



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023  
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Granados presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

### ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Sergio Granados, Vice-Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr., Commissioner Joseph C. Bodek, Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, and Commissioner Rebecca Williams were present.

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

Chairman Granados advised that the Communications would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

---

1. Thursday, March 16, 2023 - Agenda Setting Session (Chairman Sergio Granados)
2. Thursday, March 16, 2023 - Regular Meeting (Chairman Sergio Granados)
3. Thursday, March 30, 2023 - Agenda Setting Session (Chairman Sergio Granados)
4. Thursday, March 30, 2023 - Regular Meeting (Chairman Sergio Granados)

Chairman Granados advised that the Minutes would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

**OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY CLERK**

Joanne Rajoppi, County Clerk

---

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to make any and all purchases of goods and/or services required in the process of preparing and conducting elections to be provided by various vendors and to provide miscellaneous products and services for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$19,700.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
2. Amending Resolution Number 2023-352, a contract with Royal Printing Services, West New York, NJ, increasing the contract in the amount of \$23,025.00 due to a new law which requires the set up and printing of bilingual versions of machine/official ballots, sample ballots, emergency ballots and overseas ballots, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$2,563,755.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

**OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR**

William Daniel, Prosecutor

---

First Assistant Prosecutor James O. Tansey represented the Office.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq: Office of the Union County Prosecutor: Nielsen Ford, Morristown, NJ for the purchase of 1 (one) 2022 Hybrid Ford Explorer SUV in an amount not to exceed \$57,360.00 (BA# 18-2023) **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

Commissioner Baker asked First Assistant Prosecutor Tansey to elaborate on this item.

First Assistant Prosecutor Tansey advised that the Office had a number of disabled vehicles and was looking to purchase a new 2022 Hybrid Ford Explorer SUV, adding that the Office was down about 8-9 vehicles which was unusual. He noted that the Office had been experiencing certain difficulties in acquiring vehicles for their particular needs.

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Amy Crisp Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

---

1. Amending Resolution Number 2022-486, approving the 2022-2023 (Year 48) Consolidated Action Plan, to reflect an increase in CDBG funding utilizing contingency funds to cover the cost to complete two (2) projects in the amount not to exceed \$37,870.43, for a new total of not to exceed \$407,870.43. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

Chairman Granados asked Deputy County Manager Wagner to elaborate on this item.

Deputy County Manager Wagner advised that this item was related to an annual allotment of funding. She noted that the County had a Revenue Sharing Committee, in which the 18 municipalities in the consortium were invited to participate. She further advised that

Elizabeth and Union were not part of this consortium, as they were applying for this funding separately. She added that these monies were allocated to fund a variety of different projects, including infrastructure, housing services, and ADA compliance, among others. She noted the importance of these monies in improving the lives of Union County residents.

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

Joseph Graziano, Director

---

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Attorney Title Services, Cranford, New Jersey for the purpose of determining if existing easements exist related to the Pine Grove Minor Bridge in the City of Summit that the County of Union is currently in design for a reconstruction. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to USA Architects, Somerville, New Jersey, to provide Architectural Services for the demolition of the Union County Courthouse Parking Deck, City of Elizabeth, County of Union, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 (Union County Project Number 2019-026). **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with the City of Plainfield for the purchase, installation and maintenance of traffic control signals and various intersection improvements related to two federally funded capital improvement projects within the City of Plainfield, County of Union, New Jersey. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding (B.A. # 16-2023) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq; Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities: Waste Management of New Jersey, Inc., Elizabeth, NJ, for the purpose of providing Construction Debris Disposal services for twenty-four (24) consecutive months with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension, not to commence before May 11, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$132,625.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
5. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for the 2022 NJDEP Recycling Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$518,400.00 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 Bette Jane Kowalski)**
6. Granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights to close Springfield Avenue between Plainfield Avenue and Snyder Avenue from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm on Sunday, June 4, 2023 for the annual Block Party. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
7. Granting permission to the Borough of Kenilworth to close the Boulevard from 24th Street to 14th Street on Sunday, May 21, 2023 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm for the Kenilworth Street Fair. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

