



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Granados presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

PRESENTATIONS BY THE BOARD

A Resolution Presentation was made by the Board to the recipients of the 2023 Empowering Union County Libraries Initiative.

Commissioner Kowalski recognized all the recipients of the 2023 Empowering Union County Libraries Initiative and welcomed them to that evening's meeting. She noted that she was happy to be able to provide funding to local libraries so they may enhance the services and resources they already provide. She recognized NJ Senate President Nicholas Scutari for his efforts in allocating funding for this initiative. She recognized the important role of libraries, as highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic, adding that she looked forward to enhancing library resources and connectedness between Union County libraries.

The following libraries were recognized:

Clark Library

Megan Kociolek – Library Director
Karen Demarco – Board Member

Garwood Library

Maryann Duff – Library Director
Jen Blumenstock – Mayor
James Hart – Board President
Mark Lazarow – Councilman

Hillside Library

Crystal Blue - Library Director
Robert Rios – Councilman

Rahway Library

Raymond Giacobbe – Mayor
David Brown – Councilman
Joanna Miles – Councilwoman
Jeremy Mojica – Councilman

Union Library

Casandra Miller – Library Director
Steven Le – Board President

Mountainside Library

Tammy Shaw – Library Director

New Providence Memorial Library

Stacey Maisch – Library Director
Al Morgan – Mayor
Mark Ondris – President of the Library Board of Trustees

Westfield Memorial Library

Michelle Habayeb – President of the Board of Trustees

The municipal representatives thanked the Board for their generosity and helping them enhance and expand on the resources they provide their residents through their local libraries.

Commissioner Bodek noted that he was pleased to be able to assist local libraries with these monies and thanked NJ Senate President Scutari for his efforts in securing these monies.

Chairman Granados congratulated all the recipients, highlighting the importance of local libraries in bringing people together.

Commissioner Kowalski noted that some municipalities were not represented that evening as they were already members of the LMXAC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To the extent known, the following items will be discussed in Executive Session:

- 1) Attorney client privileged communication concerning the matter of New Jersey Precast v. Tricon Enterprises, County of Union, et al.
- 2) Attorney client privileged communication concerning the matter of Mervilus v. Union County, et al.

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:

- 1) Attorney client privileged communication concerning the matter of New Jersey Precast v. Tricon Enterprises, County of Union, et al.
- 2) Attorney client privileged communication concerning the matter of Mervilus v. Union County, et al.

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.

Chairman Granados called for a motion to enter into Executive Session. On a motion made by Commissioner Bodek and seconded by Commissioner Kowalski, roll call showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

Chairman Granados called for a motion to return from Executive Session. On a motion made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Leon roll call showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

County Counsel Bergen advised that he had nothing to announce relative to Executive Session.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

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

OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR

William Daniel, Prosecutor

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Division of Administration, Department of Law and Public Safety for FFY21 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Program for the project titled Sexual Assault Response Team/Forensic Nurse Examiner Program to reflect a total project cost of \$212,544.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
2. Amending Resolution No. 2007-719 to delete the Auto Theft Task Force and include the Municipal Task Force and Homicide Task Force under the indemnification policy of the Union County Prosecutor's Office. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
3. Amending Resolution 2023-521, a contract with SDFI-TeleMedicine LLC, Boulder City, Nevada, for camera equipment, to reflect an increase in the amount of \$25,799.00, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$51,598.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
4. Amending Resolution 2023-577, a contract with Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., (D/B/A/ Life Technologies), Waltham, MA, to reflect a change/addition of account number only with no other changes to the terms and conditions of the prior resolution or contract. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Crisp Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

County Manager Edward Oatman represented the Department.

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Amending Resolution 2023-472, approving the 2023-2024 Annual Consolidated Action Plan, to include projects funded with Community Development Program Income Funds received from the City of Rahway and City of Plainfield. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

2. Authorizing the County Manager to utilize the competitive contracting procurement (RCCP) method to identify a provider to provide mental health services and counseling services for the County of Union. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Joseph Policay, Acting Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement between the County of Union and the Borough of Kenilworth for the installation of two Rectangle Rapid Flashing Beacon signs (RRFB) at the East Coast Greenway crossings - one located at Springfield Road and the other at North Michigan Avenue. Systems will be installed and maintained by the Borough of Kenilworth. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
2. Amending Resolution 2023-93, a Professional Engineering Service Contract to CME Associates of Parlin, New Jersey, to provide additional On-Call Environmental Engineering Services in the amount of \$57,500.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$157,500.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

Commissioner Baker asked Acting Director Policay to elaborate on this item.

