

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Christopher Hudak presided and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Roll call showed, Vice Chairman Mohamed S. Jalloh Freeholder Bruce Bergen, Freeholder Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Sergio Granados, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Mirabella and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance.

Also present were County Manager Alfred Faella, First Deputy County Counsel Rosalba Comas, Esq. and Clerk of the Board James Pelletiere.

The Prayer and Salute to the Flag were led by the Clerk of the Board.

The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was led by the Clerk of the Board.

PRESENTATION FROM THE BOARD

A Resolution Presentation was made by the Board to Carol Jaskula, Senior Receptionist for the Department of Human Services, congratulating her upon her retirement and acknowledging her for 39 years of dedicated public service.

Freeholder Kowalski asked Freeholder Wright and Vice Chairman Jalloh to join her in presenting the Resolution.

Freeholder Kowalski read the Resolution aloud.

Carol Jaskula said she has so many people to thank. Carol thanked the Board for this honor, she acknowledged her supervisor, Frank Guzzo, co-workers, her family, particularly her sister who drives her to work in bad weather, but most of all Vader, her service dog, who helps her across the street taking the 48 bus every day and has been so faithful to her. She said Vader will be retiring with her. She said now he could kick back and relax.

Director Guzzo said Carol has been with the County longer than he has and spoke about how dedicated she has been to her job. He said when the weather is bad Carol always manages to get to work. Director Guzzo said he, and many others will miss Carol, but wished her well on her retirement.

Freeholder Kowalski and the entire Board presented Carol with a gift basket and treats for Vader.

Chairman Hudak thanked Carol for her dedicated service to the County.

A Resolution Presentation was made by the Board to the nurses and participants of the JFK Medical Center's "Plainfield Health Connections" Program.

Freeholder Carter asked Freeholder Bergen and Chairman Hudak to join her in presenting the Resolution.

Freeholder Carter said Muhlenberg Hospital is doing remarkable things with a six month course to improve the lives of the uninsured and underinsured residents. Freeholder Carter asked Nurse Beryl Sowah to introduce the other members.

Beryl Sowah, Advanced Practice Nurse, said the program's mission is to improve the health of the uninsured and underinsured residents in the greater Plainfield community. She said they tend to be sicker because they lack healthcare insurance. She said their goal is to connect them to these resources and put them to use on a long term basis so that they can remain in good health and have a better quality of life overall. She said in the future they expect to expand to the entire community to improve the health and well-being of the community.

Freeholder Carter explained that this is a grant funded program through JFK Hospital. It was formed when Muhlenberg Hospital closed. Freeholder Carter said there are 54 individuals in the program who are not using the emergency room for minor illnesses and now have primary doctors to use.

Freeholder Carter presented them with a Resolution.

Freeholder Carter asked the members how the program changed their life.

Viola Woods, Plainfield, said when she used to go to the clinic she had to wait hours before she could see a doctor. She has her own doctor and it has changed her life her glucose level was very high but now it has come down and she appreciate the program for what they have done for her life.

Amos Semper, Plainfield, said the nurses have completely changed his life. They handle all issues that arise and said he wished that this program was available throughout the entire State, not just the County.

Freeholder Carter read the Resolution aloud.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairman Hudak called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Freeholder Carter and seconded by Vice Chairman Jalloh, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 4, 2014 - Agenda Meeting
2. September 11, 2014 - Regular Meeting
3. September 18, 2014 - Agenda Meeting
4. September 18, 2014 - Regular Meeting

On a motion made by Freeholder Carter and seconded by Vice Chairman Jalloh, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative and for the Agenda and Regular Minutes of September 4, 11, 2014. Roll call showed 8 members of the Board voted for Agenda and Regular Minutes of September 18, 2014 with Freeholder Bergen abstaining.

ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION

- 761-2014 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION BY AMENDING: CHAPTER 1-UNION COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE: ARTICLE III, BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS; ARTICLE XIX, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND ARTICLE IV, BUDGET PROVISIONS; CHAPTER 6 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION; CHAPTER 107-RECREATION AND PARKS: ARTICLE IV, FEES FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES; ARTICLE V, COUNTY OF UNION POLICY - OF PROTECTIVE GEAR AT COUNTY SKATEBOARD FACILITIES; and CHAPTER 115-SAFETY CODE: ARTICLE VII, TREE PROTECTION; ARTICLE VIII, ENCROACHMENT OF COUNTY PROPERTY AND INCLUSION OF ARTICLE X, HYDRAULIC FRACTURING.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Ordinance Number 761-2014 only.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood, said for the record, County Counsel Barry is absent and someone else is presiding legally. He asked the Board to introduce his replacement for the night. He said there are various chapters of the Ordinance being amended. He asked for an explanation. He also stated that everyone is upset over the hydraulic fracturing, and asked that Article X be rescinded.

