

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Leon presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:47 P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

Also present were County Manager Edward T. Oatman, County Counsel Bruce H. Bergen Esq., and Clerk of the Board James E. Pellettiere.

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The prayer and salute to the flag were led by Clerk of the Board Pellettiere.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT
The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by Clerk of
the Board Pellettiere.

ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION

856-2025

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND ADOPT AN ASSESSMENT ON CERTAIN SERVICES FURNISHED BY HOSPITALS LOCATED WITHIN UNION COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE PROVISION OF NECESSARY SERVICES BY SUCH HOSPITALS TO LOW-INCOME CITIZENS AND PROVIDE NEW FISCAL RESOURCES TO THE COUNTY.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere read Ordinance No. 856-2025 by title.

Chairwoman Leon turned the meeting over to Counsel Bergen to offer some remarks on rules of conduct during public comments.

Counsel Bergen addressed the public:

Before we begin any public comments this evening, the Chairwoman has asked me to make a few remarks to remind those attending of the rules of this meeting. First, based upon the number of persons appearing tonight to address the Board, to ensure everyone who wishes has an opportunity to speak, the amount of time each public speaker will be allowed during tonight's meeting will be three minutes. As always, please note the one-minute warning sign and please end your remarks once the red sign, indicating your time is over, in held up (demonstration). No additional time is allowed beyond the three minutes. Second, to maintain decorum during the meeting and to allow all speakers to be heard by the Board, no telephone use is allowed during the meeting. Any in-person

conversations should be taken out into the hallway so that you do not disturb other members of the public or the Board. Also, please do not call out from the audience or make any comments other than during your designated speaking time. Finally, during the remarks, please refrain from profanity or vulgar comments; do not make any personal comments or attacks. Anyone violating these rules, may have their speaking time ended. Further, violation of these rules or any action that disrupts the meeting or interferes with the Board's ability to conduct its business, are grounds for removal from the meeting. Please note, to avoid safety issues and assist in the speaking process later in the meeting during the public comment portion, each person who wants to speak, will be given a number on a piece of paper. Numbers will then be called in groups of 5 to line up in the aisle behind the podium to speak. All other people, please remain seated until your group is called to the podium. For the ordinance hearing and budget hearing, please come to the microphone one or two at a time and you will be allowed to speak; numbers will be used later in the meeting. Thank you, Chairwoman.

PUBLIC HEARING

The meeting was opened for public comment on Ordinance No. 856-2025 only.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to the reduction of time for public comment. He inquired about the purpose of Ordinance No. 856-2025, asking if it would be used to provide financial support to third-party hospital chains.

County Manager Oatman advised that this was a revenue-generating ordinance based on state law and federal funding. He confirmed that no monies were being allocated to any hospitals.

FINAL READING STATEMENT

Vice Chairman Joseph Bodek, Policy Subcommittee Chairman, moved Ordinance Number 856-2025 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

On a motion made by Vice-Chair Bodek and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight votes in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY:
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL
LEGISLATION" BY AMENDING: PART II-POLICIES AND GENERAL
LEGISLATION: CHAPTER 49, FEES, ARTICLE V, ENGINEERING &
PUBLIC WORKS FEES AND ARTICLE VII (NEW), OFFICE OF THE
UNION COUNTY SURROGATE—FEES.

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Vice Chairman Joseph Bodek, Policy and Administrative Code Committee Chairman, moved Ordinance Number 857-2025 for First Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The Public Hearing and Final Reading will be held on May 15, 2025.

On a motion made by Vice-Chairman Bodek and seconded by Commissioner Kowalski, roll call showed eight votes in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

Public Hearing on the 2025 County Budget

Chairwoman Leon addressed the public:

The 2025 County Budget was introduced during the Commissioners March 27, 2025 meeting. Following the approval of that budget resolution, the Clerk of the Board published the notice of the official public hearing to be held tonight, in accordance with the law. With that said, I now open the public hearing on the 2025 County Budget. Prior to calling upon the public for comments on the budget, I will ask Fiscal Committee Chair, Commissioner Rebecca Williams, to say a few words before we begin. I would like to thank Finance Director Bibi Taylor and staff, County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner, our Fiscal Committee and all our staff for their efforts on the budget.

Fiscal Committee Chair, Commissioner Williams, addressed the public:

As Chair of the 2025 Fiscal Committee, I am pleased to announce that after months of collaboration, thorough review, and state approval, we are prepared for the final vote on the 2025 Executive Budget following tonight's hearing. This budget reflects Union County's ongoing commitment to responsible fiscal management. I am proud to report that we have maintained a stable tax rate this year following last year's modest increase. This was achieved through strategic planning, cost-saving measures, and a shared dedication to protecting the core services of our residents. Union County continues to maintain its AAA bond rating. the highest a County government can achieve, reflecting the strength of our financial planning, conservative budget practices, and continued investment in our infrastructure and community programs. Guided by Chairwoman Leon's theme for the year, Connecting Communities Committed to Progress, this budget advances critical priorities in public health, accessibility, senior and youth services, and workforce development. At the same time, we must remain mindful of potential federal funding cuts by the Trump Administration that could impact vital programs that we depend on. We are monitoring this closely and remain committed to protecting the services our residents rely on. As Chairwoman Leon said, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to County Manager Oatman, Finance Director Taylor and her team, John Dziedzic and Ally Henriques, for their outstanding work, as well as, my fellow Fiscal Committee members Vice-Chairman Bodek, Commissioner Delisfort, and Commissioner Mirabella for their continued dedication. And finally, thank you to all our Department heads, staff, and community partners, whose collaboration and input helped to shape a budget that meets today's needs while also planning for tomorrow.

Chairwoman Leon turned meeting to Counsel Bergen for remarks prior to opening the meeting to the public for comment on the 2025 County Budget.