Acting Director Policay advised that this item asked for additional monies to fund various services included remediation efforts and testing of contaminated soil samples.

3. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement between the County of Union and the Township of Clark for the installation of three rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) at the following intersections: Westfield Avenue (CR 613) and Kathryn Street; Madison Hill Road (CR 604) and Mildred Terrace; and Madison Hill Road and Winthrop Road. Systems will be installed and maintained by the Township of Clark. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to USA Architects, Somerville, New Jersey to provide Architectural, Engineering and Structural Services for Phase 1 of the Union County Courthouse Boiler Replacement Project in an amount not to exceed \$280,000.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
5. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding (B.A. # 30-2023) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities: Scientific Boiler Water Conditioning Co., Inc., Linden, NJ, for the purpose of providing Water Treatment Services & Supplies for twenty-four (24) consecutive months with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension in an amount not to exceed \$78,070.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
6. Amending Resolution 2023-677, a contract obtained through advertised public bidding pursuant to Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-1 et seq., with Johnston Communication, Springfield, NJ, for the provision of providing telephone/associated services systems equipment, installation, and maintenance services for various County Departments, to reflect an increase to the contract in the amount of \$220,000.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$996,423.83. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

7. Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through public bidding (UCCP 29-2023) in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Laws, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq; to Louis Barbato Landscaping, Holbrook New York, for the purpose of providing and planting trees throughout Union County Parks and Roadways for the Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management for a twelve-month (12) period in the amount not to exceed \$29,440.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept and for the Board to endorse and approve the 2024 Comprehensive County Youth Services Plan and Application Update, to include award numbers listing each funding source as required by the State of New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission and Attorney General's Office during the grant period January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024: The State Community Partnership Program Management Funds in the amount of \$90,000.00; State Community Partnership Program Service Funds in the amount of \$646,143.00; and Family Court Services in the amount of \$248,737.00 for a total grant award amount of not to exceed \$984,880.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
2. Amending Resolution 2023-633 to reflect an increase in the Area Plan Contract Spending Plan for Year 2 of the 2022-2024 Area Plan in the amount of \$178,166.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$7,377,967.00. **(Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon)**
3. Amending Resolution 2023-365, a contract with Community Access Unlimited for Supportive Services for customers of the American Job Center, to extend the contract through December 31, 2023; with no other changes to the terms or conditions of the prior resolutions or agreement. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
4. Amending Resolution 2022-1048, the Union County FY 2024 Municipal Alliance Program Spending Plan, to reflect adjustments to the spending plan, changes in appropriation accounts and to re-allocate funds among the municipalities listed in the spending plan; with no change to the total amount of the spending plan. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
5. Amending Resolution 2022-1049, the Union County FY 2024 DMHAS Youth Leadership Spending Plan, to reflect adjustments to the spending plan, changes in appropriation accounts and to re-allocate funds among the municipalities listed in the spending plan; with no change to the total amount of the spending plan. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
6. Amending Resolution 2022-950, a contract with St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church for Code Blue warming center services, to reflect a change in an appropriation account number and to reduce the contract in the amount of \$8,572.03 for a new total contract in the amount \$16,927.97; with all other terms and conditions of the prior resolution and contract remaining the same. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

7. Amending Resolution 2023-518, a resolution authorizing agreements under the Union County Youth Services Commission Spending Plan, to reflect changes in amounts associated with appropriation accounts and a reduction in the agreements in the amount of \$27,469.15 for a new total spending plan in the amount of \$233,797.85. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
8. Amending Resolution 2023-351, authorizing agreements with various agencies under the Union County Youth Services Commission Spending Plan, to reflect adjustments to the spending plan, with an increase in the amount of \$27,469.15 for an overall revised spending plan in the amount of \$539,125.15. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
9. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Mutual of America, Parsippany, NJ, for the continuation of an employee 401(a) benefits plan for county employees not covered under the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) in an amount not to exceed \$64,714.00 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
10. Authorizing the County Manager to enter in to a contract with Mutual of America, Parsippany, New Jersey, for the provision of Group Life Insurance with Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan for employees not covered under the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS), in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
11. Authorizing the County Manager to approve the 2023-2024 Congressional Directives Grant (CDG) Program Spending Plan for subcontracted services to be provided during the period of September 30, 2023 to September 29, 2024 in the total amount not to exceed \$661,000.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Victoria Durbin-Drake, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Amending Resolution 2019-459, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Grade Construction, of Paterson, New Jersey for the Madison Avenue Turf Field Improvements, City of Rahway, to reflect a Final Change Order #1 decreasing the contract amount by \$147,206.87 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$3,152,076.93. **(Commissioner Rebecca Lynne Williams)**

