



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2016
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruce Bergen presided and called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Bruce H. Bergen, Vice Chairman Sergio Granados, Linda Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance, with Freeholder Christopher Hudak absent.

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

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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

ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION

Chairman Bergen asked the Clerk of the Board to read the Ordinance by Title.

Clerk of the Board Pelletiere read the Ordinance by title.

778-2016 REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REFUNDING OF \$43,940,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING A SUM NOT EXCEEDING \$44,250,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$44,250,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDING BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting is open to the public for the purpose of commenting on Ordinance Number 778-2016 only.

Prior to opening the meeting up for public comment, Chairman Bergen offered a brief explanation of the Ordinance; noting that this ordinance calls for the refinancing of existing bonds to take advantage of a better interest rate, and that this action does not extend the lifetime of the bonds. He further noted the county is projected to save approximately \$2 million through this transaction.

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, thanked the Board for refinancing to save taxpayers money. He asked if there were any penalties for refinancing and inquired as to the costs associated with the professionals with this transaction.

Director Taylor advised that the professional costs, inclusive of printing, bond counsel and underwriter fees total an amount not to exceed \$310,000. She advised that there were no penalties, noting that otherwise the County would not have been able to move forward with the refinancing. She further advised that the net savings of \$2.1 million is a net savings with any costs associated with the refinancing.

FINAL READING STATEMENT

Freeholder Alexander Mirabella, Fiscal Committee Chairman, will move Ordinance Number 778-2016 for Final Reading and authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

Chairman Bergen called for a motion. Fiscal Committee Chairman Mirabella moved Ordinance No. 778-2016 and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise in accordance with the law. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Kowalski. A roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholder Hudak absent.

PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

A presentation will be made by Union Township Sergeant Mike Boll, the head of Operation Rebound; a sports and fitness program for American military personnel, veterans and first responders with physical challenges.

Chairman Bergen advised that Operation Rebound is the premier sports & fitness program for American military personnel, veterans and first responders with physical challenges. He advised they serve unparalleled opportunities to peruse active and productive lifestyles by offering access to funding for equipment, training, competition, expenses and sports clinics. He added that the Board is proud to have partnered with this organization as part of the 2016 initiatives supporting the County's veterans.

Sergeant Boll spoke on the racing team for disabled veterans and first responders. He thanked the Board for their assistance in expanding their program, noting that they started out with 10 athletes and now have approximately 400 athletes involved with their organization. He spoke on the racing team's successful ride to Washington, D.C.

PRESENTATION FROM THE BOARD

A resolution presentation will be made by the Board to Harinder Bains, Linden business owner, who reported the bombing suspect to authorities.

Chairman Bergen noted that a few weeks ago the Board had the pleasure in honoring Union County heroes who were involved with the apprehension of the bombing suspect. He advised that tonight the Board had the honor to make a final presentation to recognize the local business owner who played a crucial role in the successful apprehension of the suspect. He advised that Mr. Bains had noticed something suspicious and reported it to the authorities.

Vice Chairman Granados joined Chairman Bergen and presented him with his resolution.

Mr. Bains thanked the Board for the honor. He stated that he wasn't a hero, noting that the real heroes are the cops and law enforcement. He stated that we are all stronger in the face of terror when we all stand together.

A check presentation will be made by Freeholder Kowalski, Trust Fund Subcommittee Chairwoman, to the recipients of the 2016 Kids Recreational Trust grants and the 2016 Greening Union County grants.

Freeholder Kowalski was joined by Vice Chairman Granados and Freeholder Carter for the evening's check presentations to all grant recipients.

Freeholder Kowalski welcomed all who joined the meeting for tonight's presentations. She acknowledged the work of the Trust Fund Advisory Board, noting they spend a great deal of time and energy reviewing grants and considering the recreation and preservation needs of the County. She called upon all Advisory Board members in the audience to join them for a picture (Janice Siegel, Michael Yesenko, Lisa Palin, Amy Wagner, Rose Checchio, Charles Eke, Ronald Zuber, Arthur Kobitz and Edward O'Malley).