Counsel Bergen addressed the public:

I want to make clear to the members of the public here, this is a mandatory public hearing concerning the 2025 County Budget. The only allowable comments are as to the budget itself. Comments on other topics, in particular, concerning the status of the jail, are not appropriate at this time and will be disallowed. Such comments, as you know, will be heard later during the public comment portion. As I mentioned before, please approach the podium one or two at a time and line up in the aisle, so as not to block other people. Thank you Chair.

The meeting was opened to the public for the official Public Hearing on the 2025 Union County Budget.

Stacy Gregg, of Morris, County asked about the health of the County's budget. She also inquired about how potential cuts to federal funding could affect the budget.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to the 2025 County Budget. He noted that debt services went up by 8%, with Capital Spending being reduced by \$22 million.

Director Taylor advised that Union County was required to maintain a balanced budget and also prohibited from over-expending the budget. As a result, she added that the County was also required to plan and have plans in place to ensure that the appropriations match the revenues sources. She advised that the County's net-debt had decreased year-after-year for the past 10 years. She noted that in 2021, the County's net-debt was .69% and .64% in 2022. She noted a decrease in 2023 to .57%, with the net-debt being reduced to .48% by the end of 2024. She further advised that the debt service budget fluctuated annually based on principal payments. She added that natural variations were expected but did not mean that the County's overall debt capacity was increasing. She added that the net debt was the number that should be highlighted to determine what was being paid. She advised that the County had a responsible budget that had been reviewed by the state and was cleared for adoption. She further advised that the County did not have any one-time revenue sources in this budget. She noted the County's tax history over the past seven years, providing four years of zeros, with a 1.75% increase the prior year and last year, adding that this was well below what many municipalities were doing which was over the 2% with all of their various exclusions. She confirmed that the County was not using any of its exclusions and was not utilizing any of the allowable CAP Bank. Citing Moody's AAA Bond Rating, she confirmed the County implemented strong fiscal restraints in its financial planning, along with prudent spending practices to achieve efficiencies.

Fiscal Committee Chair, Commissioner Williams, noted potential federal funding cuts that could affect critical health and human services resources. She advised that this funding provided critical funding for SNAP benefits, WIC, rental assistance and other vital programs. She advised that these prospective cuts would affect all of NJ, noting a meeting with Governor Murphy last week to discuss the potential loss in funding.

PRESENTATION BY THE BOARD

A video presentation was made to the public relative to the 2025 Infrastructure Grant awards.

Chairwoman Leon turned the meeting over to Fiscal Committee Chair, Commissioner Williams, to say a few words about the 2025 Infrastructure Grants.

Commissioner Williams addressed the public:

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, I am proud to present the recipients of the 2025 Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grant Program. In 2025, we awarded \$1.5 million to support the municipalities across Union County as they invest in critical, infrastructure improvements that benefit our residents and strengthen our communities. We have prepared a compilation of videos submitted by each town, highlighting how this funding will support and strengthen residents and their communities. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients and we thank them for their continued partnership.

The video was broadcast on the meeting room monitors.

Township of Berkeley Heights

2025 Miscellaneous Draining & Roadway Improvements	\$60,000.00
Township of Clark 2025 Roadway Safety Improvements	\$30,000.00
Township of Cranford 2025 Road Program	\$95,000.00
City of Elizabeth Replacement of Antiquated Traffic Lights South/S Reid/Grove	\$150,000.00
Borough of Fanwood Design of 2025 Road Program	\$40,000.00
Borough of Garwood Center St Safety Corridor/Bike Lanes & Bump Outs	\$39,000.00
Township of Hillside Community Center Façade Repair	\$21,000.00 ·
Borough of Kenilworth Cleanwater Vehicle Wash Facility	\$50,000.00
City of Linden Resurfacing Chandler Ave/E. Baltimore Ave/Orchard Terrace	\$100,000.00
Borough of Mountainside Resurfacing of Various Streets	\$40,000.00
Borough of New Providence Municipal Roadway Paving Project	\$50,000.00
City of Plainfield Summer Ave & Filmore Ave Roadway Improvement Project	\$135,000.00
City of Rahway CDBG Year 50 Road Resurfacing	\$100,000.00
Borough of Roselle Stormwater Mapping & Infrastructure Project	\$60,000.00

Borough of Roselle Park Improvements to Laurel Ave	\$65,000.00
Township of Scotch Plains Roadway Assistance Program 2025	\$100,000.00
Township of Springfield Paving Improvements on Various Streets	\$70,000.00
City of Summit Tulip Street Improvement Project – Phase 2	\$75,000.00
Township of Union 2025 Road Program Phase 2	\$100,000.00
Town of Westfield First Street Resurfacing	\$100,000.00
Township of Winfield Various Improvements 2025	\$20,000.00

A video presentation was made to the public relative to the 2025 HEART Grant awards.

Chairwoman Leon turned the meeting over to Cultural and Heritage Advisory Committee Liaison, Commissioner Kowalski, to say a few words about the 2025 HEART Grant.

Commissioner Kowalski addressed the public:

Tonight, in anticipation of the Board's expected adoption of a Resolution on this evening's agenda, we are pleased to preview another video presentation highlighting the 2025 HEART Grant Awards, Union County's initiative to support local arts, culture and history. This is created through a collaboration between County's Cultural and Heritage Affairs Office and the Dept of Parks & Recreation. The video outlines the mission of the HEART Grants and also celebrates the outstanding work of this year's anticipated recipients. Thank you to Kathleen Kakaletris, Nicole DeAugustine, David Pilmenstein, and Carolyn Thomas for bringing this vision to life. It shows the huge impact these grants have on our communities. Following tonight's meeting, we look forward to sharing this video online so all residents can learn about the program and the individuals supported by the HEART Grants. We have been doing these grants for many years and it benefits many thousands of people.

The video was broadcast on the meeting room monitors.

