's higher bids; and Second Street Youth Center - Plainfield to reflect an increase in the amount of \$30,620.00 to \$68,620.00 for the cost of the completion of the project.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-488 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the competitive contracting procurement method for the provision of providing Union County Emergency Rental Assistance program administration.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-489 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the competitive contracting procurement method for the provision of providing Marketing Services.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-490 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending resolution 2022-69, a contract with Netta Architects, Mountainside, NJ to provide additional On-Call Architectural Services in the additional amount of \$7,300.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$19,800.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-491 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Advanced Lighting & Sound, Inc., Elmwood Park, NJ for the purchase and installation of multiple Audio Systems for Courtrooms in the County of Union in the amount not to exceed \$ 44,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-492 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the County's option to extend the open-ended contract awarded to White Rock Corporation, Old Bridge, NJ, pursuant to Resolution 2020-343 and originally obtained through advertised public bidding (B.A. # 12-2020), for the purpose of providing Roofing Maintenance and Repair Services for twenty-four (24) consecutive months from July 31, 2022 through July 30, 2024 in the amount not exceed \$218,700.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-493 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the County's option to extend a contract with the Parking Authority of the City of Elizabeth, NJ, pursuant to Resolution 2022-71, for the purpose of providing Jury Parking as per state mandate, for the period of an additional six (6) months from July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-494 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding (B.A. # 15-2022) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Tri-County Termite & Pest Control Inc., Carneys Point, NJ, for the purpose of providing Exterminating and Pest Control Management Services for twenty-four (24) months commencing on July 5, 2022 upon execution of the contract, with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension, in the amount not to exceed \$122,240.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-495 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Resolution granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights to close Springfield Avenue from the intersection of Snyder Avenue to the Somerset County line on Saturday, July 16, 2022 from 6:00 pm to 2:00 am for the annual Mt. Carmel Festival.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-496 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Resolution granting permission to the Township of Springfield to hang banners across Meisel Avenue and Mountain Avenue from August 25, 2022 to October 18, 2022 advertising the Fall Festival and Car Show; and to close Mountain Avenue between Morris Avenue and Caldwell Place on Sunday, October 16, 2022 from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm for the purposes of the Fall Festival and Car Show.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-497 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2022-248, a contract awarded to Tap Into Local, LLC to revise account numbers only

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-498 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Requesting the County Manager enter into an agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) for the "Replacement of Gordon Street Bridge over 'Out of Service' Conrail Structure No. 2050150" to be included in the 2020 ATP (Annual Transportation Program).

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-499 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2022-174, a contract awarded to MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY to reflect an adjustment to the appropriation accounts.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-500 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to amend Resolution Number 2022-390 to reflect an increase in the original Area Plan Contract Spending Plan in the amount of \$1,342,176.00 for a new total of not to exceed \$6,931,474.00 with no other changes to the terms or conditions.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-501 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the competitive contracting procurement method for Mobile Vaccination services, to assist home-bound County residents with health care.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-502 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-908 a contract with Full Service Mailers, Hackensack, NJ, to reflect an additional amount of \$11,879.00 to provide Primary election mail fulfillment services for the 2022 Primary Election to ensure that sample ballots are received before election day, in the total contract amount not to exceed \$207,866.60.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-503 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-907, a contract with Royal Printing Services, West New York, NJ, to provide additional



printing services necessary for Early Voting for the 2022 Primary Election of Provisional and Emergency Ballots and for the 2022 General Elections for Provisional and Emergency Ballots and Vote-By-Mail Instructional brochures, in the amount of \$70,551.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,211,099.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-504 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding (BA 16-2022) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Human Services / Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital: Universal Protection Services LLC, dba Allied Universal, Bound Brook, NJ, for the purpose of providing security coverage to Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County, for twelve (12) consecutive months commencing on July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023; with the option to extend for 2 (two) twelve (12) month periods, in the amount of not to exceed \$440,199.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-505 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending Resolution 2022-134 to extend the contract with Center for Family Guidance, PC, Marlton, NJ for six months through December 31, 2022 to provide Administrator services at Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital in the amount not to exceed \$82,500.00, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$165,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-506 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into Easement Agreements with the City of Elizabeth to grant sewer easements upon County-owned land located at Tax ID #4-59, Tax ID #4-59.A, Tax ID #4-1597 and Tax ID #6-921 on the Tax Map of the City of Elizabeth, in the City of Elizabeth in conjunction with the City's Elizabeth Sewer Project.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