Freeholder Kowalski advised that the presentations were in the amount of \$1 million and included both Kids Recreation Trust Fund grants and Greening Union County grants. She advised the two monitors on the wall would display the award recipient, the amount and project.

The awards were given out in alphabetical order and were as follows:

Tom Barton, Berkeley Heights Recreation Director: \$50,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$5,250 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Ralph Bernardo, Clark Recreation Director: \$39,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund). He described the project and thanked the Board; Commissioner Thomas Hannen, Jr. and Edward O'Malley of Cranford: \$60,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$4,000 (Greening Union County). Commissioner Hannen described the project and thanked the Board; Paul Adessa, Elizabeth Recreation Director: \$85,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$5,250 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Robert Budiansky, Fanwood Recreation Director: \$40,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$1,200 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Mayor Charles Lombardo and Councilman Lousi Petruzzelli of Garwood: \$5,000 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Councilwoman Kay Cerceri of Kenilworth: \$50,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$2,500 (Greening Union County). She

described the project and thanked the Board; Michael Butrico, Mountainside Assistant Recreation Director: \$40,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund). He described the project and thanked the Board; Mayor AL Morgan, Councilman James Madden, Administrator Douglas Marvin and Recreation Director Bernadette Cuccaro of New Providence: \$20,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund). Mayor Morgan described the project and thanked the Board; Administrator Rick Smiley, Charles Eke Trust Fund Advisory Board Member, Ronnie Taylor Recreation Director of the City of Plainfield: \$45,450 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$20,000 (Greening Union County). Administrator Smiley and Director Taylor described the project and thanked the Board; Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Miles of Rahway: \$24,980 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$5,250 (Greening Union County). They described the project and thanked the Board. Councilman Brown thanked the Board for its support with the football field project in Rahway River Park; Mayor Christine Dansereau, Administrator David Brown, Public Advisory Board Member Lisa Palin, Recreation Director Mrs. Shaw and Councilman Shaw of Roselle: \$50,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$4,000 (Greening Union County). Mayor Dansereau and Councilman Shaw described the project and thanked the Board; Mayor Carl Hokanson, Roselle Park: \$75,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$5,250 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Mayor Kevin Glover and Councilwoman Rose Checchio of Scotch Plains: \$50,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$3,750 (Greening Union County). Mayor Glover described the project and thanked the Board. They received an additional \$20,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund) towards a joint project between Scotch Plains & Fanwood (joined by Fanwood Recreation Director Robert Budiansky); Engineer Sam Mardini, Public Works Director Robert Boettcher, Recreation Director Adam Lieb, and Assistant Recreation Director Heather Re of Springfield: \$75,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$5,000 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Community Development Reps Mark Ozoroski and Jamie Colucci of Summit: \$50,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$7,000 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Recreation Director Daniel Salvante and Public Advisory Committee of Union \$75,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$4,700 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Recreation Director Larry McDermott and Janice Segial of the Public Advisory Board Member of Westfield: \$50,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$13,600 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board; Linden Councilman Brooks: \$75,000 (Kids Recreational Trust Fund)/\$10,000 (Greening Union County). He described the project and thanked the Board.

Chairman Bergen advised all those present that there would be a Ballot Question in this year's election to renew the Open Space, Recreation and Historical Preservation Trust Fund, and encouraged all to go back to their communities to remind them how useful these grants are to the community.

Chairman Bergen asked the Clerk of the Board to acknowledge Freeholder Hudak's presence for the record.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Oaths of Office: Union County Advisory Council on Aging: Ellen E. Hunt; Union County Mental Health Advisory Board: Michelle Cislo; and Workforce Development Board: Kamran Tasharofi.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Thursday, August 11, 2016 - Agenda Setting Session.
2. Thursday, August 18, 2016 - Regular Meeting.