\$1,000.00
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\$1,000.00

Moriah Cohen, Westfield	\$1,000.00
Tylie Shider, Plainfield	\$1,000.00
Valerie D. Porter, Roselle	\$1,000.00
Borough of Fanwood	\$2,500.00
Borough of Kenilworth	\$2,500.00
Borough of Roselle Park	\$1,000.00
Carolyn Dorfman Dance, Union	\$2,600.00
Central Presbyterian Church, Summit	\$2,500.00
City of Plainfield	\$2,500.00
Cranford Housing Board	\$1,000.00
Cranford Schools Friends of Performing Arts	\$2,500.00
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Westfield	\$2,500.00
Dragonfly Multicultural Arts Center, Plainfield	\$2,000.00
Elizabeth Avenue Partnership, Elizabeth	\$2,500.00
Emerson Community School Theatre Group, Plainfield	\$2,500.00
Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Frazee House Inc.	\$2,500.00
Garwood Partnership for Arts and Culture	\$1,000.00
Green Thumb Garden Club of Cranford	\$650.00
Groundwork Elizabeth	\$2,600.00
Hanson Park Conservancy, Cranford	\$1,550.00
Historical Society Elizabeth NJ Inc.	\$1,000.00
Historical Society of Plainfield/Drake House Museum	\$3,000.00
Independent Authors Book Experience	\$2,000.00
Institute of Music for Children, Elizabeth	\$2,500.00
Jefferson Park Ministries, Inc., Elizabeth	\$2,500.00
Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey, Elizabeth	\$2,500.00
Josephine's Place, Elizabeth	\$2,600.00
Kenilworth Historical Society Incorporated	\$1,200.00
Liberty Hall Museum, Union	\$2,900.00
Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum, Rahway	\$2,600.00
Music For All Seasons, Scotch Plains	\$2,500.00
New Jersey Festival Orchestra, Westfield	\$2,500.00
New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, Summit	\$2,500.00
New Providence Public Art	\$2,200.00
Occupational Center of Union County, Roselle	\$2,600.00
Overlook Foundation, Summit	\$2,500.00
Peruvians for Progress Inc., Rahway	\$2,300.00
Premiere Stages at Kean University, Union	\$2,500.00
Preserve the Shady Rest Committee, Scotch Plains	\$2,600.00
Reeves-Reed Arboretum, Summit	\$2,500.00
Roselle Board of Education	\$2,500.00
SAGE Eldercare, Summit	\$2,500.00
Second Street Youth Center, Plainfield	\$2,500.00
Social Justice Matters, Inc., Scotch Plains	\$2,200.00
Stony Hill Players, Summit	\$2,500.00
The Connection for Women and Families, Summit	\$2,600.00
The Fortnightly Club of Summit	\$2,000.00

The Musical Club of Westfield, Inc.	\$2,050.00
Township of Scotch Plains	\$2,200.00
Union County Arts Center, Inc., Rahway	\$2,100.00
Union County Connects, Roselle Park	\$2,500.00
Union Township Historical Society	\$1,000.00
Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit	\$2,500.00
Vivid Stage, Summit	\$2,500.00
Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NJ W3R-NJ	\$2,500.00
Westfield Arts Collective	\$2,500.00
Westfield Coalition for the Arts	\$2,500.00
Westfield Community Center	\$2,500.00
Westfield Historical Society	\$850.00
Westfield Neighborhood Council	\$2,500.00
Westfield Public Arts Commission	\$2,500.00
Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts, Berkeley Heights	\$2,500.00
Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, Scotch Plains	\$2,500.00
YM-YWHA of Union County, Union	\$2,500.00
Young Men's Christian Association of Eastern UC, Elizabeth	\$2,000.00

Commissioner Baker left the meeting.

Chairwoman Leon thanked the Office of Public Information for putting both video presentations together.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Regular Meeting Meetings

Chairwoman Leon called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice Chairman Bodek, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. March 13, 2025 Agenda Setting Session
- 2. March 13, 2025 Regular Meeting
- 3. March 13, 2025 Executive Session
- 4. March 27, 2025 Agenda Setting Session
- 5. March 27, 2025 Regular Meeting

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

Prior to opening the Public Comment portion of the meeting, Chairwoman Leon turned the meeting over to Counsel Bergen to offer some remarks.

Counsel Bergen addressed the public:

Before public comments begin, I've been asked to let the public know some matters concerning the former jail property as I am sure many of you here will be speaking on that subject. Since the last meeting, there has been no change in the status of that matter. I will note that the County Manager, I, and some other County Employees will be meeting with Make the Road NJ on Tuesday to get their input into the potential bid specifications in this matter. Also, to try and clear up a false narrative that appears to be circulating in the public, by State law, the final determination of the disposition or not of the County's property will be by future vote of this Board. It is in the Board's power to accept or reject any and all bids, if any, received in response to any future invitation to bid on the jail property. I hope that helps to clarify the process going forward. I would also like to remind everyone of the need to abide by the time-clock, maintain decorum in the room and refrain from profanity or vulgar comments and not to make any personal comments or attacks. Please remember there should be no cell-phone use in the meeting room and if you need to talk, please go outside. Also, please keep the aisles clear for safety reasons and wait for your group of speaker numbers to be called before lining up behind the podium. If you wish to speak and do not yet have a number, please step outside the doors and you will be given one. Please hand in your number as you approach the podium; all speakers will be given a chance to speak tonight so there is no need to rush forward to the podium. Thank you, Chairwoman.

Commissioner Baker returned to the meeting.

County Manager Oatman advised that Clerk of the Board Pellettiere would be calling up speakers by groups of 5, in accordance with the number they were given at the start of the meeting.

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.

Breyni Brilar spoke relative to the detainment of her husband over the last five months and the struggles she has endured in his absence as a single mother. She asked the Board to carefully consider the consequences of allowing for an additional ICE detention facility to be opened locally.

Counsel Bergen asked the speaker to conclude her comments and warned the public against speaking out of turn from the audience.

