



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Leon presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:46 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Williams, roll call showed eight members voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. June 12, 2025 - Agenda Setting Session
2. June 12, 2025 - Regular Meeting

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

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere read Ordinance No. 858-2025 by title.

858-2025 BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW ADDITIONAL FURNISHINGS, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$58,443,808 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE STATE GRANTS, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF \$43,186,098 OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$43,186,098 OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere read Ordinance No. 858-2025 by title.

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Commissioner Rebecca Williams, Fiscal Committee Chairwoman, moved Ordinance Number 858-2025 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 August 21, 2025.

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

859-2025 CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$10,000,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM CAPITAL SURPLUS OF THE COUNTY.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere read Ordinance No. 859-2025 by title.

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Commissioner Rebecca Williams, Fiscal Committee Chairwoman, moved Ordinance Number 859-2025 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 August 21, 2025.

Commissioner Rebecca Williams moved Ordinance No. 859-2025 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 August 21, 2025.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

Prior to opening the Public Comment Portion, Chairwoman Leon asked County Manager Oatman to say a few words:

County Manager Oatman addressed the public:

Over the past several weeks, the Union County Board of County Commissioners and I have heard from many residents, advocates, and community members that voiced concern over the future of the UC Jail property. We appreciate everyone that took the time to attend the meetings, reach out, and make their voices heard. The original concept simply authorized the County to explore interest through an RFP (request for proposals) process, a standard and reasonable step to evaluate potential uses for a property of this scale. The goal was to gauge the market and identify options that could benefit the community and the County as a whole. One inquiry did reference the possibility of detention-related use, we quickly recognized such a direction would not align with Union County's values. Given the troubling reports we have seen nationwide about ICE detaining not only individuals with criminal charges, but also everyday people for simply trying to build better lives, we cannot support any outcome that risks putting people in jeopardy. This process was never about immigration detention and we remain firmly opposed to any such use. We received various informal inquiries in response to the County's intent to issue an RFP with a wide range of ideas coming in from various sectors. The majority of inquiries had nothing to do with ICE or detention-related uses. Unfortunately, what began as a standard exploratory process led to wide-spread speculation on scenarios that were neither proposed nor intended. As the County Manager, I have a duty to pursue opportunities that serve the best of Union County, financially, socially, and morally. We are continuing with the RFP process but we want to be absolutely clear, the RFP will include language that prohibits any use of this site as a private detention facility such as an ICE facility, immigration detention center, or similar operation. Those uses are off the table. As the drafting of the RFP process continues, I look forward to working with Nedra of Make the Road to make sure the language reflects the proper intent of the RFP. On behalf of the Commissioner Board and myself, we thank everyone who engaged in this discussion and hope we can now move forward with a shared understanding of the facts and a collaborative focus on what's best for Union County and its residents. Thank you, thank you Chair.

The meeting is open 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.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, asked questions relative to several resolutions. Relative to Reso No. 2025-604 & 2025-612, he inquired about how the remaining \$4,000 would be used. Relative to Reso No. 2025-639, he asked for an overview of the matter. Mr. Paterson also made comments relative to the Clark Reservoir Project, the Courthouse Tower Stairwell project, and the Aries Linden

Biosolids Facility. He also commented on the flooding that took place in Union County earlier that month as well as recent legislation that was passed to consolidate public notices.

Mark Nieves, of Elizabeth, offered his condolences to the families of those lost during the catastrophic flooding that happened in Union County earlier that month. He asked the Board what steps they were taking, financially, to correct existing infrastructure. He also noted his concerns relative to over development in the area as well as rising rent prices.

Christopher Bacey, of Plainfield, also noted his concerns relative to existing infrastructure, overdevelopment, and overcrowding. He noted the seemingly instantaneous flooding that occurred on Route 22 as a result of the recent storms, and asked what was being done to address these issues. He also noted Ordinance No. 859-2025, adding that he hoped the public hearing would shed light on how the \$10 million would be used. He also made comments relative to digital equity training. To close, he congratulated Lauren Barr from JCC of Central New Jersey on her new role as Board President.