Chairman Hudak said County Counsel Barry is out due to a death in his family and Deputy County Counsel Rosa Comas, Esq., is here representing the Law Department, Chairman Hudak asked County Manager Faella to explain the Ordinance. He asked if Article XX can be rescinded if gas or oil is found under County property.

Chairman Hudak explained that County Counsel Barry is absent due to a death in the family and First Deputy County Counsel Rose Comas is representing the County Counsel's Office.

County Manager Faella stated that the Ordinance includes some housekeeping for the Department of Parks and Recreation formally known as the Parks and Community Renewal Department. He said some of that is to clean up the language and fees to recreational facilities. He said the Department of Parks and Recreation would like to have some flexibility providing discounts on special programs at some of our events without having to amend the Ordinance each time. This will give them some flexibility to do this a certain number of times throughout the course of the year. Also, it helps to enforce some of the County policies such as skate boards, encroachment safety of that nature. County Manager Faella referred to Deputy County Counsel regarding hydraulic fracturing.

Deputy County Counsel Comas said hydraulic fracturing is becoming part of the Ordinance. However any part of the code can be rescinded or amended and part of the language can be amended.

FINAL READING STATEMENT

On a motion made by Freeholder Vernell Wright, Policy Chair and seconded by Freeholder Estrada roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Resolutions being offered for adoption only.

John Bury, Kenilworth, asked how they came up with 52,000 and asked how many undocumented citizens there are. He also asked where the \$300,000 is coming from referring to Resolution Number 2014-1000.

Deputy County Manager Reyes the number 52,000 came from the US Immigration Office. He said he does not have the figures for undocumented in Union County and the funding is from the 2015 fund appropriation.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood, said one out of ten people are documented as non - citizens referring to Resolution Number 2014-1000. He asked for an explanation of Resolution 2014-993, 2014-994, 2014-995 and 2014-996 and for an explanation of the health benefits that will be provided referring to Resolution 2014-1000

Bruce Paterson made comments regarding campaign donations in reference to Resolutions 2014-1001 and 1002. He would like an explanation of 2014-1008 of the health benefits.

Chairman Hudak asked Director Albert to explain Resolution 2014-993.

Director Albert explained that Resolution 2014-993 is an excess joint insurance funder. There are 9 other counties where there are public entities that are cooperative together to get the best price for excess insurance.

Chairman Hudak asked if Resolution 2014-993 is important to have in place.

Director Albert replied yes it protects the County.

Chairman Hudak said he believes that this is a wise decision.

Director Albert explained Resolutions 2014-994, 2014-995, 2014-996 are all related to audits. It is suggested by the auditor and that we list contracts that are over \$36,000.

Chairman Hudak asked Director Albert to explain Resolution Number 2014-1008.

Director Albert said the health care changes were negotiated in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. There are changes in deductibles in efforts to get people to use in-network doctors and generic brand prescriptions, and as a result the premiums are lower.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

- 2014-982 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into agreements with various community based organizations to provide shelter night stays for TANF, GA, and/or Emergency Assistance recipients for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Agencies will be reimbursed directly by the State of New Jersey based upon Individual Per Diem Rate(s) per family per night as agreed upon by said community based organizations and the State of New Jersey. No appropriation is required by the County.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-983 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside, New Jersey, for the provision of the Special Child Case Management and Early Intervention Program, for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in the amount not to exceed \$39,200; funds represent the match as stipulated by State Statute (Title 9:13-7 and 8) requiring the County to match the Special Child Case Management and Early Intervention grant from NJ Department of Health and Senior Services.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-984 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to approve the 2015 Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) Spending Plan in the total amount not to exceed \$114,000, entering into agreement with various agencies/municipalities to provide court ordered disposition program services for youth in the local juvenile justice system for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, and further authorizing the transfer of funds among the

agencies/municipalities during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any fail to meet its contractual obligation, upon approval by the Juvenile Justice Commission.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-985 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with the Practitioners/Psychiatry to provide professional services for the patients/residents of the Cornerstone Units at Runnells Specialized Hospital for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in the amount not to exceed \$48,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-986 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Shanthi Chezian, M.D., Behavioral Medicine Associates, PA, South Plainfield, New Jersey, for the purpose of Professional Fees for Medical Psychiatric Evening Coverage for the patients/residents of the Cornerstone Units at Runnells Specialized Hospital for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$6,500.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-987 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with practitioners to provide professional medical services for the patients/residents of the Cornerstone Units at Runnells Specialized Hospital for the contract period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-988 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement for the purpose of providing professional fees for Specialty Medical consultants to provide services to the patients/residents at Runnells Specialized Hospital for the contract period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-989 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Robert Restifo, D.O., Summit, New Jersey, to provide for a Director of