County Manager Oatman reiterated that the public speakers would be allotted three minutes to speak.

Chairwoman Leon asked everyone to please be respectful and abide by the meeting rules.

Joan Peters, of Clark, asked the County to consider adding a stipulation to the Request for Proposal to prevent the Union County Jail from being purchased for the purpose of an ICE detention center.

Virginia Kay, of Union, inquired about each Commissioners' stance on immigration enforcement and deportation practices. She noted her disapproval of selling the Union County Jail for the purpose of an ICE detention center.

Teresa, of Rahway, inquired about the RFP for the Union County Jail. She asked the Commissioner Board to commit to not allowing the Union County Jail to be sold for the purpose of an ICE detention center.

Ana Paola Pazmino, Director of Resistencia en Accion, thanked the Commissioners that had voted against the initial RFP for the Union County Jail. She asked all the Commissioners to take a stand against the sale of the UC Jail for an ICE detention center. She read the testimony from another member of her organization relative to her experience with ICE detention.

Ashnali Gooni, of Resistencia en Accion, thanked the Board for allowing the public to speak and share their concerns. She noted her disapproval of the RFP for the UC Jail, adding that she was disappointed in the precedent being set. She warned that if the Board continued in this pursuit, they would be complicit in profiting from ICE detention facilities.

Farham Jamin, of Resistencia en Accion, thanked the Commissioners that voted against the initial RFP last month. She asked the remaining Board members to listen to their constituents and not allow ICE or private prisons to secure the UC Jail for the purpose of incarceration. She asked the Board to consider alternative uses for the property.

Andre (inaudible), of Elizabeth, urged the Board not to go forward with the RFP process and allow the property to be sold to ICE for the purpose of a detention center. He asked the Board for a firm commitment that they would not accept any proposals from GeoGroup, CoreCivic or other similar organizations.

Jane Frost Guzzo, of Fanwood, thanked the Board for the 2025 Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grants. On another note, she asked the Board make a commitment that they would not permit the UC Jail to be sold for the purpose of immigrant detention and or incarceration.

Eric Cruz Morales, of NJ Alliance for Immigrant Justice, noted his efforts against mass immigration detention and incarceration. He noted he would continue to fight against ICE detention facilities and would not stop until all detention centers were closed permanently.

Ami Kachalia, of ACLU of NJ, noted her opposition of the sale of the Union County Jail for the purpose of immigrant detention. She encouraged the Board to consider a robust review process for the RFP as well as a stipulation to preclude companies like GeoGroup and CoreCivic from securing the property for ICE

detainment. She asked the Board to stand with the residents of Union County and against ICE.

Stacy Gregg, of Rockaway, noted her years of advocacy against ICE detention facilities. She asked the Board to stand up against such efforts and prevent the UC Jail from being sold for this purpose.

Jeff Robinson, of Rahway, spoke relative to Reso No. 2025-349, and asked the Board to reconsider the location of the ice rink. He noted that the current location housed 60 large, mature white oaks and cutting them down, in his opinion, would be an environmental atrocity. Relative to the UC Jail, he asked the Board to reconsider, as allowing this property to be sold for detainment would facilitate the Trump Administration's immigration efforts.

Adriana (inaudible), member of Make the Road NJ, asked the Board to openly commit to voting no on any proposal received for the opening of an ICE detention center at the UC Jail.

Nidia Rodriguez, of Elizabeth, noted that she was fearful for her and her family under the Trump Administration.

Carlos Villavicencio, of Elizabeth, noted that ICE detention was a tool used for fear and profit. He asked the Board to invest in the community rather than in a detention center.

Jordi Hernandez, of Elizabeth, thanked the three Commissioners that voted against the RFP for the UC Jail last month. He noted that he was disgusted at the possibility of another ICE detention center in the community and asked the Board to say no to ICE and organizations like GeoGroup.

Adam McGovern, of Plainfield, thanked the three Commissioners that voted against the RFP for the UC Jail. He asked the Board to commit to a no vote against an ICE detention center.

Terri Sues, of Union County, noted that she was happy to hear that the County would be meeting with local organizations to discuss alternative uses for the UC Jail. She recommended certain stipulations be added to the RFP to guide the purchase of the property in the right direction.

Jean Fortun, of Union, asked the Board to take a stand and take action against immigration detainment and detention.

Julie Moreno, of Newark, noted that 35% of the Elizabeth population was undocumented and living in fear as a result of recent immigration enforcement efforts. She added that immigrants contribute greatly to local communities and would contribute more if they weren't fearful of being detained.

Jen Lockren, of Somerset County, noted her stance against using the UC Jail as an ICE detention center. She added that she had little faith in the Board to do the right thing, adding that she hopes they were held accountable for their decision.

Jenny Garcia, of Somerset County, asked that the RFP be reconsidered prior to being drafted. She noted that many counties and towns had openly refused to contract with ICE.

Lili Benevides, of Morris County, noted her concerns relative to immigrants being detained.

Cynthia Galiota, of Soma Action Organization Essex County, noted the cruel and inhumane conditions of ICE detention centers. She asked the Board to stand up and protect the rights of all residents of Union County.

Susan Furchak, of Some Action Organization Essex County, noted her opposition to an ICE detention center, adding that immigrants contributed greatly and should be welcomed. She added that the federal government's actions were unlawful relative to immigrant detention and asked the Board to stand against these efforts.

Gloria, of Elizabeth, noted her concerns relative to the UC Jail being used as an ICE detention center. She asked the Board to publicly commit to voting no on any jail or detention center.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to the UC Jail, recommending alternative uses for the property. He also made comments relative to Commissioner Williams serving as the Chair for the American Revolution 250th Anniversary Committee, and questioned the appropriateness of the designation. Mr. Paterson also noted the County Clerk's Office offering alternatives to the REAL ID. He made comments relative to Reso No. 2025-355. Relative to Reso No. 2025-374, he asked how many members remained.

