



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

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

Also present were County Manager Alfred Faella, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, Esq. and Clerk of the Board James Pellettiere.

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 read by the Clerk of the Board.

### APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

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#### Note and File

Chairman Jalloh called for a motion to approve the Communications. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Vice Chairman Granados, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments or inquiries on a number of Resolutions: Relative to Resolutions numbers 2015-809 through 2015-814 he inquired if the funds will offset any funding within the budget; Relative to Resolution number 2015-817, he inquired if Transdev Service is the same company that oversaw the paratransit program when a young man fell out of an emergency door and died, resulting in a lawsuit; Relative to Resolution number 2015-820, he commended the Board on saving the County approximately \$50,000 per month through that contract; Relative to Resolution number 2015-826, he stated that he didn't see it listed on the agenda at the Agenda Setting Session and asked for an explanation, questioning if this is for a change in name only; Relative to Resolution numbers 2015-833 and 2015-834, he inquired as to the similarities and differences of the health benefits; Relative to Resolution number 2015-842, he stated that he knew Mr. McCoy and wished him good luck.

With reference to Resolution Numbers 2015-809 through 2015-814, Director Taylor stated that the resolutions modifying the 2015 budget are new items to include sources of revenue and do not affect the taxes as introduced into the budget.

With reference to Resolution number 2015-817, Director Guzzo stated that incident occurred approximately eight or nine years ago, and noted that if that is the case, this company is the same vendor.

With reference to Resolution number 2015-826, Deputy County Manager/Director Reyes confirmed that the resolution authorized a change in the name of the vendor only.

With reference to Resolution numbers 2015-833 through 2015-834, Director Albert stated that the health benefits are the same plans that all the exclusionary and collective bargaining units have.

Chairman Jalloh stated that he will pass along the speaker's well wishes to Mr. McCoy.

John Bury, of Kenilworth, made comments or inquiries on a number of Resolutions: Relative to Resolutions number 2015-819, he stated that the MAX Challenge is close to his office and noted that it is a gym. He inquired if this resolution is for gym memberships for the Sheriff's officers; Relative to Resolutions number 2015-819, he made comments regarding the unanimity of the Board on this complicated and divisive issue.

With reference to Resolution Number 2015-819, Undersheriff Green stated the need for the resolution is due to the increased participation in the program. He advised that the Max Challenge classes are held at the County in the morning, lunch time and in the afternoon.

Pat Mochetti, New Providence, made comments or inquiries on a number of Resolutions: Relative to Resolutions number 2015-809, he inquired if NJ Transit is giving money for services, and are the New Jersey Transit riders subsidizing these activities; Mr. Mochetti asked for an explanation relative to the use of the term "modifying" in the first six (6) resolutions; Relative to Resolution number 2015-816, he inquired as to what "CWA" stands for and what is the objective of the Fund; Relative to Resolution number 2015-817, he inquired if the amount was in the 2015 budget, and if not, how is the County paying for it now; Relative to Resolution number 2015-818, he inquired if the amount is for just her salary and benefits only or if it included other perks such as a county vehicle; Relative to Resolution number 2015-819, he stated that he hopes to see an increase in fit employees; Relative to Resolution number 2015-820, he stated that it is an increase in 40 percent and questioned where the money is coming from; Relative to Resolution number 2015-826, he inquired as to what is being accomplished through the resolution; Relative to Resolution number 2015-827, inquired as to the number of people to be trained and what is the objective of the program.

With reference to Resolution Numbers 2015-809 through 2015-814, Director Taylor confirmed that the language is standard, noting that the language is required by the State for all Chapter 159s; which are items to accept special items of revenue into a budget. Director Taylor stated that all of these funds, inclusive of the New Jersey Transit resolution, are positive items of revenue anticipating revenues into the budget.

With reference to Resolution Number 2015-816, Director Guzzo stated that CWA stands for "County Welfare Agencies," noting that the dollar amount listed in the resolution is an

administrative fee used to offset salaries for employees that helped administer the program. He advised the program provides heat and energy assistance during the winter month for people with low incomes. He clarified that it serves as an allowance to assist in making sure the individuals are eligible for that program.

With reference to Resolution Number 2015-817, Director Guzzo stated that Transdev is the County's Paratransit provider. He stated that this specific resolution address the Rt. 22 shuttle, which allows people to safely navigate Rt. 22 for jobs. He added that the program is seven to eight years old.