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to approve the Minutes. On a motion made by Freeholder Carter and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the minutes of the Thursday, August 11, 2016 Agenda Meeting, with Freeholder Hudak abstaining and Vice Chairman Granados not present for the vote; and six members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the minutes of the Thursday, August 18, 2016 Regular Meeting, with Freeholders Hudak and Jalloh abstaining and Vice Chairman Granados not present for the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Pat Mochetti, of New Providence, had questions or comments relative to a number of resolutions. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-798, he asked what "LSRP" stood for and asked why the need for a 40% increase. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-806, he made comments relative to the grants. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-811, he asked if the Board would provide the same funding to all towns. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-812, he asked what expert services will be used. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-814, he asked for further explanation of the insurance fraud. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-815, he asked what the DNA backlog is and how big is it in Union County. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-820, he asked what Union County employee was involved and if there were any consequences to said employee. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-837, he asked what the estimate in loss in Union County. He made comments. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-838, he asked if the fees are going up 40%.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-838, Chairman Bergen stated that it would cover the County's additional costs for processing passports.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-837, Chairman Bergen stated that the County does not know the final costs as of yet since the governor hasn't signed the bill reinstating the Transportation Trust Fund. He advised that this resolution is intended to save harmless the counties on those losses.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-820, County Counsel Barry advised that the settlement pertained to an automobile accident involving a state employee, noting that as per the terms and conditions of the agreement with the Judiciary, the County provides a vehicle and insures said vehicle.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-812, First Assistant Tim Isenhour advised that the individual is a forensic psychologist who testifies primarily in homicide cases and some child abuse cases; primarily on those most severe and violent cases as they pertain to the mental state of the defendants. He advised that he has been used on approximately ten cases, and as such as gone above the threshold requiring a resolution. Relative to Resolution No. 814, First Assistant Prosecutor Isenhour advised they investigate minor auto insurance fraud to more severe cases of fraud, noting a recent multi-million case. Relative to Resolution No. 815, he advised that there was an abundance of evidence seized for cases to be tried.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-811, Chairman Bergen stated that any municipality may apply for sponsorship funding and all applications are considered for funding.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-798, County Engineer Thomas Mineo advised that LSRP stands for a "License Site Remediation Professional", and is required by the State. He advised that this project requires additional residual ground water testing that the County is required to do on a regular basis.

Chairman Bergen asked to clarify that this is an on-going project that requires an LSRP on site as required by state law. Mr. Mineo confirmed that was correct.

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, had questions or comments relative to a number of resolutions. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-798, he asked why they need additional funds and if it is an extension, noting that a 40% increase is high. He made comments relative to political donations; Relative to Resolution Nos. 2016-799 & 805 he made comments relative to political donations; Relative to Resolution Nos. 2016-806 & 807, he asked someone to confirm that they are matching grants. He asked why Winfield wasn't present. Resolution No. 2016-811, he asked if it was a matching grant. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-817, he asked has the County implemented anything from the last plan, and further asked if there were any successes they could point towards. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-820, he asked for an explanation of why a State employee is driving a county insured car. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-832, he made comments relative to political donations. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-835, he stated that the County should be getting reimbursed for these costs. Relative to Resolution No. 2016-838, he stated that he advocates for user fees, but asked why the need to increase the fee by \$10.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-820, County Counsel Barry stated that this involves a pre-existing arrangement prior to the State takeover of the Courts in 1995. He advised that the arrangement entailed the County providing a livery service for mail with reference to any judiciary actions. He clarified that the judiciary supplies the employee and the County supplies the vehicle.

Relative to Resolution Nos. 2016-806 & 807, Freeholder Kowalski stated that they are matching grants and clarified that Winfield did not apply.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-817, Chairman Bergen advised the County uses the Master Plan for guidance toward its policies, noting that after a number of years, its commonplace to update and revise the plan.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-811, Chairman Bergen stated that the funding was a sponsorship and not a matching grant; though he noted, generally, sponsorship funds represent a small portion of the events total costs.