County Manager Oatman advised that the County Clerk's Office offered US Passport Cards.

Relative to Reso No. 2025-374, Director Scutari advised that there were 24 members as of 2025.

Relative to Reso No. 2025-355, Director Taylor advised that the County was allowed to increase the CAP bank by 1%, adding that they would be banking the 1% plus the different between what the County was allowed to increase and what its tax levy actually was. She noted that the 1% equaled \$2.5 million, further advising that the total CAP that would be banked for 2025 was \$6.4 million. She added that the prior year's bank plus the current year's bank was allowed to be banked under the 1977 budget cap, equaling \$13.3 million, which was not included in this year's budget.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

The following resolutions are being offered for adoption:

2025-328 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with CFG Health Systems LLC, Marlton, New Jersey for the provision of comprehensive institutional healthcare services for incarcerated adults at the Union County Correctional Hub for the contract period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$1,373,436.96.

2025-329 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR: Amending Resolution Number 2024-974 to reflect an increase in the original Area Plan Contract Spending Plan in the amount of \$112,531.00 to reflect a new total not to exceed \$5,580,572.00, with no other changes to the terms or conditions.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-330 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Amending Resolution 2023-681, a contract with Michael Baker International for professional engineering and other services, to include the intersections along East and West 7th Street, East Front Street and Leland Avenue, City of Plainfield.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-331 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Concurring with the Township of Cranford's Ordinance 2025-01, prohibiting right turns on red signal at the intersection of South Avenue and Centennial Avenue, between the hours of 7:00 am – 9:00 am and 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm on weekdays.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-332 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Amending Resolution 2023-1037 for the Martine Avenue Bridge, over stream 10-7-22-1, Township of Scotch Plains, New Jersey, to reflect a time extension in the project award date as per NJDOT requirements.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-333 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Amending Resolution 2023-550, for the Intersection Improvements along East and West 7th Street, East Front Street and Leland Avenue, City of Plainfield, New Jersey, to reflect a time extension in the project completion date as per NJDOT requirements.

2025-334 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to JC Contracting of Rahway, New Jersey for Intersection Improvements along East & West 7th Street (CR601) and Intersection of East Front Street (CR620) and Leland Avenue, City of Plainfield, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$2,461,215.59.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-335 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the adoption of Pre-Qualification Regulations for prospective bidders in conformance with those of the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Property Maintenance and Construction relative to Union County projects of construction, reconstruction, demolition, alteration, repair or maintenance of buildings.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-336 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the County Manager to express the County of Union's support of the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation project for the Route 124 Bridges over Passaic River Project at the County of Union border.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-337 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Amending Resolution 2024-566, a contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Colonnelli Brothers LLC of Hackensack, New Jersey for the Replacement of Irving Street Bridge, City of Rahway, New Jersey for a change in account numbers only.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-338 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract pursuant to Resolution 2023-166, originally obtained through advertised public bidding, with Pennetta Industrial Automation, Little Ferry, NJ for the purpose of providing Computerized Monitoring & Controlling of Automation Systems Equipment services for twenty-four (24) consecutive months from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00.

2025-339 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Resolution authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to hang a banner on Springfield Avenue for Mental Health Awareness Month from April 30, 2025 to May 31, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-340 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Resolution authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to close Springfield Avenue from Plainfield Avenue to Snyder Avenue on Sunday, June 8, 2025 from 11:00am to 5:00pm for their annual Block Party.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-341 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to hang a banner across Springfield Avenue to promote the Our House 4 Mile Run from April 25, 2025 through May 9, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-342 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to hang a banner on Plainfield Avenue from April 15, 2025 through May 7, 2025 to promote the Berkeley Heights PAL Golf Outing.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-343 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the City of Linden to close Wood Avenue between Elm Street and Blancke Street on Saturday, May 17, 2025 from 9:00am to 6:00pm for its 100th Anniversary Celebration; to close Wood Avenue between Elm Street and Elizabeth Avenue on Saturday, June 28, 2025 from 11:00am to 10:00pm for its Unity Day / Juneteenth Celebration; to close Wood Avenue between Blancke Street and Elm Street on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 from 3:00pm to 8:00pm for its Annual National Night Out event; on Friday, October 3, 2025 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm for their Annual Fire Prevention Night and on Saturday, October 4, 2025 from 11:00am to 9:00pm for their Annual Latin Festival; to close Wood Avenue between Routes 1&9 and Gibbons Street on October 26, 2025 from 10:00am to 4:30pm for their Annual Halloween Parade; to close Wood Avenue between Blancke Street and Elm Street on Friday, December 5, 2025 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm for their Annual Holiday Tree Lighting; and to hang a banner

across Wood Avenue between Gibbons Street and Curtis Street from April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Vice-Chairman Bodek abstaining and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-344 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the Borough of Mountainside to hang a banner on Mountain Avenue from May 1, 2025 through May 30, 2025 promoting Mental Health Awareness Month; July 7, 2025 through August 8, 2025 promoting National Night Out; September 8, 2025 through September 29, 2025 promoting their Rotary Car Show; and September 29, 2025 through October 27, 2025 promoting Restaurant Week.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-345 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the Township of Scotch Plains to close Park Avenue from East 2nd Street to Front Street and Front Street from Park Avenue to Senger Place on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 for Patrick's Downtown Race to Summer 5K.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-346 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the Borough of New Providence to close Springfield Avenue from Central Avenue to Gales Drive on Monday, May 26, 2025 from 9:00am to 11:00am for the Annual Memorial Day Parade; South Street from Gales Drive to Springfield Avenue on Thursday, July 3, 2025 from 5:00pm to 11:00pm for the Annual Independence Day Celebration; Springfield Avenue from South Street to Livingston Avenue on Sunday, October 26, 2025 from 7:00am to 7:00pm for the Fall Fest; and South Street from Gales Drive to Springfield Avenue on Friday, November 28, 2025 from 4:00pm to 10:00pm for the Holiday Festival.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-347 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT: Authorizing the Borough of New Providence to hang a banner on Springfield Avenue during the month of May 2025, promoting Mental Health Awareness Month.