With reference to Resolution Number 2015-818, Director Guzzo stated that the resolution addresses a combination of salary and fringe benefits. He noted that the County pays Hudson County under an agreement, and noted that the rate is less than the established salary set for the superintendents, as the County of Union is paying the Hudson County rate.

Chairman Jalloh stated that Resolutions Numbers 2015-819 and 820 are statements.

With reference to Resolution Number 2015-826, Deputy County Manager/Director Reyes stated the resolution combines the two previous resolutions with the City of Elizabeth and converts them into a resolution for the specific project, which will create low income housing. He noted that this resolution will eliminate multiple contracts.

With reference to Resolution Number 2015-827, Deputy County Manager/Director Reyes stated that approximately 175 people will be trained, noting that the training includes CDL Licensing, medical billing and coding; adding that this will give the participants certifications for them to go out and obtain jobs.

## RESOLUTIONS

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The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

- 2015-809 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$70,000 as a result of notification received from NJ Transit for a program entitled: Job Access Reverse Commute - JARC 1.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-810 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$378,519 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a program entitled: State Homeland Security Program.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-811 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$55,757 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State for a program entitled: Historical Commission.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-812 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$9,630 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Workforce Development for a program entitled: Smart Steps Program.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-813 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$33,864 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs for a program entitled: Recreational Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities - (ROID).

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-814 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Resolution modifying the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$95,688 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Older Americans Act Title III.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-815 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept grant funding from New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJ DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), in the approximate amount of \$930,382 with a County Match requirement of \$124,695, in Calendar Year (CY) 2016 Alcoholism/Drug Abuse Grant funding for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-816 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJ DCA) in the approximate amount of \$13,281 for the CWA Administration of the 2016 Universal Service Fund.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-817 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2014-1032 to include an additional allocation in the amount of \$140,000 for the contract period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 to Transdev Services, Inc. for the continued provision of Paratransit services.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-818 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to ratify a one year extension to the Memorandum of Understanding, adopted by way of Resolution 2014-854, between the County of Union and the County of Hudson, for the assignment of Diana Youst as Acting Superintendent of the Union County Juvenile Detention Center for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in the amount not to exceed \$158,144.53.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-819 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Amending Resolution Number 2015-515, a contract awarded to A & A Fitness Inc. dba The Max of Springfield, Union, New Jersey, to increase the amount by \$20,000.00 for physical and nutritional administration services to the UC Sheriff's Office and County of Union Employee participants for the six month period from July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 for a total amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-820 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Amending Resolution Number 2015-010, a resolution approving the use of NJ State Contract, Middlesex Regional Ed Coop & Somerset County Coop usage of contracts, to increase the amount by \$200,000.00 for Broadview Networks, New York, New York (NJ State Contract) for the purpose of providing voice communications for the County of Union for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 for a total amount not to exceed \$700,000.00.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-821** CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Resolution declaring various goods as surplus no longer needed for use by the County, and further authorizing the County Manager to advertise and hold public auction for said surplus goods.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-822** CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the County Manager to designate the following vehicle as a surplus vehicle and no longer needed for County purposes: 1990 International Commander Cab & Chassis with Custom MCRU Service Body County ID: UNIT #1022; Plate Number: CG970L; VIN #: 1HTSDTVNOLH279414.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-823** CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the following surplus vehicle deemed as a vehicle for donation to the City of Plainfield. The City of Plainfield will assume all costs incurred with transfer and title: 1990 International Commander Cab & Chassis with Custom MCRU Service Body County ID: UNIT #1022; Plate Number: CG970L; VIN #: 1HTSDTVNOLH279414.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-824** CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the County Manager to renew the Third Party Claim Administration Contract for Workers' Compensation, Auto and Property Claims with PMA Insurance Company from October 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015 (month-to-month contract) in an amount not to exceed \$20,166.67.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-825** CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the County Manager to extend the Third Party Claim Administration contract for general liability, professional liability, and employment practices with Dietz and Hammer Risk Solutions for the contract period of October 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015 (month-to-month contract) in an amount not to exceed \$8,123.67 while the RFP for same and new contract period is finalized by the evaluation committee.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-826** **CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to reallocate \$445,110 from the City of Elizabeth Parker's Walk Project to Parkers Walk Urban Renewal, LLC. (Resolution # 2013-413 \$ 219,876.69 and Resolution 2013-653 \$225,233.31)