Commissioner Williams noted that it was nice to see the decrease.

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 execute a Settlement Agreement in the matter entitled Gleason v. Union County, et al., in an amount not to exceed \$320,000.00 of which the amount of \$175,847.50 shall be paid by the County of Union and the

remaining balance \$144,152.50 shall be paid by Chubb Insurance Company.
(Chairman Sergio Granados)

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

Edward Oatman, County Manager

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. County of Union's revision of Pay to Play requirements and forms pursuant to State legislation **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

1. Offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Dorothy Mattox during their time of sorrow. **(Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, & The Entire Board)**
2. Offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Dean B. Talcott, 30-year employee of the Union County Engineering Department, during their time of sorrow. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, & The Entire Board)**
3. Offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Patricia Johnson Dorcelly, of Plainfield, during their time of sorrow. **(Commissioner Rebecca Williams, & The Entire Board)**
4. Congratulating Gene Jannotti, the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC), upon the announcement of his retirement; and further offering this Board's gratitude for his dedicated public service to the County of Union and the greater Westfield Community over the past 10 years as CEO of the GWACC. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
5. Sponsoring the Borough of Roselle Park's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony to be held on December 1, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$1,500.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
6. Sponsoring the Harmony Haven's Graduation/Talent Show to be held on December 12, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$250.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
7. Sponsoring the City of Plainfield's Film on Park: Film Noir to Sci-Fi Exploring Community to be held October 13, 2023, October 28, 2023, November 10, 2023 and December 8, 2023 in a total amount not to exceed \$500.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
8. Sponsoring the Township of Springfield's Fall Festival to be held on October 15, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$1,250.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
9. Sponsoring the Township of Hillside's Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk & Pink Shuffle to be held on October 7, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$500.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**

10. Sponsoring the International Myeloma Foundation's Miracles for Myeloma event to be held on October 14, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$250.00. **(Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)**
11. Commending the efforts of the Union County Connects and the Regional Rails-to-Trails Conservancy; and further recognizing their partnership in assisting the County's pursuit of rail to trail conversions throughout Union County. **(Chairman Sergio Granados, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**
12. Offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Joseph A. Fiordaliso, President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, during their time of sorrow. **(Chairman Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
13. Appointing Craig Coughlin to the Workforce Development Board for a term starting on July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2026; and reappointing the following members to the Workforce Development Board for a term starting July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026: Debbie-Ann Anderson, Juanito Chiluisa, Peter Erich, Hilary McCarron, Daryl Palmieri, Gwendolyn Ryan, and Morgan Thompson. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
14. Recognizing and congratulating the honorees of the Puerto Rican Alliance of Elizabeth's Excellence Awards Dinner held on October 13th, 2023. **(Chairman Sergio Granados, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, & The Entire Board)**
15. Recognizing the Distinguished and Honorable President of the Republic of Portugal, President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, upon his visit to the Portuguese Instructive Social Club in Elizabeth. **(Chairman Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**
16. Recognizing Renae Smith CEO and Founder of Independent Authors Book Experience as they celebrate their 10th annual Independent Authors Book expo. **(Chairman Sergio Granados, & The Entire Board)**

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Granados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Bodek roll call showed six members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

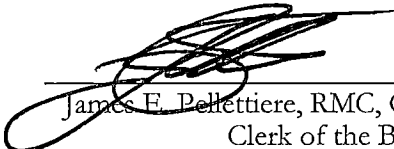
UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2023 MEETING SCHEDULE
REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023 at 6:00 pm
Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street. Elizabeth

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. 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.

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 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.