Relative to Resolution No. 2016-799, he noted that the amount is a “not to exceed” amount and does not represent an actual increase of 40%. He added that as we are billed we have to ensure the available funds, as it is required by the State.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

Prior to the vote, Freeholder Estrada asked to be added as a sponsor of Resolution No. 2016-833.

- 2016-797 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Shared Services Agreement between the County of Union and the City of Linden for the installation of a flashing crosswalk sign and other traffic control signs and striping for a pedestrian crosswalk to be located at the intersection of N. Stiles Street (CR615) and Amon Terrace in the City of Linden.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-798 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-188, a Professional Engineering Service Contract with T&M Associates, of Middletown, New Jersey, to provide additional LSRP services associated with the Venneri Complex located in Westfield, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$48,800.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$180,000.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2011-031)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-799 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-526, a Professional Service Contract award to Matrix New World Engineering, Inc., of Florham Park, New Jersey, for LSRP Services associated with various sites to include the 1994 Fuel Oil Discharge at the Public Works Facility (DPW) located in Scotch Plains for an additional amount not to exceed \$36,400.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$796,970.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-800 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-191, a Professional Engineering Service Contract with LCA Engineering LLC, of Union, New Jersey, to provide additional design and construction administration and inspection services associated with the Emergency Generator at the Police Academy Building in Scotch Plains in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$78,120.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2013-015)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-801 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Resolution granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights for the closing of Springfield Avenue from the intersection of Snyder Avenue to Plainfield Avenue on Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for the Township's annual Winter Walk and Tree Lighting Event. Also granting permission to hang a banner across Springfield Avenue and Plainfield Avenue from 11/1/16 through December 6, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-802 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Foley, Inc., Piscataway, New Jersey, for the purchase of a 2016 Caterpillar Model 950 M Wheel Loader for the Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management; Division of Public Works through the Middlesex County Regional Education Services Commission MRIESC 15/16-08 ID #65 MCF:SCCPS, in an amount not to exceed \$278,796.40

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-803 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept funds in the amount of \$21,933 and enter into a contract with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, for the Union County Rape Crisis Center (UCRCC) to provide services for sexual violence victims through the STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grant Program for the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017, with required County in-kind matching funds of \$7,311 in existing UCRCC personnel expense, for a program grand total not to exceed \$29,244.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-804 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-544, approving the amended 2016 CSBG Spending Plan, to reflect a grant award increase in the amount of \$102,627, for a new grand total of \$939,220, to be allocated as specified in the amended spending plan with no other changes to agreement.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed eight members voting in the affirmative, with Chairman Bergen abstaining.

- 2016-805 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to Neglia Engineering Associates of Clark, New Jersey to provide surveying services at the Summit Transfer Station operation area located within the Union County Passaic River Park properties in Summit, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$4,165.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-806 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award Kids Recreation Trust Fund 2016 grants to eighteen (18) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the Kids Recreation Trust grant criteria, as stated in said grant application, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund in the amount of \$974,430.00