Carlos Santos, of Mountainside, also made comments relative to existing infrastructure in Union County. He asked the Board to reach out to NJ Governor Phil Murphy and request funding to assist Union County residents affected by the recent storms.

Susan Vercheak thanked the Board for working alongside the organization Make the Road NJ and limiting access of the UC Jail on the Request for Proposals being drafted. She noted that she supported the decision wholeheartedly.

Cynthia Galeota, of South Orange, thanked the Board for their courage and boldness in limiting access to the UC Jail on the RFP. She thanked everyone that had attended the meetings and shared their stories and concerns, adding that this win would inspire them to move forward and continue fighting.

Jordy Hernandez, of Elizabeth, offered his condolences to the families of those lost during the recent flooding in Union County. He spoke relative to climate change, noting the importance of infrastructure in preventing these issues in the future. He thanked the residents for pressuring the Board to do the right thing and prevent ICE from securing the UC Jail and turning it into a detention facility.

Jeanne Fortin, of Union thanked the Board for stipulating the sale of the UC Jail in the RFP to ensure that it would not be used as an ICE detention center. She added that she hoped the Board would remain steadfast in their decision and serve as a bellwether for other communities.

Terri Suess, of Union, thanked the Board for stipulating the sale of the UC Jail to prevent it from being used as an ICE detention center. Relative to recent flooding, she encouraged the County to revisit and update existing flood maps as a means to assist residents and mitigate future devastation. To close, she encouraged the Board to visit the Elizabeth ICE Detention Center and Delaney Hall in Newark, noting deplorable conditions.

Stephen Gribben, of Berkeley Heights, spoke relative to severe flooding that he and his neighbors experienced during the recent storms. He noted a creek that ran through his backyard, adding that

the Township of Berkeley Heights insisted that the creek was the homeowner's responsibility as it was on private property. He appealed to the Board to help the residents of Union County that were being affected by unprecedented flooding.

Glenn Endick, of Berkeley Heights, presented a two-minute video that documented damage from the recent storms as well as testimony from his neighbors.

County Manager Oatman asked Mr. Endick to email a copy of the video so it could be circulated to members of the Board.

Elaine Perna, of Berkeley Heights, also spoke relative to the severe flooding that had occurred, noting that the condition of the creek behind her house had deteriorated over the years. She noted a County easement on her property and asked the County of Union and the Township of Berkeley Heights to work together to assist the residents of Union County being affected by unprecedented flooding.

Joe Cinque, of Berkeley Heights, provided pictures of the conditions of his home after the recent, devastating storms. He noted that he had lived in his home since 2019 and had experienced slight flooding from the creek behind his home over the years. He advised that he had tried to work with the Township of Berkeley Heights for several years to remedy the issue to no avail, adding that he was willing to contract an independent engineer to assess the situation. He advised that the Township of Berkeley Heights insisted the homeowner was responsible for keeping the creek clean, noting his efforts to do so. He asked the Board to pursue the matter and provide some relief and peace of mind to the residents.

Andrew Paprocki, of Berkeley Heights, spoke relative to the recent storms and flooding in Union County. He alleged that the Township of Berkeley Heights had neglected the creek, contributing to flooding. He also noted issues with sewage back up. He asked the Board to look into the matter and work with Berkeley Heights to assist residents.

Herbert Waddell, of Berkeley Heights, also spoke relative to the severe flooding in the area, noting issues with the creek near his home. He noted several issues over the years that he alleged contributed to improper drainage, including a synthetic turf field that had been developed upstream 15 years ago.

Teresa Hyo Young Yi Bour Dett thanked the Board for committing to revise the RFP to ensure that the UC Jail property would not be used as an ICE detention center. She added that this decision spoke to the values of Union County.

Relative to funding for flood relief, County Manager Oatman encouraged residents to contact Congressman Thomas Kean Jr. to assist with securing FEMA funding from the federal government. Additionally, he advised that the County had no control over developments on Route 22.