**2022-507 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending resolution 2022-313, to increase the appropriation to DeCotiis Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin LLP, Paramus, NJ for Special Legal Counsel in the matter entitled H.C. Equities v. UC, et als, in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.0 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$280,000.00

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2022-508 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Resolution authorizing the 2022 National Association of Counties (NACo) professional membership in the amount not to exceed \$10,730.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2022-509 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON:** Resolution celebrating Williams Nursery and their 102 years of service to the greater Union County community; and further offering this Board's bitter-sweet gratitude and well wishes upon their official closing on July 3, 2022.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2022-510 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating the Union County Fatherhood Coalition on their 10-year Anniversary being held on June 11, 2022 at the Annual Fatherhood Coalition Conference.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2022-511 CHAIR REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of George Woody, former Republican and Democrat councilman of Roselle and the State of New Jersey's first Black County Chairman, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2022-512 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution supporting New Jersey Assembly Bill ACR23, sponsored by Assemblywoman Linda S. Carter and Assemblyman James J. Kennedy which Memorializes Congress and President to enact legislation establishing certain gun control measures.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2022-513 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, VICE CHAIR CHRISTOPHER HUDAK, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating the following members of the Boy Scout Troop 72 for obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout at their June 12, 2022 Eagle Scout Ceremony: Evan Murphy McNamara, Peter J. Nazzaro, Richard J. Panikiewsky, Dhillon G. Patel, and Aidan P. Sheppard.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

---

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

---

Commissioner Leon congratulated her Commissioner colleagues for winning their Primary Election runs, including Vice Chair Hudak for his Primary Election victory relative to County Surrogate. On another note, she advised that the County would be continuing to offer food distribution drives to fight food insecurity amongst residents relative to the COVID-19 pandemic and rising inflation. She noted an upcoming drive-up food distribution drive at Kean University on June 11<sup>th</sup> as well as a walk-up food distribution drive in Plainfield at Gerald B. Green Plaza in Plainfield on June 25<sup>th</sup>. She thanked Village Supermarket and Gargiulo Produce for their continued partnership in these efforts.

Commissioner Granados extended his congratulations to his colleagues, Chair Williams, Commissioner Kowalski, and Vice Chair Hudak on their respective Primary election wins. He also recognized all those that participated in the civic process. On another note, he advised that Moody's Investors Service had reaffirmed the County's triple A bond rating, adding that this accomplishment demonstrated the County's commitment to fiscal responsibility and prudent management of County tax-payer monies. He noted that the Fiscal Committee alongside the Board worked closely with County Manager Oatman and the various Directors to achieve a budget which was operationally efficient and remained true to the values of Union County in supporting residents and their needs. He added that this achievement was a result of fiscal discipline and a testament to the leadership in Union County, particularly County Manager Oatman, Finance Director Taylor, and the various County Directors and the Board of County Commissioners. He closed by reaffirming the County's commitment to fiscal health and responsibly managing County tax-payer dollars.

Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded also congratulated her colleagues and all of the other individuals who ran for office in the Primary Election. She also offered her well wishes to the many graduates throughout the County, noting her youngest son's recent kindergarten graduation ceremony. On another note, she spoke relative to the County's Farmers Market Food Voucher Program and advised that the program provided income-eligible seniors with vouchers to purchase fresh produce at farmer's markets displaying black and yellow wick posters. She added that qualifying residents would receive a total of \$30 in vouchers in \$6.00 increments. She encouraged interested residents to reach out to the division on aging for additional information or to apply for the program.

Commissioner Kowalski offered her congratulations to her Commissioner colleagues for their respective victories in the Primary Election. She thanked the voters that participated in the Primary Election process. She noted that voter turn-out for Primary Elections was usually low, adding that it was important to recognize the importance of all election cycles. On another note, she spoke relative to upcoming activities in the County Parks, including a new self-guided outdoor trail exhibit called The Solar System Walking Trail at the Watchung Reservation. She also spoke relative to another, related program called Journey Through the Solar System: Introduction to the Solar System on June 11<sup>th</sup>, adding that the trails would be open from dusk to dawn.

Commissioner Baker also congratulated his Commissioner colleagues on their Primary Election wins. On another note, he spoke relative to Veteran Jeff Smith, a former member of the U.S. Navy, introducing him as the new Coordinator for the Office of Veteran Services. He advised that the County's Office of Veteran Services was accredited by NJ's Department

of Veteran Affairs and aimed to help Veterans, Active-Duty Military Members and their families. He reaffirmed the Board's commitment to Veterans, adding that he was happy to have Jeff Smith on board as the new Coordinator.