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-807 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award Greening Union County 2016 grants to fourteen (14) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the Greening Union County grant criteria, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-808 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2016 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$92,114 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Sexual Assault Response Team/Forensic Nurse Examiner.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-809 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2016 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$21,933 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) Grant.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-810 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Resolution Modifying the 2016 Union County Adopted Budget in the amount of \$30,325 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection for a program entitled: State Aid Funds for County Mosquito Identification & Control Grant.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-811 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Authorizing the sponsorship of the City of Rahway's Halloween in Rahway festivities to be held on October 29, 2016 in the amount of \$2,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-812 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a professional service contract with Dr. Louis B. Schlesinger, Maplewood, New Jersey, to provide expert services in the field of psychology for the period of September 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$11,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-813 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of the Prosecutor, to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Division of Criminal Justice, FFY15 Victims of Crime Act, County Sexual Assault Response Team/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program in the amount of \$92,114 with a County Match of \$23,029.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-814 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor, New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, in the amount of \$250,000 for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, to continue efforts of insurance fraud investigation in Union County.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-815 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to accept funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice for the 2016 DNA Backlog Reduction Grant in the amount of \$276,231 for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-816 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Appointing Alfred J. Faella, County Manager, as the Commissioner to the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund and Michael M. Yuska, Director of Administrative Services, as Alternate to the Fund pursuant to Resolution 2016-770 renewing the membership with the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund for a three year period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-817 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manager to adopt the 2016 Union County Transportation Master Plan. The 2016 Union County Transportation Master Plan identifies current conditions, challenges, opportunities and strategies to meet existing and future travel needs of the County. This Plan was developed in coordination with the County, municipal officials and representatives, regional and state agencies and local residents. It provides guidance for all elements of our transportation system including components owned, operated and maintained by other entities.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-818 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-428, approving the 2016-2017 Consolidated Action Plan to increase CDBG funding to the Plainfield YMCA Emergency Shelter Program in the amount of \$40,000 from \$5,000 to \$45,000 utilizing City of Plainfield Program Income funds. (Account No. 6-12-286-56-000-709)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-819 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Authorizing the County Manger to utilize \$900,000.00 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 made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-820 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** A Resolution to approve the settlement of pending litigation entitled Luz Gomez & Israel Gomez v. Union County, et al in the amount of \$120,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2016-821 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Extending deepest condolences to the family of Autrey E. Reid of Plainfield upon his passing on September 30, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-822 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Congratulating Citizen of the Year by the Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO honoring Carole Cascio and recognition of the Anthony J. DiGiovanni 2016 Scholarship recipients on October 16, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-823 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH, FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Greg Henn, Grand Knight for 2015-2016 of the Union Knights of Columbus Council #4504 at their annual Past Grand Knight's dinner celebration on October 8, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-824 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH, FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating the Township of Union in honoring its 1st annual Hispanic Heritage Month celebration on October 12, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-825 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH, FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Angel Cartagena upon being awarded Hispano of the Year at the Union Township Hispanic Heritage Month 1st annual Celebration.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-826 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Nancy C. Saliga upon her passing on September 26, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-827 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Congratulating Terry Armstrong, VP, Leasing of the Elberon Development Group for being recognized at the 5th annual Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless Transportation, Logistics & Distribution (ILLD) recognition breakfast.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-828 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Congratulating UNICO District X and Plainfield's UNICO for developing and co-sponsoring Union County's 7th Annual Columbus Day Flag Raising event.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-829 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Congratulating Bishop Claude L. Campbell on his 85th birthday celebration at the St. Paul's Calvary United Church of God on October 15, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-830 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Congratulating Ethelyne Grimsley for being honored by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Delta Pi Chapter at their 29th annual Citation Awards Scholarship Breakfast on October 22, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-831 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Proclaiming the month of October as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Awareness Month throughout the County of Union.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-832 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating the recipients of the Community Access Unlimited awards at their annual Gala dinner dance on November 3, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-833 VICE CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & FREEHOLDER ESTRADA:** Congratulating the community leaders selected by the Hispanic Law Enforcement Association of Union County at their 25th anniversary gala on October 22, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-834 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN, FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH & FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Congratulating Kevin Cummings and Warren Victor for being honored by the Union County College Foundation Board of Trustees at their 24th annual Scholarship Gala on October 14, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-835 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN, FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT & FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Supporting Senate Budget Resolution No. 4287 which would appropriate \$21 million to the Administrative Office of the Courts for counties to implement Criminal Justice reform.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-836 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating the recipients of the Snyder Academy awards at their 2nd annual celebration on October 20, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-837 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Supporting the A-4114 Bill, which provides funding from DOT to Counties and municipalities for the delay costs due to Executive Order stopping Transportation Trust Fund projects.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-838 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Board's support of an increase proposed by the US Department of State for the passport acceptance fee rate to increase from \$25 to \$35, generating additional revenue to the County.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