2025-348 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA) in the amount of \$11,595.00 for the County Welfare Administration (CWA) Administration Grant of the 2024 Universal Service Fund for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-349 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Parks & Recreation: Terminal Construction Corp, for the purpose of constructing an Ice Rink at Warinanco Park, in the amount of \$26,598,000.00 (BA 6-2025; Engineering Project 2024-16)

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-350 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution Number 2022-1039, a Professional Services Contract with MAST Construction Services Inc of Little Falls, New Jersey for additional Construction Management Services for the Ash Brook Clubhouse Renovation Project, in an amount not to exceed \$38,915.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$226,915.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-351 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, to execute any and all agreements for the 2025 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant Program for the total allocated amount not to exceed \$150,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-352 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, to allocate funds received from the New Jersey Historical Commission to various Union County agencies and organizations as recommended and approved by the Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board, in an amount not to exceed \$55,200.00.

2025-353 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Amending Resolution 2023-1034, a contract with Coronis Health RCM, LLC, Morganville, NJ for the provision of EMS billing and collection services for the County of Union, to reflect an increase to the contract in the amount of \$38,667.79, for a new total amount not to exceed \$369,283.12.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-354 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Determining that the 2025 Union County Budget shall be read by title and declaring that the public hearing conditions set forth pursuant to N.J.S.A.:40A: 4-8(1a)(1b) have been satisfied.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-355 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Approving the COLA Resolution to establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14).

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-356 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Adopting the 2025 County of Union Budget.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-357 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Canceling unexpended grant account balance.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-358 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Prescribing the details and bond form thereof for \$3,097,000 County College Bonds of 2025 (Chapter 12 State Aid) dated June 15, 2025, 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.

2025-359 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Amending Resolution 2025-10, authorizing departmental signatories for Calendar Year 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-360 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Sponsoring the House of Hearts Network in an amount not to exceed \$500.00 in support of their Breaking Barriers Conference to be held on May 1, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-361 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Sponsoring the Queen City Film & Television Workshop in an amount not to exceed \$750.00 in support of their Screentalk NJ: Season 3 to be held on May 10, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-362 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Co-Sponsoring the City of Rahway's following events in a total amount not to exceed \$11,000.00: Independence Day Fireworks (July 3, 2025); Emergency Services Jiu Jitsu Event (September 14, 2025); Artsfest (September 20, 2025); Halloween Spooktacular (October 25, 2025); Tree Lighting Ceremony (November 28, 2025); and Santa Comes to Town (December 5, 2025).

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-363 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Reappointing the following members to the Motion Picture and Television Advisory Board: Pamela Morgan and J.D. Varady for terms ending December 31, 2026; and Ellen Chase, Kelly Martins, and Amy Wagner for terms ending December 31, 2027.

2025-364 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Momentum Telecom, Atlanta, Georgia for the purpose of providing maintenance for a private network solution for programming elections and tallying election results between the Union County Board of Elections and the County Clerk's office for the contract period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 in the amount not to exceed \$50,040.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-365 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Election Systems & Software, Omaha, Nebraska, for the purpose of providing hardware and software maintenance and licensing for the Union County Vote Tabulation System for the contract period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, with an option to extend for an additional twenty four months in the amount not to exceed \$727,021.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-366 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-114, a contract with Election Systems & Software LLC (ES&S), Omaha, NE, to provide on-site election resources during the expanded Primary Election early voting period and for an additional three locations, to increase the contact by the amount of \$141,450.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$400,675.00 for the contract period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-367 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-117, a contract with Liberty Transportation & Storage Co. Inc., Berkeley Heights, NJ, to increase the contract amount for the purpose of transportation services for voting machines, electronic poll books and election supplies for three additional early voting sites for the contract period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in an additional amount of \$30,000.00, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$170,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-368 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2023-1080, a contract with Election Systems & Software, Omaha, Nebraska, to cancel the contract period from January 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025.

2025-369 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-125, a contract with Business Automation Technologies Inc., dba Data Network Solutions, Little Silver, NJ to provide internet service and maintenance on equipment in the Union County Clerk's offices, to reflect an increase the amount by \$20,382.07 for a new contract from January 1, 2025 to August 31, 2028 in an amount not to exceed \$143,322.07.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-370 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Shared Services Agreement between the County of Union and Union County Vocational Technical Schools (UCVTS) to administer the health and prescription benefits to Union County Vocational Technical Schools for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 at no cost to the County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-371 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-55, to allow for an increase of funding for Medical and Prescription claims incurred by Union County Vocational/ Technical Schools in an amount not to exceed \$8,500,000.00 for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-50, an agreement for Prescription Benefit Management Services for the County's Employee Self-Insurance Program with CAREMARKPCS HEALTH, L.L.C. d/b/a as CVS CAREMARK, to allow for an increase of funding for administration fees due to the increase in members from Union County Vocational/ Technical Schools in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, for a new not to exceed amount of \$2,800,000.00, for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-373 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-49, an agreement for Third Party Administrator Services with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, to allow for an increase of funding for Administration fees to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey due to the increase in members from Union County

Vocational/ Technical Schools in an amount of \$277,500.00 for a not to exceed amount of \$5,978,500.00 for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-374 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the PBA 199--Correction Officers, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-375 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq, (BA#21-2025) to TBD for a period of twenty-four (24) months with an option to renew for twenty-four (24) months to provide telephone/associated services systems equipment, installation, maintenance services, for various County Departments, in an amount not to exceed \$TBD.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-376 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution Number 2024-229, an agreement with the NJ Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA) to secure grant funding for the Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG), changing the contract period from June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025 to June 1, 2024 through April 30, 2026, with no other changes to the agreement.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-377 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's Resolution No. 2025-11 authorizing the payment of indirect costs for Program Year 2023 in the amount of \$250,593.84.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-378 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's Resolution No. 2025-12 authorizing the payment of indirect costs for Program Year 2024 in the amount of \$324,571.38.