8. Granting permission to the Township of Scotch Plains to close Park Avenue from East 2nd Street to Front Street and Front Street to Senger Place on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 for Patrick's Downtown Race to Summer 5 K. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
9. Granting permission to the Township of Springfield and the Springfield First Aid Squad to hang a banner on Mountain Avenue at North Trivett Avenue from May 10, 2023 to June 1, 2023 advertising the Springfield First Aid Squad. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
10. Granting permission to the Township of Springfield to close Mountain Avenue from the intersection of Shunpike Road to North Trivett Avenue and Shunpike Road from the intersection of South Springfield Avenue to the intersection of Mountain Avenue from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on May 29, 2023 for the annual Memorial Day Parade. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

Bibi Taylor, Director

---

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Prescribing the Details and Bond Form Thereof for \$4,264,000 County College Bonds Of 2023 (Chapter 12 State Aid) Dated June 15, 2023, Authorizing the Publication, Printing and Distribution of a Notice of Sale and the Publication of a Summary Notice of Sale and Prescribing the Form Thereof for Such Bonds, Approving the Preparation, Distribution and Execution of a Preliminary and a Final Official Statement for Such Bonds, Undertaking to Provide Continuing Disclosure of Financial Information, Covenanting to Comply With the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended, and Authorizing Various Matters in Connection With Electronic Bidding for the Bonds. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

---

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and to accept subaward # VCA-20-21 grant funds in the amount not to exceed \$145,000.00 for the Union County Rape Crisis Center (RCC) to provide services for sexual violence victims through the FFY2021 Victims of Crime Act – Victim Assistance Grant (VOCA-VAG), Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate (CSVA) Project. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
2. Amending Resolution Number 2022-833, a lease agreement with Ronlee Realty, Inc., for commercial space at 40 Parker Road, Elizabeth, NJ, to reflect an increase in the lease for an additional amount of \$206,348.32, for a new contract amount not to exceed \$3,455,032.40, for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027, and to further change appropriation accounts. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

3. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA) in the amount of \$11,784.00 for the County Welfare Administration (CWA) Administration of the 2022 Universal Service Fund for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

Commissioner Leon asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised that this grant from the NJDCA would be used to provide utility assistance for qualifying residents through the Division of Social Services.

4. Amending Resolution Number 2021-774, a contract with Foveonics Document Solutions, Clinton, NJ, to provide onsite scanning and document management for the Division of Social Services, to reflect an additional amount of \$618,503.30, and a new total contract amount not to exceed \$1,719,586.70, and to further extend the contract period of June 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

Commissioner Baker asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised that this scanning/document management project was started in 2021 to facilitate digital integration of paperwork processed through the Division of Social Services. She noted that the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of having these documents accessible through a cloud-based system to better serve residents. She further advised that the cited increase was due to an increase in applications received for food and housing benefits.

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

Andrew Moran, Director

---

Deputy County Manager Wagner represented the Department.

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County of Union to apply for, accept, and expend the New Jersey Office of Emergency Telecommunications within the Office of Information Technology FY-2023 PSAP Grant Program, award number FY23-100-137-013 in the amount of \$518,267.96, for the grant period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Techline Technologies, Inc., Willow Grove, PA to provide Active Shooter/Blood Control Training to Union County responders through the 2022 Urban Area Security Initiative in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Training Specialties Inc., Exton, PA, for the testing of the UASI Generation 1 and Generation 2 ILBP Foam Tankers using FY22 UASI funds in the amount of not to exceed \$13,090.00. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**

4. Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the County's first option to extend the contract pursuant to Resolution 2021-369 with Coronis Health RCM, LLC, Morganville, NJ for the provision of EMS billing and collection services, for the contract period of 24 months commencing June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2025, honoring the original terms of the compensation agreement in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00. (RCCP # 3-2021) **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL**

Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

---

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the execution of a Consent Decree and other documents in the proposed voluntary settlement concerning election procedures. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

**COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

1. Honoring Dominic Preite of Clark Municipal Alliance Program on receiving the 2023 County Volunteer of the Year Award at the upcoming LACADA Volunteer of the Year Recognition Dinner on May 2, 2023 **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
2. Proclaiming May 2023 as Older Americans Month throughout the County of Union. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, & The Entire Board)**
3. Sponsoring Supreme Strategies for their Hillside Easter Egg Hunt held on April 8, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$500.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
4. Sponsoring WALLYNZAVY'S AUTISTIC KIDS' Classic Car, Bike and Truck Fundraiser to be held on May 6, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$250.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
5. Sponsoring the Foundation for Sustainable Veteran Housing's Westfield American Legion Arts and Music Festival being held on April 29, 2023 in the amount not to exceed \$1,000.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
6. Appointing Rodger Koerber (Target Population - Homeless) and re-appointing Crystal Orr (Target Population - African American) to the Human Service Advisory Council (HSAC) for a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2025. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
7. Proclaiming June 3, 2023 as "Race Amity Day" throughout Union County; and further recognizing Kristina Silvestry, of Peace of Mind Yoga, Counseling and Wellness Center, and her efforts in hosting a free day of events; including art exhibitions, fun activities, music, dance, and speakers in recognition of "Race Amity Day". **(Chairman Sergio Granados, Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**

---

**PRESENTATIONS BY THE BOARD**

---

A presentation was made to the winners of the annual Union County Arbor Day Poetry Contest. The Arbor Day Poetry Contest is held each year to encourage environmental stewardship and tree conservation among students in grades 4-8, in partnership with the Union County Shade Tree Advisory Board.

Chairman Granados called upon Commissioner Leon, Liaison of the Shade Tree Advisory Board, as well as, Jim Nichnadowicz of the Rutgers Co-op to join him for the Poetry Contest presentation.

Commissioner Leon noted that as a former educator, she was pleased to make this presentation to the winners of the County's 2023 Arbor Day Poetry Contest.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1st Place – Alyssa DeMarco – Henley School of Clark

2nd Place – Amaya Gonzalez – Mountain Park Elementary School of Berkeley Heights

3rd Place – Max Keat – Lincoln School of Garwood

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1st Place – Anna Morozovych – Mountain Park Elementary School of Berkeley Heights

2nd Place – Tania Alvarado-Valverde – Lincoln School of Garwood

3rd Place – Julia Ruiz – Mountain Park Elementary School of Berkeley Heights

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1st Place – Karl Asuncion – Terrill Middle School of Scotch Plains

2nd Place – Sloane Bienkowski – Lincoln School of Garwood

3rd Place – Pravens Dauphin – Ola Edwards Community School of Hillside

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1st Place – Madelynn Knierim – Lincoln School of Garwood

2nd Place – Julia Pappalardo – Terrill Middle School of Scotch Plains

3rd Place – Athena Bishop – Terrill Middle School of Scotch Plains

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1st Place – Luke Esmerado – Columbia Middle School of Berkeley Heights

2nd Place – Courtney Kilmer – Lincoln School of Garwood

3rd Place – Valerie Cespedes – Kawameech Middle School of Union

The first place winners for each grade read their respective poems.

The Board thanked the students for their wonderful submissions for the 2023 Arbor Day Poetry Contest.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Granados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded a voice vote showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 P.M.




**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**2023 MEETING SCHEDULE**  
**REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023 at 6:00 pm**  
**Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street. Elizabeth**

**AGENDA SETTING SESSION**

January 26, 2023  
February 9, 2023  
February 23, 2023  
March 16, 2023  
March 30, 2023  
April 13, 2023  
April 27, 2023  
May 11, 2023  
May 25, 2023  
June 8, 2023  
June 22, 2023  
July 13, 2023  
August 17, 2023  
September 7, 2023  
September 21, 2023  
October 12, 2023  
October 26, 2023  
November 9, 2023  
December 7, 2023  
December 21, 2023

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

January 26, 2023  
February 9, 2023  
February 23, 2023  
March 16, 2023  
March 30, 2023  
April 13, 2023  
April 27, 2023  
May 11, 2023  
May 25, 2023  
June 8, 2023  
June 22, 2023  
July 13, 2023  
August 17, 2023  
September 7, 2023  
September 21, 2023  
October 12, 2023  
October 26, 2023  
November 9, 2023  
December 7, 2023  
December 21, 2023

  
James E. Pellettiere, 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.

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 this 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.