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-827** **CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to utilize \$700,000.00 in Federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Grant funding and NJ Workforce Development Partnership Program funding from the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development in the form of Individual Training Contracts as stipulated in the grant agreement.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-828** **CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Concurring with the City of Summit's Ordinance adopted on September 8, 2015, for the installation of two (2) Temporary Bus Stops on Broad Street, City of Summit, New Jersey.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-829** **CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed open-ended contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSa 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities; Division of Facilities Management with Scientific Boiler Water Conditioning, Linden, NJ to provide Water Treatment and Supplies for (24) consecutive months with the provision of one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension commencing October 18, 2015 through October 17, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$27,846.00.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-830** **CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** 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 Engineering Public Works & Facilities Management; Atlantic Salt Inc., for the purpose of providing Rock Salt for a twelve month (12) contract in the amount of \$699,000.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-831 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for the 2014 NJDEP Recycling Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$279,300 for the provision of partially funding various positions, funding the Household Hazardous Waste Program and other recycling programs, as well as associated advertising costs; and further authorizing the County Manager to execute all necessary documents and adopt the proposed spending plan.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-832 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manger to enter into a contract with Lorco Petroleum Services for a 24 month contract; Vendor is responsible for the collection and recycling of motor oil and motor oil filters from various county and municipal locations; Vendor will provide motor oil collection services at 15 municipal/county locations at no cost; County will pay \$.20/pound for motor oil filters based on an estimated 6,000 lbs/year, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-833 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the PBA 199--Correction Officers, effective January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-834 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with HP&E-Local 5112--Nurses, effective January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

#### **FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

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- 2015-835 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Laudatory resolution congratulating Douglas W. McIntyre on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.



On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-836 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution acknowledging the great efforts of Planned Parenthood in providing critically needed health and reproductive care to millions of American women and men; further urging Congress to fully fund Planned Parenthood.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-837 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Laudatory resolution recognizing the many efforts of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club as they celebrate their 77th Anniversary.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-838 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Laudatory resolution congratulating Andy Calmaras for his many years of service to the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-839 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Proclaiming October 23-31, 2015 as "RED RIBBON WEEK", and encourages its citizens to participate in our many drug prevention education and recovery support activities, not only during Red Ribbon Week, but all year long, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free Union County.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-840 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Laudatory resolution congratulating Joseph Albanese, and the Albanese family, as they celebrate the 40th Anniversary of operating the Plainfield Dairy Queen, one of the company's top performing stores.

- 2015-841 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Laudatory resolution proclaiming October 7, 2015 as "Union County Day of Prayer", and further recognizing the work of the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council and the interfaith community.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

- 2015-842 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution commending William "Fish" McCoy on his many years of service to the County of Union.

On a motion by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

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This meeting is open to the public comment on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

Thomas Smith, of Clark, made comments in opposition to the Rahway River Park Stadium. He cited concerns relative to the negative affects the neighborhood regarding noise and congestion. He made comments relative to the fall of Rome, citing high taxes, the dissipation of religion, sports and pleasure, the breakup of family, and too large of an army. He spoke to the pristine sanctuary of the Rahway River Park and considered the Rahway River Project and abomination to the Lord.

Julie Holzer, of Clark, made comments in opposition to the Rahway Park project. She read a statement regarding the negative effects on health hazards and health issues as a result from noise and light pollution.

Alice Fernandez, of Clark, made comments in opposition of the Rahway Park project, completing the statements left at the podium by the previous speaker (Julie Holzer). She made comments relative to traffic, parking, security, and car pollution concerns of the project. She stated her frustration that there does not seem to be an effort to place the project on a referendum ballot.

Chairman Jalloh encouraged the public to stay to listen to Freeholder comments, noting many members had left prior to Freeholders addressing some of the concerns raised by the public.

Greg Robert, of Rahway, made comments in opposition of the Rahway Park project. He addressed some comments made by the Freeholder Board at the last meeting. He made comments relative to high school football fields' utilization of the term "stadium." He made comments relative to the footprint of the project, citing concerns with area requirements for shot-put and discus.