Relative to the recent storms and flooding, County Engineer Matias advised that such conditions were being seen nationwide, adding that there was no easy solution for this issue. He confirmed that that homeowner's bore some level of responsibility in maintaining creeks/streams on their

properties. He noted the need for a collaborative effort between local, state, and federal government agencies to properly address dated infrastructure and mitigate flooding in the future. To close, he confirmed that the County would look into the cited County easements.

There were no additional questions or comments from the public.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

The following resolutions are being offered for adoption.

2025-583 Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr.: Authorizing the use of the Competitive Contracting Process, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq., for the provision of Home Delivered and Congregate Meals to the older adults of Union County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-584 Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr.: Amending Resolution 2024-914, authorizing the 2025-2027 Aging Respite Care Program, to reflect an increase in the original Statewide Respite Contract Spending Plan in the amount of \$10,000.00 to reflect a new total of \$274,000.00, with no other changes to the terms or conditions.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-585 Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr.: Amending Resolution 2024-937, a contract awarded to MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY for the provision of Transportation Services for the Paratransit system, to reflect an adjustment in the appropriation accounts and an increase in the contract amount not to exceed \$169,783.44 for a new not to exceed contract amount of \$5,315,442.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-586 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort: Amending Resolution 2022-957, 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 Fai Gon Electric, Piscataway, NJ for the East Front Street Intersection Improvements, City of Plainfield, New Jersey, for Change Order No. 2 increasing the contract by \$16,340.45, for a new contract amount not to exceed \$1,427,692.04.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-587 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Black Rock Enterprises LLC, of Old Bridge, New Jersey for the 2025 Road Resurfacing Project, Various Municipalities, County of Union, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$8,031,202.78.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-588 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort:** Authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to hang a banner on Plainfield Avenue to promote Restaurant Month from August 15, 2025 through September 30, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-589 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort:** Authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to hang a banner across Plainfield Avenue from June 18, 2025 through August 1, 2025, promoting their 2025 Summer Concert Series.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-590 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort:** Authorizing the City of Plainfield to close West 7th Street between Grant Avenue and Lee Place on Friday, June 20th, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm to accommodate the Graduation Ceremony of Queen City Academy Charter School.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-591 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort:** Authorizing the Township of Scotch Plains to hang a banner across Park Avenue from August 1, 2025, to September 2, 2025, to promote the Annual UNICO / St. Bart's Italian Festival.