2025-379 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's Resolution 2025-13 authorizing the transfer of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) expenses from Program Year 2024 to Program Year 2023 in the amount of \$447,659.93.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-380 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-257, to revise WIOA Adult Account Numbers from Program Year 2023 to Program Year 2024 for the contract with United Way of Greater Union County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-381 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2024-544, concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's Resolution 2025-16, to award an additional \$140,000.00 to Workforce Advantage for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$840,000.00 for the contract period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-382 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Concurring with Resolution 2025-17 of the Union County Workforce Development Board to award Summer Youth Employment Program funds to the City of Elizabeth and to the United Way of Greater Union County for the contract period of April 1, 2025 through October 31, 2025, in the amount not to exceed \$1,950,000.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados abstaining and Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-383 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Concurring with Resolution 2025-15 of the Union County Workforce Development Board amending the contract with UCNJ, Union College of Union County, NJ to increase funding by \$140,000.00 and change the contract period to June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, for the provision of career services to adults and dislocated workers under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

2025-384 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-309, a contract with Johnston Communications, Springfield, NJ, obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq, to include additional account numbers only.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-385 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2024-615 FY 2024-2025 (Year 49) Consolidated Action Plan, to increase CDBG funding utilizing contingency funds in the amount of \$20,000.00, to cover the cost to complete existing elevator projects for New Providence Barabash Manor Sr. Housing ADA Elevator, for a new not to exceed total of \$85,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-386 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Amending Resolution 2025-23 to increase the appropriation to Genova Burns, LLC, of Newark, NJ, to serve as Litigation, Defense and General Counsel for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in an additional amount not to exceed \$150,000.00, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$250,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-387 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to execute a Quitclaim Deed to vacate a public right-of-way on property within the Township of Springfield, adjoining the property designated on the tax map of Springfield as Block 501, Lot 1, and Morris Avenue, of approximately .028 acres, no longer needed for a public purpose.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-388 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to execute and record a Declaration of Conservation Restriction/Easement to impose a deed restriction upon County property designated on the tax map of Union as Block 301, Lot 25.01 to establish a Stormwater Management Area pursuant to municipal and NJDEP approval to develop the property.

2025-389 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract with Groundwork Elizabeth, Elizabeth, NJ, pursuant to Resolution 2023-148, for the administration and implementation of two programs encompassed under the grant program entitled: "Union County Plant A Seed Grant Program" for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in the total amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 with one (1) additional one-year option to extend.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-390 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with the Union County Performing Arts Center to provide services necessary for the execution of the 2025 Summer Theater Camp Scholarship Program, which will provide for a four (4) week summer conservatory held at the Hamilton Stage in Rahway to present Beetlejuice Jr. for campers 8-12 years and campers 13-18 years for the period of July 1, 2025 through July 27, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-391 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS: Amending Resolution Number 2025-068, a contract with UCPAC, Rahway, New Jersey to provide additional services necessary for the execution of the Sensory Friendly Theater Program and to include up to four (4) sensory friendly movies hosted at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway, New Jersey, in an additional amount of \$31,765.00 for a total contract not to exceed amount of \$96,765.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE

2025-392 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating Erica Bell upon her nomination to New Jersey's 100 Innovating Leaders on May 12, 2025.

2025-393 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Recognizing Northern New Jersey Community Foundation for their efforts in creating a Federal North Jersey National Heritage Area across portions of North Jersey and Union County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-394 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating the 2025 Unity Achievement Award recipients upon being honored by the Union County Human Relations Commission at their Award Reception held on Monday, May 12, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-395 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating K9 Resorts upon 20 years of service in Union County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-396 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month (MHAM) to increase outreach and education regarding mental health and reduce the stigma often associated with mental illness.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-397 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Honoring Ralph Bernardo of the Township of Clark Municipal Alliance Program on receiving the 2025 Union County Volunteer of the Year Award.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-398 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD; Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Peter Luis Estevez during this time of sorrow.

2025-399 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating the Plainfield High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team, Coaches and Managers upon winning the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Group IV Championship on Sunday, March 16, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-400 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating Avery C. Atexide, Freesia A. Callum, Natasha R. Elleston, Bryanna A. Holder, Samaya I. Joseph, Raquel A. Tege, Renaee Smith, Marita Parham, Michael Smith, Kelly Price and Dr. Cynthia Harris-Frederick upon being honored at the 52nd Annual Founders' Day Awards Celebration on Saturday, May 3, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-401 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Margaret C. Montford during this time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-402 VICE-CHAIRMAN JOSEPH C BODEK, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating Saint Theresa of the Child of Jesus Catholic Church upon celebrating their 100th anniversary on Sunday, April 27, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-403 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED, COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Recognizing Pet Partners as they designate April 30, 2025, as National Therapy Animal Day.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-404 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating Nicholas Agostinho upon earning the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Badge.

2025-405 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating Melanio Nistal upon earning the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Badge.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-406 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating James Whelan upon earning the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Badge.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-407 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating John Bernier upon earning the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Badge.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-408 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Congratulating Daniel Whelan upon earning the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Badge.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-409 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Recognizing April 2025 as Autism Awareness Month throughout the County of Union, to raise awareness and acceptance for those living with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Union County and throughout the world.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-410 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week from April 13-19, 2025, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our citizens safe; and further acknowledging four telecommunicators for their outstanding service.

On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Mirabella absent.