Pat Mochetti, of New Providence, made comments relative to the County's policy relative to the years required for employees to obtain lifetime health benefits; suggesting that the policy should be at least 10 years. He made comments relative to the role of government;

suggesting the county should focus on public safety, infrastructure, education, creating a business-friendly environment, the minimization of taxes, and providing a safety net for those less fortunate. He stated that everything else could be eliminated.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments regarding the Rahway Park project, suggesting that the Board ask the township councils from the 21 municipalities be offered an opportunity to vote on the Rahway River project. He stated that he missed the Freeholder debate in Cranford, and made comments relative to the role of government and the concept of dividing the County into wards or districts. He made comments relative the accident involving Sheriff Cryan.

### **FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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Freeholder Hudak made comments relative to meeting with the new CEO of Atlantic Health Systems with Freeholders Granados, Wright and Vice Chairman Bergen. He wished him well and noted that Atlantic Health Care System operates Overlook Hospital and the emergency room in Union Township.

Freeholder Hudak made comments relative to one of the meeting's primary items, the Omnia Health Alliance, which is a tiered network health insurance plan that is being created by Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield and is scheduled to be offered to their customers next year. He advised that the plan is controversial, as it would create two tiers of hospitals, lumping larger hospitals and many of those in networks into the first tier, which would provide a significant discount to their customers, and grouping the smallest ones, that tend to be in urban areas, such as Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth (and the JFK satellite emergency department in Plainfield), would be stigmatized as Tier 2 Hospitals. He advised that as a consequence, customers who use these facilities, which also tend to be Catholic-run, would have to pay at least \$2,000 more out of pocket, noting that the effect of the new plan could be devastating on urban hospitals, which could lose customers to the Tier I hospitals, while costing their remaining clientele more. He advised that many are working families who simply cannot afford thousands of dollars in out of pocket expenses if an emergency arises that requires a hospital visit. It could also lead to potential closings.

Freeholder Hudak commended the County's Legislative Delegation for being at the forefront in addressing the major concerns of this plan, noting that Senator Lesniak, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblyman Holley, Assemblyman Bramnick, and Senator Kean were all at the meeting and are advocating for the residents of Union County.

Freeholder Hudak stated that he would be introducing a resolution next week that will call upon Horizon to delay the rollout of the OMNIA plan by at least 90 days, allowing for the opportunity to get more information and have a proper discussion on this issue.

Freeholder Granados said he had the pleasure of recently joining Prosecutor Grace Park and a number of other elected officials, police agencies, and faith based community leaders in a conversation about the new Body Cameras program. He made comments relative to the six week pilot program, noting he was pleased to support the initiative, noting that the program will provide a mutual benefit to both urban and suburban communities of Union County as a whole, and will continue to lead to a road of improved mutual cooperation and trust between our police departments and the communities they serve.

Freeholder Wright made comments relative to the County's first free CarFit workshop for seniors, at the Garwood First Aid Squad, noting that the CarFit is a national program aimed at helping senior drivers adjust their cars for safety and comfort. She spoke to her participation in the program.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to a speaker's mischaracterization of a resolution she sponsored regarding Planned Parenthood. She clarified the language of the resolution stating that for 99 years Planned Parenthood has provided vital, life-saving health services to millions of women across the country. She stated that for many women, Planned Parenthood is the only choice both for gynecological and reproductive health services that they can afford. She added that some of the services provided by Planned Parenthood include life-saving cancer screenings, breast exams, contraception and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. She stated that each year, 2.7 million women, men and teens use services from Planned Parenthood, noting that more than 90 percent of which are for preventive services and education. She stated that over half of those patients received services through Title X - the program that helps fund family-planning nationwide. She noted that according to a study by George Washington University researchers, defunding Planned Parenthood "would mean the loss of affordable and accessible contraceptive services and counseling, as well as breast- and cervical-cancer screenings and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections."

Freeholder Kowalski stated that she thinks the majority of the people across the country support providing health care for women by Planned Parenthood, and that it is the small minority of extremists within the House of Representatives that are out of step on this issue. She stated that she brought forward this resolution as a result of the controversy provoked by the fraudulent video that was circulating.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi's introduction of a new design for the Vote-By-Mail ballot, noting that the aim is to make the election process as clear and straightforward as possible. She made comments as to how registered voters can apply for and use a Vote-By-Mail ballot.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments thanking the County's Adopt-a-Park volunteers, who work hard to help conserve and improve habitat in our County parks, noting in particular, the students from Kean University's Center for Leadership and Service, and from the Conservation Biology Class.