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

- 2025-592 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, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq.: Paul Otto Building Company, Clark, New Jersey for an Elevator Modernization Project in the Old Jail section of the County-owned Courthouse Complex at 2 Broad Street in Elizabeth, NJ in an amount not to exceed \$973,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-593 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, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Eagle Building Services, LLC, Newark NJ, for the purpose of providing Window Cleaning Services for twenty-four (24) months, with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension, in an amount not to exceed \$150,521.60.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-594 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, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Sonny Electric, Inc., Kearny NJ, for the purpose of providing Electrical Systems Repairs, Maintenance, & Installation Services for twenty-four (24) months, with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension, in an amount not to exceed \$377,092.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-595 Commissioner Sergio Granados: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Geographic Solutions, Inc., Palm Harbor, FL to provide the necessary services for the American Job Center in the form of a Workforce Information Management and Data Exchange System for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$29,550.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-596 Commissioner Sergio Granados: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with the Urban League of Union County, Elizabeth, NJ for the Reconnections Program to assist persons returning to the community from incarceration to access services designed to assist in successful reintegration into the community and reduce recidivism, for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-597 Commissioner Sergio Granados: Amending Resolution 2024-773, authorizing the 2024-2025 HEARTH Emergency Solutions (HES) Grant program, to reflect a three (3) month extension for a new subcontract period of August 1, 2024 to October 31, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-598 Commissioner Sergio Granados:** Amending Resolution 2025-508, authorizing the 2025 Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Spending Plan, to reflect an increase in the amount of \$175,110.00 for a new total not to exceed \$268,710.00, with no change to the grant term or terms and conditions of the agreement.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-599 Commissioner Sergio Granados:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, New Jersey to provide various services to strengthen resources and access to resources for persons with disabilities and at-risk youth in Union County for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Granados abstaining and Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-600 Commissioner Sergio Granados:** Appointing Josephi Venezia and Caroline Aubrey to the Workforce Development Board for unexpired terms starting July 25, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027 and June 30, 2026, respectively and appointing Antoinetta LaVecchia for a term starting July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2028; and reappointing the following members each for a term starting July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2028: Kamran Tasharofi, James R. Brady, Gloria Durham, Timothy McConway, Margaret McMenamin, Alan Rutan, Courtney Villani, and Roshan White.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-601 Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski:** Amending Resolution 2025-418, 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 Waste Management of New Jersey, Inc., for construction waste disposal services, for Change Order No. 1 increasing the contract by \$15,000, for a new contract amount not to exceed \$165,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-602 Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski:** Amending Resolution 2025-192, authorizing the allocation of funds received from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts to 44 Union County agencies and organizations under the New Jersey State Council on the Arts grant, to reallocate funds to six (6) arts organizations with no change in the total award.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-603 Commissioner Alexander Mirabella: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Civil Solutions through State Contract 19-TELE-00872, for the purpose of purchasing NextGen911 GIS Support for the Union County Regional Communications Center, in an amount not to exceed \$218,777.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-604 Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded: Authorizing the County Manager to approve the 2025 County of Union Opioid Settlement Fund Grant Spending Plan in the total amount not to exceed \$251,783.00, for subcontracted services to be provided during the period of August 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-605 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$10,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Statewide Respite Care Program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-606 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$50,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Paratransit Aging Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-607 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$2,800 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State for a program entitled: UCBOE – ADA Training.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-608 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$1,000,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Workforce Development for a program entitled: Digital Equity Training Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-609 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$125,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Workforce Development for a program entitled: WorkFirst New Jersey (WFNJ) Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-610 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$187,277.50 as a result of notification received from the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority for a program entitled: Subregional Transportation Planning Program (STP).

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-611 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$45,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health and Middlesex County for a program entitled: Comprehensive Cancer Control Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-612 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$255,766.18 as a result of notification received from the National Opioid Settlements for a program entitled: Opioid Litigation Recovery Funds.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-613 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$6,662 as a result of notification received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for a program entitled: Home – ARP Funds.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-614 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$30,980 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey,

Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Jersey Assistance For Community Caregivers Program (JACC).

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-615 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$395,000.00 as a result of notification received from New Jersey Transit for a program entitled New Jersey Job Access/Reverse Commute Grant (NJ-JARC).

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-616 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$255,694 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health for a program entitled: Local Core Capacity of Public Health Emergency Preparedness – LINCS Grant Program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-617 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$12,000 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for a program entitled: Paratransit – Veterans Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-618 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$189,482 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children & Families for a program entitled: Child Advocacy Development Grant-Treatment Services, Programs, Technology and Capital Improvement.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-619 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams: Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$45,686 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-620 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams:** Modifying the 2025 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$373,010 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health for a program entitled: Childhood Lead Exposure and Prevention Grant (CLEP).