- 2016-839 CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Supporting and commending Lauren O'Brien, Group Leader - Union County of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense program in America and the Union County Police Chiefs Association, for the launch of a countywide initiative to issue the BeSMART gun safety information with gun permits.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Bruce Patterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to the Open Space, Recreation and Preservation Trust Fund ballot question. He made comments relative to the \$9-\$9.5 million collected annually and how those funds are utilized, noting some of its uses for employee salaries and debt service. He stated that he opposed a permanent tax with no expiration date.

Barbara Krause, of Cranford, read from a letter (attached) commenting to her opposition of mountain biking access to the trails at Watchung Reservation, stating that as a Reservation it should be reserved for a special first for conservation with natural habitat and have only a passive use; clarifying that it is not active park land. She commented on a letters in the Westfield Leader made by mountain bikers and a reports in the Westfield Leader relative to the September 29th Freeholder Meeting and a subsequent meeting on October 20th with the

mountain bikers, asking when the County would meet with other trail patrons. She urged the Board to maintain the mountain bike train.

Pat Mochetti, of New Providence, made comments relative to the 2016 County Clerk Election Calendar, and asked if there will be a 2017 calendar and at what cost. He made comments relative to the purpose of the County's Office on Women and the staffing of the office. He made comments relative to the Union County Magnet High Schools, but made comments relative to his concerns relative to the Union County College graduation rates. He thanked Freeholder Hudak for his "no" vote on Resolution No. 2016-838.

Chairman Bergen advised that the responsibilities of the individual assigned to the Office of Women has been backfilled. He also stated that any questions relative to the calendar would be directed to the County Clerk (or emailed to his attention and he would reach out to the County Clerk).

Kurt Krause, of Cranford, made comments relative to his opposition to mountain biking within the Watchung Reservation, noting that the trail system is a highlight of the Reservation, and is well recognized and utilized for the hiking purpose. He spoke on his experiences as a cross-country runner and hiker of the Appalachian Trail. He stated that 90% of the trails are one person width and are of soft soil; both not conducive to mountain biking without modification. He offered his concerns relative to safety and liability and the policing of the trails if the Board were to move forward.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Hudak made comments relative to a Hazardous Waste Recycling event on October 15th and the Paper Shredding event on October 22nd in New Providence.

Freeholder Hudak stated that the Board is under the impression that all know the grants used through the Open Space, Recreation and Historical Preservation Trust Fund are the resident's money, as authorized 16 years ago. He stated that he is hopeful the referendum will pass once again in this year's election; noting that the Trust Fund projects contribute to the high quality of life in Union County.

Freeholder Wright made comments relative to the new FFC Comparison Microscope stationed at the Union County Ballistic Laboratory in Westfield. She stated that the new microscope will assist law enforcement in providing evidence in gun crimes, noting that in one instance the microscope linked one gun to one suspect in seven different shootings in Union County and Pennsylvania.

Freeholder Kowalski thanked all those that participated in the Trust Fund grant ceremonies. She thanked the Krause family for their comments and of the comments from all the public. She stated that it takes a conscious effort to protect open space, and noted that over a hundred years ago the county had to foresight to develop its park system. She added that she thanks her colleagues for supporting the Trust Fund.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to the Unity Achievement Awards sponsored by the Union County Human Relations Commission, adding that they honor individuals and organizations that enhance the quality of life in Union County and embodies the ideals of respect for human rights, human dignity and cultural diversity.

Freeholder Kowalski made comments relative to the Union County's Workforce Innovation Business Center's efforts to recruit 50 new positions for AirServe at Newark Liberty International Airport on Tuesday, October 18th, noting that they intend to fill 230 new jobs.