Freeholder Mirabella provided a report on the Kids Recreation Trust Fund, noting that since 2004, the Fund has helped to refurbish and build more than 100 parks and other recreational facilities throughout Union County. He stated that the Kids Trust Fund is part of the Union County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, which was approved overwhelmingly by popular referendum fifteen years ago. He stated that as a result of this strong support for public recreation, the Trust Fund has helped the local governments expand their programs and preserve their historic treasures, even during lean times after the 2008 global financial crisis. He stated that he had the pleasure of joining with officials in my home town, Fanwood, to break ground on a new skateboard park at Forest Road Park.

Freeholder Mirabella made comments relative to the County's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbus Flag Day event on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> on the courthouse steps in Elizabeth. He thanked the

UNICO chapters throughout Union County for their partnerships and noting the keynote speaker, Mrs. Paula Maida Mooney, author of "My Father's Last Meatballs, A Heavenly Entrée."

Freeholder Mirabella stated on behalf of Freeholder Hudak and Vice Chairman Bergen, as a fellow Mets fans, wished the Mets well as they enter the World Series.

Vice Chairman Bergen addressed a number of comments made by some of members of the public concerning the refurbishing of the football field. He addressed the comments that he believed to have been given in good faith. He spoke to the semantics of the use of "stadium" or "field," and urged the focus to be on the size of the project, noting that referring to the Rahway River Park project as a "stadium" is misleading. He clarified that his use of the word footprint doesn't include the activities, but rather includes the part of the ground or the field, which is why in his comments he does not refer to the javelin or the discus. He made a correlation to a baseball being hit well enough over the fence, or area in which the activity is confined. He acknowledged his understanding of the speaker's point of view.

Vice Chairman made comments relative to a speaker's comments relative to "appropriate functions of the County," and stated that he believes that there are many functions that the County properly serves that go beyond what the speaker stated, noting recreational services. He spoke to the major expansion projects at the Warinanco Ice Skating Center and the Watchung Stables.

County Manager Faella made comments relative to the many fall activities available and urged residents to visit the County's website.

Chairman Jalloh urged the speakers to adhere to the 5 minute time limit. He advised that he does not like asking anyone to step away from the microphone, noting that the rule applies to everyone. He made comments relating to the hostility and name calling during public comment and stated that such action is inappropriate and invalidates their arguments. He spoke to his request of a mutual respect regarding comments made by the public and Board. He made comments relative to the Board's consideration of all the speakers' comments. Chairman Jalloh stated that he supports the Rahway Park project.

Chairman Jalloh commended the Department of Public Works and Facilities and the County staff for their preparation of the pending hurricane. He noted that while the County dodged a bullet, he thanked the staff for their preparation to ensure that the County's residents were safe in the event a hurricane event occurred.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Chairman Jalloh asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, a voice vote showed seven votes in the affirmative, with Freeholders Carter and Estrada absent. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2015 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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

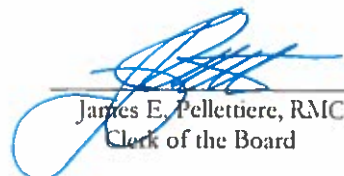
### REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2015 at 12:00pm Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

<u>AGENDA SETTING SESSION</u>	<u>REGULAR MEETINGS</u>
January 15, 2015	January 29, 2015
February 5, 2015 February 26, 2015	February 19, 2015 February 26, 2015
March 5, 2015 March 19, 2015	March 12, 2015 March 26, 2015
April 9, 2015 April 23, 2015	April 16, 2015 April 30, 2015
May 7, 2015 May 28, 2015	May 14, 2015 May 28, 2015
June 11, 2015	June 18, 2015
July 9, 2015	July 16, 2015
August 6, 2015	August 20, 2015
September 3, 2015 September 17, 2015	September 10, 2015 September 24, 2015
October 1, 2015 October 15, 2015	October 8, 2015 October 15, 2015
November 5, 2015	November 12, 2015
December 3, 2015 December 10, 2015	December 3, 2015 December 17, 2015

#### Notice

#### Regular Meetings of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders Public Comment Portion

Pursuant to the provisions of the N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(a) and the By-Laws of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders the "Public Comment Portion" of Regular Meetings is reserved for public comment on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.



James E. Pelletiere, RMC  
Clerk of the Board

JEP