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-621 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams:** Authorizing Governing Body Certification of the 2024 Audit.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-622 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams:** Canceling Capital Balances to Capital Surplus and Deferred Charges Unfunded.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-623 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board:** Sponsoring the Winfield Fire Department & Ambulance Squad in an amount not to exceed \$3,000 in support of their Annual Winfield Carnival being held July 30, 2025 through August 2, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-624 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board:** Sponsoring the Kimberly Anne Wilson Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 in support of their Berkeley Heights 5K Race for Mental Health being held on September 21, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-625 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board:** Sponsoring the Township of Hillside in an amount not to exceed \$500 in support of their Shuffle on the Hillside being held on October 4, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-626 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board:** Sponsoring Prevention Links in an amount not to exceed \$500 in support of their Red Ribbon Drug Prevention Walk and Family Fun Day being held on October 11, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-627 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board:** Sponsoring Queen City Film & Television Workshop in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 in support of their 8th Annual Queen City Film Festival, held October 16-20, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-628 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance, Office of Victim Support and Assistance Administration for FFY24 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Program, Project Title: County Office of Victim Witness Advocacy, in the amount of \$45,686.00 in federal funds with a required match of \$15,229.00, for a total project cost in an amount of \$60,915.00 for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-629 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., d/b/a Life Technologies Corporation, Waltham, MA to purchase proprietary reagents supplies, equipment, validation services and service agreements for instrument maintenance for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$189,569.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-630 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Increasing the bid threshold for the County of Union to \$53,000.00 effective July 1, 2025 as set forth by the Division of Local Government Services, LFN 2025-08, with a Qualified Purchasing Agent.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-631 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Amending Resolution 2024-389, a contract with Pennoni Associates Inc., Newark, NJ, to provide Workplace Health and Safety Compliance and Consulting Services to increase the contract by \$50,000.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$260,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-632 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon: Amending Resolution 2024-615, under the FY 2024-2025 (Year 50) Consolidated Action Plan to increase CDBG funding utilizing contingency funds to cover the cost to complete an existing project, Sister2Sister Inc. by installing Professional Kitchen Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$2,250.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$22,250.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-633 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon: Amending Resolution 2024-615, under the FY 2024-2025 (Year 50) Consolidated Action Plan to increase CDBG funding utilizing Program Income funds to cover the cost to complete the existing project, Plainfield Comprehensive Housing Assistance Program housing project, in the amount of \$60,000.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$275,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-634 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon: Amending Resolution 2024-615, under the FY 2024-2025 (Year 50) Consolidated Action Plan to increase CDBG funding for the Plainfield Neighborhood House Association Facility Project utilizing contingency funds to cover the cost to complete the existing project, in the amount of \$22,000.00, for a new total amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-635 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon: Amending Resolution 2022-132 to increase ARP HOME Allocation in the amount of \$6,662.00, for a new total not to exceed \$4,462,994.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-636 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon: Amending Resolution Number 2024-617 and Resolution Number 2025-551 related to the Esterbrook Senior Housing, LLC Project to include a reallocation of funds.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-637 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Amending Resolution 2025-207, a contract with Community Health Law Project using HOME Investment Partnerships Program – American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant funds for the provision of legal services for individuals at risk of homelessness, to reflect a change in the contract period to August 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, with the potential option for a (12) twelve-month extension.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-638 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with A & T Housing LLC, Hillside, NJ for the construction of seven (7) affordable rental units under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, to be designated for very low to low income tenants, in an amount not to exceed \$1,636,116.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-639 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Eric M. Bernstein & Associates, LLC, Warren, NJ, as Litigation Counsel for the County of Union in the matter of Keira Davis v. Union County et al., in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

- 2025-640 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Eyman Partners LLC, to provide County Option Medicaid Hospital Program Consulting for the twelve-month period of August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$115,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE

- 2025-641 Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr., and the Entire Board:** Commending Mrs. McFadden for her leadership at Roosevelt Elementary School in Rahway during the nationwide celebration of Autism Awareness Month in April 2025, through a series of thoughtful and inclusive activities aimed at promoting understanding, kindness, and support for students with autism and their families.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-642 Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr., and the Entire Board: Recognizing the exemplar students of Franklin School following their April Student of the Month program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-643 Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort, Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board: Recognizing the rededication of the Donald M. Payne, Jr. Park in Hillside; honoring Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr. for his lifelong dedication to public service, tireless advocacy for New Jersey families, and significant contributions to our communities.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-644 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board: Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Dorothy Louise Frederick Pickett, who passed away on June 7, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-645 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board: Extending the Board's deepest condolences during this time of sorrow to the family of James Martin Jones, who passed away on Friday, June 6, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-646 Commissioner Rebecca L. Williams, and the Entire Board: Extending the Board's deepest condolences during this time of sorrow to the family of Dorothy Judith Horne Johnson, who passed away on Thursday, June 12, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-647 Vice-Chairman Joseph Bodek & the Entire Board: Extending the Board's deepest condolences during this time of sorrow to the family of Lubia Esteves, who passed away on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-648 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Recognizing Joseph Schott for his inspiring participation in the Union County Senior Art Exhibit at 103 years old.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-649 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Recognizing Gregory Ruffa for his inspiring participation in the Union County Senior Art Exhibit at 100 years old.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-650 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Margaret Lewis, who passed away on July 6, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-651 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, and the Entire Board: Congratulating and recognizing Lauren Barr on being named the new Board President of the JCC of Central New Jersey.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-652 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Recognizing Coach Chris Roof upon winning the NJSIAA Group 2 state championship for a second consecutive year and further recognizing his winning the High School Division II National Coach of the Year Award, and being honored with a flag raising at Berkeley Heights Municipal Complex on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-653 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Recognizing the Governor Livingston Baseball Team, the Highlanders, upon winning the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Group 2 state championship for a second consecutive year, and being honored with a flag raising at Berkeley Heights Municipal Complex on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-654 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Congratulating Dr. Margaret M. McMenamin upon being awarded the 2025 Beacon of Light Award, as she was honored at

the Union College Foundation 10th Annual Close the Gap Cocktail Reception on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-655 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Congratulating Deborah Enix-Ross upon being awarded the 2025 Distinguished Volunteer of the Year Award, as she was honored at the Union College Foundation 10th Annual Close the Gap Cocktail Reception on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-656 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, Commissioner Sergio Granados, and the Entire Board: Recognizing the Elizabeth Colombian Lions Club and Latin District Association for all the contributions their organizations have made to the Colombian community and Union County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

2025-657 Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, and the Entire Board: Recognizing Peruvians for Progress, Inc. upon celebrating the 204th anniversary of Peru's Independence as they host the Peruvian Flag Raising Ceremony at Elizabeth City Hall on Thursday, July 24, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Delisfort, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Kowalski absent.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Mirabella announced the launch of Union County's First Responder Resiliency Program, a partnership between the County's Sheriff Department and GoMo Health. He advised that this secure, mobile resource was tailored to support the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of first responders, including law enforcement, dispatchers, firefighters, EMTs, and their families. He added that first-responders would have access to real-time support, peer networks and wellness tools and training to assist with trauma, stress, and substance abuse. He noted that he looked forward to the positive impact this resource would provide. He recognized first responders for their tremendous efforts during the severe storms that occurred in Union County over the last two weeks. Relative to the UC Jail, Commissioner Mirabella commended County Manager Oatman for his thoughtful deliberation on the matter, adding that he believed the outcome spoke to the County's moral fiber and aligned with the values of County residents.

Commissioner Delisfort announced the return of UC Means Business Expo on September 10th at Warinanco Sports Center in Roselle. She noted that this free, in-person event offered local business

owners, entrepreneurs, and community partners a dynamic opportunity to connect, network and expand their businesses profile. She advised that registration for the event was required by September 1st, adding that vendor tables would also be available for \$100. On another note, she offered her condolences to the families of those Union County residents lost during the recent storms. She also offered her sympathies to the residents that suffered property damage loss due to flooding. To close, she thanked all the members of the public for sharing their concerns relative to the future of the UC Jail and applauded the County of Union for doing the right thing.

Commissioner Baker invited residents to attend the County's annual National Night Out Celebration, on August 5th at Union College of Union County's Cranford Campus. He added that this event was proudly presented by the Board of County Commissioners, in partnership with the Prosecutor's Office, Sheriff's Office, UC Police, Children's Specialized Hospital and Union College of Union County. He encouraged interested residents to visit the County's website for additional information or to register for the event, adding that UCPO Special Needs Registry would also be on site. To close, Commissioner Baker thanked all the residents for sharing their concerns and opinions regarding the potential use of the UC Jail, confirming that the RFP being drafted would stipulate future uses of the structure.