Pulmonary Medicine/Respiratory Care in order to maintain standards for the State of New Jersey Department of Health for the contract period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

- 2014-990 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Porter Lee Corporation, Schaumburg, Illinois, to provide a service upgrade to the existing "BEAST" evidence storage system in the Union County Sheriff's Office for an amount not to exceed \$4,900.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-991 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to purchase confidential equipment in an amount not to exceed \$31,500 without disclosing the type of equipment.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-992 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Administrative Services: T. Slack Environmental Services, for the purpose of providing Fuel Sight Maintenance Parts for the period of 24 months in an amount not to exceed \$52,720.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-993 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Renewing the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund to administer and provide excess insurance for the following: Liability (other than motor vehicles), Property Damage (other than motor vehicles), Motor Vehicles, Public Officials Liability/Employment Practices Liability, and Workers Compensation for the budget period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$2,574,513 (Union County portion).

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-994 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Amending Resolution Number 2014-34, a resolution awarding state contracts, to add dollar figures and estimates for 2014 for individual state contract vendors which exceeded, will or may exceed \$36,000 in 2014.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-995 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Amending Resolution Number 2013-1071, a resolution approving the use of cooperative contracts awarded by the Somerset County Cooperative, to add dollar figures and estimates for 2014 for individual vendors which exceeded, will or may exceed \$36,000 in 2014.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-996 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Amending Resolution Number 2014-169, a resolution authorizing the use of the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission Cooperative, to add dollar figures and estimates for 2014 for individual cooperative vendors which exceeded, will or may exceed \$36,000 in 2014.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-997 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the option to renew the contract with Education and Health Centers of America, Inc. Wall, New Jersey for the provision of Inmate Substance Abuse Treatment and Residential Correctional Facility Services to the County of Union, as per Resolution 2013-144, for an additional six (6) months beginning January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$880,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-998 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Community Access Unlimited Elizabeth, New Jersey to provide anger management training for the incarcerated male and females of the Union County Jail for the contract period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-999 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to renew a contract with All Covered, a Division of Konica Minolta Business Solutions, JSA, and as indicated and approved under Resolution 2013-375 and Resolution 2013-606, for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in the amount not to exceed \$294,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1000 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with the New Jersey State AFL-CIO Community Services Agency, Inc., for the provision of social and human services that educate, empower and uplift working families in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1001 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Amending Resolution Number 2010-350, a Professional Engineering Service Contract with T&M Associates of Middletown, New Jersey, to provide, in accordance with the NJDEP, Asphalt Core Drilling and Testing for the Centennial Avenue Corridor Intersection Improvement project, Township of Cranford, in an amount not to exceed \$1,660.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$163,560.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-007)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1002 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Amending Resolution Number 2014-194, a resolution awarding a contract with Netta Architects, Springfield, New Jersey for On-Call architectural services, to reflect a change in Account Number only.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1003 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Public Work & Facilities, Division of Facilities Management: Elevator Maintenance Corp. (EMCO), Kearny, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing Elevator Maintenance and Repair Services, twenty-four (24) consecutive months with the provision of a twenty-four month optional extension, in the amount not exceed \$387,300.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1004 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution ratifying permission that was granted to the Township of Scotch Plains to close Park Avenue from East 2nd Street to Front Street on Sunday, December 7, 2014 from 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a Holiday Celebration.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1005 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution ratifying permission that was granted to the City of Linden to close North Wood Avenue from Blancke Street to

