



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Granados presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Sergio Granados, 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, with Vice-Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner 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.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting was opened for the purpose of commenting on resolutions being offered for adoption and on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

Ronald McCray, of Rahway, expressed his concerns relative to speeding on East Hazelwood Avenue in Rahway within a school zone.

County Manager Oatman advised that he would have the Director of Public Safety reach out to Mr. McCray directly to further discuss the matter.

Commissioner Kowalski noted the Safe Streets initiative.

Commissioner Baker asked for clarification on the area is question.

Mr. McCray clarified that it was near the Rahway Community Action Organization.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

- 2023-810 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** 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.

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.

- 2023-811 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** 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.

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.

- 2023-812 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** 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.

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.

- 2023-813 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** 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.

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.

2023-814 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: 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.

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.

2023-815 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: 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.

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.

2023-816 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: 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.

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.

2023-817 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON: 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.

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.

- 2023-818 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** 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.

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.

- 2023-819 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** 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.

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.

- 2023-820 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** 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.

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.

- 2023-821 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** 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.

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.

- 2023-822 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** 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.

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.

2023-823 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:
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.

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.

2023-824 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:
Sponsoring the Harmony Haven's Graduation/Talent Show to be held on December 12, 2023 in the amount of not to exceed \$250.00.

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.

2023-825 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:
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.

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.

2023-826 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:
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.

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.

2023-827 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:
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.

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.

- 2023-828 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOURED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** 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.

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-Moured, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

- 2023-829 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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-Moured, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

- 2023-830 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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-Moured, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

- 2023-831 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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-Moured, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

- 2023-832 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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-Moured, Commissioner Garretson, and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

- 2023-833 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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.

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.

2023-834 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-835 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-836 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-837 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-838 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-839 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-840 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-841 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

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.

2023-842 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: County of Union's revision of Pay to Play requirements and forms pursuant to State legislation

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.

2023-843 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS: 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.

COMMISSIONER SPON SORED RESOLUTIONS

2023-844 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Dorothy Mattox during their time of sorrow.

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.

2023-845 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: 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.

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.

2023-846 CHAIRMAN REBECCA WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Patricia Johnson Dorcelly, of Plainfield, during their time of sorrow.

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.

2023-847 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: 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.

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.

2023-848 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: 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.

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.

2023-849 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: 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.

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.

- 2023-850 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing and congratulating the honorees of the Puerto Rican Alliance of Elizabeth's Excellence Awards Dinner held on October 13th, 2023.

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.

- 2023-851 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** 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.

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.

- 2023-852 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing Renae Smith CEO and Founder of Independent Authors Book Experience as they celebrate their 10th annual Independent Authors Book expo.

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.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chairman Granados welcomed and called upon NJ Senate President Nicholas P. Scutari for a special presentation.

NJ Senate President Scutari noted that it was wonder to be back in Union County on such an auspicious occasion. He highlighted the challenges of being a Union County Commissioner, noting his time as a Union County Freeholder, and recognized the Union County Board of County Commissioners for continuing the great work they do day-in and day-out for the residents of Union County. He announced, that the State of NJ, had graciously awarded Union County \$50 million dollars to fund a variety of capital improvement projects, including the Clark Reservoir Project, noting that he looked forward to seeing these monies put to good use.

Chairman Granados noted the Board's deepest gratitude to the State of New Jersey and NJ Senate President Scutari for their generosity in providing the County of Union with \$50 million dollars. He noted the substantial impact these monies would have in enhancing Union County resources.

Commissioner Bodek invited residents to attend the County's upcoming paper-shred events for the month of September. He advised that the first event would take place on September 22nd at the Westfield Pool, adding that the second event would take place on September 30th at Union College in Cranford. He noted that the event would take place rain or shine. He encouraged interested residents to visit the County's website for additional information on these events and other upcoming recycling events.

Commissioner Leon encouraged residents to take advantage of the County's free influenzas vaccine program, noting that the County's vaccine manufacturer recommended said inoculations for all residents six months and older. As a means to facilitate access, she noted that the County offered mobile vaccine clinics, in addition to special appointments for homebound residents. She encouraged interested residents to visit the County website for additional information on these and other related services.

Chairman Kowalski advised that the Union County Clerk's Office would be hosting on notary training seminar at the John H. Stamler Police Academy on October 20th. She further advised that in order to attend the event, a \$10 registration fee was required. She noted that registration was limited to 50 attendees. She added that business casual attire was required, with no sneakers permitted. She encouraged new and existing notaries to attend this informative event featuring County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi and 1st Deputy County Counsel Moshood Muftau.

Chairman Baker invited residents to attend the County's upcoming Touch-A-Truck event on September 23rd at Oak Ridge Park in Clark. He noted that visitors would have an opportunity to interact with vehicles from various County Departments including the Departments of Public Safety, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation. He added that attendees would also have an opportunity to enjoy a hayride across the park. He also noted that admission was free and food trucks would be on site and available for purchase. He encouraged interested residents to visit the County's website for additional information.

Commissioner Williams advised that the County would be resuming its "Out in Union County: Queer Empowerment Hour" hosted by Micayla Mirabella in partnership with the County's Office of LGBTQ Affairs. She noted that this informative, virtual series was first started during 2020 and provided a platform for discussions of various topics in a welcoming and safe environment. She noted that registration was required and encouraged interested participants to visit the County's website for additional information.

Chairman Granados reminded residents that the County was still accepting applications for the On Stage! Grant Program, noting that applications should be forwarded to the Office of Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation before the October 3rd deadline. He noted that these two grants from Union County high schools and U.C. non-profit organizations was meant to enhance the arts through Union County. He encouraged qualifying agencies to apply and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 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.