Freeholder Carter made comments relative to a number of county events offered to the public: Four Centuries in a Weekend; the one-night comedy performance of Sinbad at the Union County Performing Arts Center; Snyder Academy's History Paint Night Social with resident artist Rafael Rodriguez.

Freeholder Mirabella thanked Freeholder Kowalski on her leadership with the Trust Fund this year. He thanked Public Information Director Seb D'Elia on his leadership role with this year's Columbus Day event and County Manager Alfred Faella for serving as its keynote speaker.

Freeholder Mirabella made comments relative to the launch of the new Union County Elections website (unioncountyvotes.com), which provides easy access to all things related to the voting and election process. He encouraged all to download the Union County Votes mobile application.

Freeholder Mirabella made comments in his support of Union County College and noted the high increase in graduation rate since Dr. McMenamain began her tenure. He stated that he was proud of the work of the administration and faculty.

Vice Chairman Granados made comments relative to the opening of the All Access Fishing Pier in Warinanco Park. He thanked Director Zuber and his staff for their efforts.

Chairman Bergen stated that he strenuously disagreed with Mr. Patterson's comments regarding the Open Space Trust Fund, adding that both the salaries and the loans are a productive use of the funds. He added that the loans allowed the County to purchase properties over the years, noting that if the county waited to collect enough funds through the Trust Fund, those properties would not have still been available for purchase and protection from development. He stated that he too supports the continuation of the Trust Fund.

Chairman Bergen thanked the Krause family for commenting, but offered comments relative to the revised master plan's intention to have separate paths for mountain bikers. He made comments relative to the Watchung Reservation's current active usage, noting that the purpose of the plan is to allow access to all users, and not to the exclusion of anyone. He advised that the Board is moving slowly and deliberately to ensure that all issues are addressed; both safety and environmental. He stated that there would be no desecration of the Watchung Reservation.

Chairman Bergen made comments relative to the new Seniors Focus initiative designed to improve the wellbeing and quality of life of senior adults within their communities, adding that Seniors Focus accomplishes this in the form of \$25,000 grants to municipalities for their capital improvements to their senior centers.

Chairman Bergen made comments relative to the Rahway Football Team's first game under the lights at Rahway River Park. He stated that it was a pleasure to see the whole community of Rahway to come together to enjoy this new public facility.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bergen called for a motion to adjourn.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter, a voice vote showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholder Hudak abstaining. Meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2016 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 3, 2016 at 12:00 pm
Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 14, 2016

February 4, 2016
 February 18, 2016

March 3, 2016
 March 17, 2016

April 7, 2016
 April 21, 2016

May 5, 2016
 May 26, 2016*

June 2, 2016
 June 16, 2016

July 14, 2016

August 11, 2016

September 8, 2016
 September 22, 2016

October 6, 2016
 October 20, 2016

November 10, 2016

December 1, 2016
 December 15, 2016

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 21, 2016

February 11, 2016
 February 18, 2016

March 10, 2016
 March 31, 2016

April 14, 2016
 April 28, 2016

May 12, 2016
 May 26, 2016

June 9, 2016
 June 23, 2016

July 21, 2016

August 18, 2016

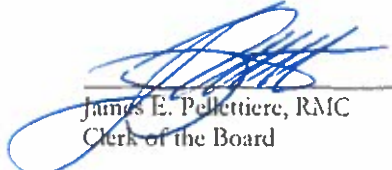
September 15, 2016
 September 29, 2016

October 13, 2016
 October 20, 2016

November 22, 2016 (Tuesday)

December 8, 2016
 December 22, 2016

* As per Resolution Number 2016-372, the May 19, 2016 Agenda Setting Session was rescheduled to be held on May 26, 2016 at 7:00pm.


 James E. Pelletiere, RMC
 Clerk of the Board