Commissioner Williams announced the installation of hearing loops systems in several of the County's courtrooms to improve access to residents who were deaf or hard of hearing, by delivering clear sound directly to hearing aids and cochlear implants. Made possible through a \$70,000 grant from the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, she added that this resource aligned with the County's goal to broaden accessibility for all residents, as highlighted by July Disability Pride Month. On another note, she thanked everyone for their support of the City of Plainfield during the recent storms in Union County. She spoke to the importance of FEMA funding in order to recovery from these type of devastating events, encouraging residents to contact their federal legislators and senators to advocate for federal funding. To close, she thanked all the residents for attending the meetings and sharing their concerns relative to the UC Jail, adding that she was pleased with the County clarifying its intentions in the RFP. She noted her intentions to visit Delaney Hall in Newark.

Commissioner Palmieri-Mouded noted her recent attendance of the County's Empower and Protect Self Defense Class at John H. Stamler Police Academy, noting another class taking place on July 29th. She advised that this program was designed to teach young women how to protect themselves and in turn gain confidence and feel empowered. She thanked Officer Riccio and Officer Mateus for leading the self-defense instruction. On another note, she thanked all the residents for attending the last several meetings and sharing their concerns relative to the UC Jail, adding that she was pleased with the outcome. She thanked County Manager Oatman and her colleagues on the Board to this end. To close, she offered her sympathies to the families of those lost during the recent storms in Union County, noting the catastrophic flood at Camp Mystic in Texas recently. She highlighted the importance of working with state legislators in order to get results on the federal level and mitigate such tragedies in the future. She thanked County Engineer Matias for his efforts.

Commissioner Granados announced that applications for the County's 2025 Open Space Grant Programs, including the Kids Recreation Trust Fund Grant, Greening Union County and Preserve

Union County were now open, adding that applications were due by August 30th. He noted that this program provided funding to all 21 municipalities to support local projects that promote outdoor recreation, environmental sustainability and historic preservation including tree planting and improving green infrastructure. Relative to the UC Jail, he thanked the residents for attending the meeting and sharing their concerns. He thanked County Manager Oatman for clarifying the request for proposal. To close, he offered his condolences to the families of those lost in Plainfield during the recent storm. He recognized County Engineer Matias and Director Policay and thanked local and County first responders for their efforts in responding to the disaster.

Vice-Chairman Bodek invited residents with disabilities and special needs to the County's 2025 Summer Fair on July 27th at Warinanco Sports Center. Highlighting the 35th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, he confirmed the Board's commitment to creating a stronger, more inclusive Union County for all. On another note, he offered his sympathies to the lives lost in Plainfield during the recent storms in Union County. He recognized flooding as a persisting issue with no easy solution even when proper resources are available. To close, he offered his condolences to Surrogate Hudak on the loss of his grandmother and thanked County Manager Oatman for his decision on the UC Jail.

County Manager Oatman thanked the County Police for dealing with the unruly resident attempting to disrupt the meeting.

Chairwoman Leon offered her condolences to the City of Plainfield, noting the loss of life as heartbreaking. Relative to the UC Jail, she thanked all the residents for sharing their concerns, confirming that she was willing to visit Delaney Hall in Newark alongside Commissioner Williams. She thanked County Manager Oatman for the outcome. On another note, she announced that the County would be launching a storm-related emergency home repair grant for eligible senior homeowners affected by the recent storms. She noted additional funding through the UC Home Improvement Program, offering interest-free loans for income-eligible residents. She noted the importance of said resources in assisting seniors and other residents in light of recent devastation.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Leon asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2025 MEETING SCHEDULE**

**REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 AT 6:00 PM
Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street. Elizabeth**

Agenda Setting Session

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

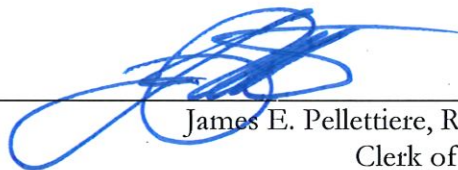
* Meeting canceled

** Meeting rescheduled to Wednesday, September 4, 2024

*** Special Meeting added

Regular Meeting

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



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

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings, with the exception of the January 13, 2025 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.