Commissioner Mirabella offered his congratulations to the various Primary Election winners, including Vice Chair Hudak's victory relative to Union County Surrogate. On another note, he spoke relative to Pride Month, noting a great start in the monthly celebration with various Pride flag raising events at various municipalities throughout the County. He noted several upcoming events in honor of Pride Month including the Sage Table Community Lunch, LGBTQ+ Trivial Night, and the opening of Temike Park in Plainfield, among other events. He thanked Summit Councilman Sullivan for vocalizing his support for gun control measures earlier during the meeting, confirming the Board's support to that end. He noted that the Board had been at the forefront of supporting improved legislation relative to gun control at the state and federal level. He recognized Assemblywoman Linda S. Carter and Assemblyman James J. Kennedy for sponsoring Assembly Bill ACR 23 in support of more sensible gun legislation. He added that although New Jersey had some of the more stringent laws in the nation related to gun control, it was important to make them even stronger with additional legislation.

Commissioner Garretson spoke relative to Juneteenth, noting that this was the first year the holiday would be celebrated nationwide. She added that Union County would be hosting its Annual Juneteenth Flag Raising on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> in front of the Union County Courthouse. On another note, she spoke relative to her morning trip to Trenton and her visit with NJ Senate President Nicholas P. Scutari, noting that it was nice to have him representing Union County at the State level. To close, she expressed her sadness over the closure of Williams Nursey, noting it as a staple of the Union County community.

Vice Chair Hudak advised that in accordance with CDC recommendations, COVID-19 boosters shots were now available through the County's vaccination program for children aged 5-11 two months after their second dose in the initial series. He added that vaccinations for this age-group would be available at Warinanco Sports Center on Thursdays and Plainfield High School on Saturdays. On another note, he expressed his regret over the closing of Williams Nursey, adding that although it was a nice piece of open space, the County's acquisition of this land was not an option. He confirmed that the Office of Open Space was always working in partnership with the various municipalities relative to open-space property acquisition, noting the rarity of open space in NJ due to population density. To close, he congratulated his Commissioner colleagues relative to their Primary Election wins, noting that he looked forward to the General Election in November.

Chair Williams congratulated County Manager Oatman for being inducted into the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society at Kean University. She also congratulated her Commissioner colleagues for their election victories and thanked the residents throughout Union County for participating in this very important, civic duty. She advised that relative to the COVID-19 pandemic, voters now had more options and methods for voting, including in-person early voting as well as mail-in ballots. To close, she spoke relative to the upcoming pride-events taking place throughout the month, specifically the upcoming performance of Head over Heels at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway.

---

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

---

To the extent known, the following item was discussed in Executive Session:

- 1) Attorney-Client privileged discussions concerning litigation strategy in the matter of Reginald Curry v. Union County.

County Counsel Bergen stated that pursuant to provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, a public body may enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing certain enumerated subjects.

He stated that the Board wished to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Attorney Client privileged communications and discussions relative to Attorney-Client privileged discussions concerning litigation strategy in the matter of Reginald Curry v. Union County.

He stated that the minutes of the Executive Session shall be separated from the minutes of the Open Public Session and that the minutes of the Executive Session, redacted as appropriate and necessary, shall be available in approximately 30 days. He stated that the Clerk of the Board shall retain the original minutes until such time as the confidential limitations have been removed, at which time they shall be made available.

He stated that upon affirmative vote of the majority of the members present, the Board may enter Executive Session and upon the Board's return may or may not take formal action on the matters discussed.

Chair Williams called for a motion to enter into Executive Session. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

Chair Williams called for a motion to return from Executive Session. On a motion made by Vice Chair Hudak and seconded by Commissioner Garretson roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

County Counsel Bergen advised that he had nothing to report following Executive Session.

---

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Garretson, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 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

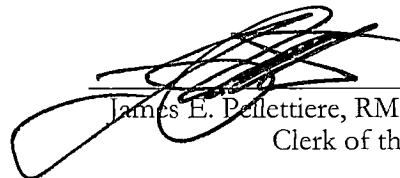
October 6, 2022

October 20, 2022

November 10, 2022

December 1, 2022

December 15, 2022

  
James E. 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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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.