Elm Street, on Friday, December 5, 2014 from the hours of 4:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1006 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the second 24 month option of the contract awarded to Sage Landscaping Contractors, Inc., (BA #7-2013) for Snow Removal Services, obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Laws, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq; Department of Public Works & Facilities, for a contract not to exceed \$158,160.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1007 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Amending Resolution Number 2014-80 authorizing the Office of the County Counsel to engage and compensate experts such as court reporters, expert witnesses, examining physicians and other litigation support and specialists which are essential to the defense of the County of Union for an additional amount not to exceed \$22,500.00 for a total not to exceed \$57,500.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1008 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with Supervisors Association, effective January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2015.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2014-1009 FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Laudatory resolution proclaiming December 16, 2014 through April 7, 2015 as "113 Days of Education" and recognize and congratulate the efforts of Bris Avrohom of Hillside, New Jersey.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1010 FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN, FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA, FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution recognizing and congratulating the Elizabeth High School on its second place finish in the NJSIAA North II, Group 5 finals.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1011 FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution recognizing and congratulating the Cranford High School on its second place finish in the NJSIAA North II, Group 3 finals.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1012 FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution congratulating the Roselle Abraham Clark High School Football Team for winning the 2014 Mountain Division Championship in the Mid-State 38 Conference.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1013 FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Laudatory resolution honoring Marcia Forman for her many years of service to New Jersey Connect, Inc. and the Township of Springfield.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1014 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Laudatory resolution acknowledging the nurses and the participants of the JFK Medical Center's Plainfield Health Connections Program.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1015 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution to encourage and request all County of Union municipalities to enact legislation to specifically prohibit the treatment, discharge, disposal, application to roadway, or storage of wastewater, wastewater solids, sludge, drill cuttings or other byproducts from natural gas exploration or production using hydraulic fracturing.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1016 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution congratulating Carol Jaskula, Senior Receptionist for the Union County Department of Human Services, on her retirement after 39 years of dedicated public service.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1017 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Resolution expressing this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Lawrence Lee, Jr., during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1018 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Laudatory resolution acknowledging Dominick DeJohn and Angelo Monaco for their service during World War II.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1019 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution expressing this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Cristian T. Ganz, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1020 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution offering this Board's sincere condolences to the family of Isabelle Kologi, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2014-1021 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution recognizing and congratulating Linden High School on its victory in the NJSIAA North II, Group 5 finals.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

This meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on any matter.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood, stated that he was looking for an explanation from Director Albert of the health benefit changes, not the contract changes referring to Resolution 2014-1008.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Kowalski invited everyone to the Union County Sing Along at the Courthouse Rotunda on December 23rd. She urged the public to drive safely and stay safe.

Freeholder Estrada stated that County Clerk's Office is offering free passport photos from December 29th to January 3rd in both office, Elizabeth and Westfield. The \$10.00 fee will be waived if you apply for a new passport or renewal. He urged the public to make sure their passports have not expired. He said there are some countries who require passports to be valid three to six months after your visit, so you want to make sure you have enough time left to satisfy those restrictions.

Freeholder Mirabella said everyone is preparing for the holiday season he urged everyone to shop locally by helping their downtowns. He spoke in regards of the UCC Steps who was chosen by their high schools, of the best and brighter students in Union County. He said that he knows that Freeholder Carter and Chairman Hudak will be stopping by to watch this event in person. Freeholder Mirabella said it is a lot of work for these students to come together to learn some leadership skills and personal development skills. He said last year they came up with a terrific program for soldiers and Chairman Hudak was grateful enough to include that as one of his initiative in 2014. He said he hopes that they come up with a project for 2015 that we have something to celebrate as this program continues. He gave special attention to Amy Wagner who has been spearheading this effort in the last couple of years.

Freeholder Wright acknowledge the season of giving, and reminded the community that the Union County Sheriff's Office is seeking donations of toys and clothing for less fortunate children throughout the county. She said every holiday season for the past 17 years the Union County Sheriff's Officers have set up their "Tree of Hope" in the courthouse. The tree is decorated by volunteers with paper ornaments, and each ornament includes a gift idea for a child in need. Monetary donations to help provide additional gifts are also accepted. This beautiful holiday tradition was established by Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, who served Union County since 1977 before his untimely passing last summer. She said Union County is honored to continue the Tree of Hope in his memory.

Freeholder Wright said donations can be sent to Union County Sheriff's Officers Tree of Hope.

Freeholder Bergen said he very pleased to report that the Union County Emergency Medical Service has been honored with the annual award for Outstanding Public EMS Agency by the State Health Department. He said this achievement is all the more significant because County EMS is a relatively new service. He said it began in 2011 as a pilot project to provide a backup ambulance, helping to relieve the burden on local responders in our 21 municipalities. He said demand for the new service started off strongly, and it has grown by tremendously. In 2011, County EMS logged almost 1,000 calls in less than one year. This year, they are on track to finish with more than 4,000 calls. Freeholder Bergen thanked Public Safety Director Andrew Moran, and all of our EMS responders and dispatchers, for maintaining the highest levels of professionalism and congratulated them on a job well done.

Deputy County Counsel Rosalba Comas said last week Freeholder Kowalski asked what does BEAST represent. She said it stands for Bar Coded Evidence Analysis Tracking Statistical Tracking.