2025-411 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Irv Hyatt, Second Vice President and longstanding member of the Union County Performing Arts Center Board of Trustees, during this time of sorrow.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Kowalski thanked everyone for attending the evening's meeting and sharing their concerns with the Board. She added that the Board was listening and would take all of their comments into consideration.

Relative to the looming REAL ID deadline, Commissioner Delisfort encouraged residents to consider the convenient alternative of a US Passport Card. She advised that this wallet-sized ID was valid for 10 years; granted access to federal buildings and was accepted by TSA for domestic flights as well as land and sea travel to select countries. She advised that the cost of the PP Card was \$65 for adults--\$30 for renewals-- and \$50 for children under 16. She further advised that applicants would have to provide an original birth certificate or naturalization certificate along with a driver's license at the time of applying. She encouraged interested residents to visit the County Clerk's website to book an appointment, adding that appointments were available at both their Elizabeth and Westfield locations. On another note, she congratulated the Arbor Day Poetry Contest winners as well as the recipients of the 2025 HEART and Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grant awards. Commissioner Delisfort commended Director Taylor, County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner, and all the County Directors for their efforts relative to the 2025 County Budget. She thanked everyone for attending the evening's meeting, adding that the Board was committed to the public safety and welfare of all residents in Union County. She wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Commissioner Baker invited residents to visit the Senior Art Exhibit on display at Union College of Union County's Scotch Plains' campus through June 4th. He noted that this exhibit showcased the talent and creativity of professional and non-professional seniors throughout Union County. To close, he thanked the members of the public for attending the evening's meeting and expressing their concerns. He wished everyone a Happy Easter.

As Chair of the 250th Anniversary Committee, Commissioner Williams announced the launch of the County's 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution on April 19th with an Awareness Walk at Nomahegan Park in Cranford, highlighting the Battle of Lexington and Concord. She added that the day's events would include guest speakers and local history sites and lessons and well as music and family-friendly games. On another note, Commissioner Williams responded to Mr. Paterson's comments about saluting the flag. Relative to the UC Jail, she explained why she voted in favor of the RFP during the Board's March 27 meeting, confirming that she did not support a carceral state. She added that public input would play a role in the process moving forward.

Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded invited residents to Wild Earth Fest at the Loop Area at Watchung Reservation on April 27th. She noted that this event would include special presentations with live music, food, children's activities and live animals, including a new interactive experience entitled Dinosaurs Arise. On another note, she spoke about her attendance of a pep rally at Union College of Union College, following being voted one of the top 10 Aspen Prize Community Colleges for 2025. Relative to the UC Jail,

Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded confirmed that the Board was listening and would consider the concerns of residents in any future decision making. She noted her commitment to the residents of Union County and making a positive, lasting impact on the community. She added that she looked forward to meeting with local organizations to secure additional input on potential, alternative uses for the UC Jail. She wished everyone a happy weekend.

Commissioner Granados invited families to attend Jeff Boyer's Big Bubble Bonanza at Union County Performing Arts Center on April 27th. He noted that this performance was part of the County's Sensory Friendly Theater, a series of live performances tailored for children with autism and other, related sensory sensitivities. Relative to the UC Jail, Commissioner Granados confirmed that the Board was listening and would take the concerns of residents under consideration in any future decision-making. To close, he wished everyone a Happy Easter. He also wished Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded a Happy Birthday on Sunday.

Vice-Chairman Bodek invited senior residents to participate in a series of upcoming programs being hosted by Trailside Nature and Science Center at the Watchung Reservation. He advised that activities would include weekly guided senior walks, led by trailside naturalists as well as deserted village tours, forest bathing, and sound bowl meditation. He noted that registration was required for these events and encouraged interested senior residents to visit the County website for additional information on the programs being offered. On another note, he recognized County Manager Oatman and Director Taylor for their efforts on the budget, adding that the 2025 County Budget reflected the needs of the Union County community and done so at a reasonable cost. To close, he wished everyone a Happy Easter and Happy Passover.

Joined by Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Commissioners Delisfort, Kowalski, and Williams as well as Plainfield Mayor Adrian Mapp and NJ First Lady Tammy Murphy, Chairwoman Leon noted her attendance of the Nurture NJ Family Festival at Plainfield High School on April 12th. She noted advised that this event connected hundreds of families with essential resources from state, county and local partner, including the County's Division of Social Services and the American Job Center. She thanked First Lady Murphy for launching this initiative to support and uplift NJ residents. Relative to the UC Jail, Chairwoman Leon confirmed that the Board was listening and would take the concern of residents under consideration in any future decision-making. She wished everyone a Happy East, Passover, and Ramadan.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 P.M.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

REORGANIZATION MEETING - MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth

AGENDA SETTING SESSION	REGULAR MEETINGS
Thursday, January 13, 2025*	Thursday, January 13, 2025*
Thursday, January 23, 2025	Thursday, January 23, 2025
Thursday, February 6, 2025	Thursday, February 6, 2025
Thursday, February 27, 2025	Thursday, February 27, 2025
Thursday, March 13, 2025	Thursday, March 13, 2025
Thursday, March 27, 2025	Thursday, March 27, 2025
Thursday, April 17, 2025	Thursday, April 17, 2025
Thursday, May 15, 2025	Thursday, May 15, 2025
Thursday, June 12, 2025	Thursday, June 12, 2025
Thursday, July 24, 2025	Thursday, July 24, 2025
Thursday, August 21, 2025	Thursday, August 21, 2025
Thursday, September 4, 2025	Thursday, September 4, 2025
Thursday, September 18, 2025	Thursday, September 18, 2025
Thursday, October 16, 2025	Thursday, October 16, 2025
Thursday, November 13, 2025	Thursday, November 13, 2025
Thursday, December 4, 2025	Thursday, December 4, 2025
Thursday, December 18, 2025	Thursday, December 18, 2025

Special Meeting*

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings are to be regularly held on Thursday evenings. These meetings 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.

Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908-527-4140.

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