County Manager Faella thanked Carol Jaskula on her retirement and wished her well.

Chairman Hudak thanked the emergency personnel who responded to the fatal accident involving two trucks and a sedan on Interstate 78 last weekend. While the event ended tragically for the driver of the sedan, we are grateful that further injuries were prevented. He said the accident could have had easily had worse consequences because one of the trucks was a fuel tanker. He said the county-wide mutual aid system has set up a Foam Task Force with trucks and specialized training, enabling firefighters to get the situation under control quickly. The equipment and training were obtained through federal Homeland Security grants administered by the county. He thanked all of the stakeholders in the Foam Task Force, and the mutual aid system, for working together to keep improving emergency response in Union County.

Chairman Hudak said as the year draws to a close, he is happy to report that the 2014 "Turf and Build" initiative has been fulfilling its promise to deliver more and better public recreation resources to County residents and visitors. The latest project to be completed is the new Warinanco Track and Field, which was opened last week with a ribbon-cutting celebration. He thanked the local officials for helping us to celebrate in less than ideal weather and a special thank you to the members of the Roselle High School band, who made the event a real happening with high spirits and great musicianship. Aside from projects in County parks, we are also seeing our municipalities make tremendous progress with help from our Open Space Trust Fund. That includes a major restoration for Briant Park in Summit that has just gotten under way. He said we are looking forward this Sunday to the grand opening of the Garwood Recreation Center, which was aided by a grant of almost \$560,000 from the Trust Fund.

Chairman Hudak thanked Deputy County Counsel Rosalba Comas for filling in for County Counsel Barry. He asked everyone to keep County Counsel Barry in our prayers because he lost his sister.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

1. Continued contract negotiations and attorney-client privileged communications relative to the Agreement between the County of Union and Center Management Group
2. Potential contract negotiations and attorney-client privileged communication with the County of Union relative to Juvenile Detention Services

County Counsel Barry stated that pursuant to provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act a public body may enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing certain enumerated subjects. This Board will now enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Continued contract negotiations and Attorney-Client privileged communications relative to the Agreement between the County of Union and Center Management Group; and Potential contract negotiations and Attorney-Client privileged communication with the County of Hudson relative to Juvenile Detention Services.

The minutes of the Executive Session shall be separated from the minutes of the Open Public Session. The minutes of the Executive Session, redacted as appropriate and necessary, shall be available in approximately 30 days. The Clerk of the Board

shall retain the original minutes until such time as the confidential limitations have been removed, at which time they shall be made available.

Upon the Board's return, it will not take formal action on the matters discussed. Upon a majority vote of the members present, the Board may now retire to Executive Session.

Chairman Hudak asked for a motion to enter Executive Session. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Vice Chairman Jalloh, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

Chairman Hudak asked for a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. On a motion made by and seconded by, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2014 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that meetings are regularly held on Thursday evenings. Agenda Setting Sessions and Regular Meetings are held at 7:00pm in the Freeholders' Meeting Room, Administration Building, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, 6th Floor, Elizabeth, New Jersey, unless otherwise specified. In the event an Agenda Setting Session and Regular Meeting are held on the same night, the Agenda Setting Session will commence at 7:00pm and the Regular Meeting will commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session.

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

REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2014 at 12:00pm
Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth,
NJ

AGENDA SETTING MEETINGS

January 16, 2014

February 6, 2014
February 20, 2014March 6, 2014
March 20, 2014April 3, 2014
April 24, 2014May 1, 2014
May 15, 2014June 5, 2014
June 19, 2014

July 10, 2014

August 7, 2014

September 4, 2014
September 18, 2014October 2, 2014
October 16, 2014November 6, 2014
Tuesday, November 25, 2014December 4, 2014
December 18, 2014**REGULAR MEETINGS**

January 23, 2014

February 6, 2014
February 27, 2014March 13, 2014
March 27, 2014April 10, 2014
April 24, 2014May 8, 2014
May 29, 2014June 12, 2014
June 26, 2014

July 17, 2014

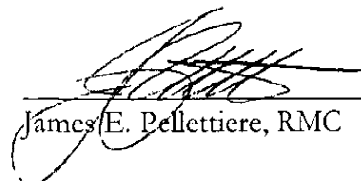
August 14, 2014

September 11, 2014
September 18, 2014**October 9, 2014
October 16, 2014November 13, 2014
Tuesday, November 25, 2014December 11, 2014
December 18, 2014

* Special Meeting on May 15, 2014

** As per Resolution Number 2014-746

JEP:mb


James E. Pellettiere, RMC