

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2011

### Installation and Reorganization Meeting of the 2011 Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders Courtroom of the Honorable Karen M. Cassidy, Assignment Judge Superior Court of the County of Union, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey

The Honorable Karen M. Cassidy, Assignment Judge, Superior Court of the County of Union, called the meeting to order, made welcoming comments and stated that she was happy to be back for the Reorganization Meeting as well as to be swearing in two elected officials. She thanked the Freeholders for all the help and support they have given to the judiciary throughout the past year. She also stated that she looks forward to continuing the good working relationship she has with the Freeholder Board. She asked for a moment of silence to remember those who were slain and injured in the tragic shootings that took place in Tucson, Arizona on Saturday, January 8th. Judge Cassidy then introduced the Mistress of Ceremonies, Charlotte DeFilippo, Chairman of the Democratic Committee of Union County.

The Mistress of Ceremonies, the Honorable Charlotte DeFilippo, Chairman of the Democratic Committee of Union County wished everyone a happy New Year. She stated that usually she will tell a humorous story or anecdote, but in light of the events that took place the day before she will just continue with the program. She did state that the story she was going to tell involved an essay written by her son when he was eight years old. She also stated that she was saddened by how this nation has become so mean-spirited, and that there should be a softer approach to the discourse of politics. She stated that we should comport ourselves on a higher level, and that she pledged that Union County would do the same. She then stated that we should be mindful as citizens to raise the level of discussion to something more than the bestiality that was seen in Tucson.

Chairman DeFilippo called upon Father Donald K. Hummel from St. Agnes Church in Clark to lead the invocation.

The Presentation of the colors was performed by the Union County Sheriff's Honor Guard which was led by the honorable Ralph G. Froehlich, Sheriff of the County of Union.

Union County Surrogate, James LaCorte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Marie Oakie sang our National Anthem, The Star Spangled Banner.

Union County Sheriff Froehlich asked the Honor Guard to post the colors.

The Certifications of Election of Daniel P. Sullivan, Bette Jane Kowalski, and Linda Carter to the Office of Freeholder of the County of Union for a three year term, Joanne Rajoppi, to the Office of Union County Clerk for a five year term, and to Ralph Froehlich as the Union County Sheriff for a three year term were read by Joanne Rajoppi, Union County Clerk. She stated that they received the highest votes at the General Election on November 2, 2010.



#### HONORED GUESTS

Chairman DeFilippo stated that she was very happy to see that so many distinguished elected officials were able to attend.

Chairman DeFilippo then introduced United States Senator Robert Menendez.

Senator Menendez extended congratulations to Chairman DeFilippo on all the wonderful work she has done as chairman of the Union County Democratic Committee. He stated that she is a role model for him as he hopes to use her as a model for his term as Chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

He also congratulated Sheriff Ralph Froehlich and stated that he is the longest serving Sheriff in the history of New Jersey. He also extended congratulations to County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi and stated that she is doing a fantastic job in that position and has won the respect of the people of Union County.

He then directed himself to the Freeholders, stating that this was their day and that they have done great things for Union County and that he hopes they continue creating opportunities and prosperity for the residents of Union County as well as the entire State of New Jersey. He also stated that Union County has one of the most distinguished Freeholder Boards.

He stated that the Freeholders will not only govern, but will also meet the dreams and aspirations of the people they represent.

Senator Menendez mentioned that we should remember Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and those who were slain, especially a Federal judge and a nine year old girl.

He went on to discuss his tax cut program which has helped middle class working families the challenges they have in their daily lives and with business owners to help put people back to work.

Senator Menendez closed his speech by saying that some of the country's and Union County's greatest days were ahead

Chairman DeFilippo introduced Congressman Frank Pallone of the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

Congressman Pallone thanked Chairman DeFilippo for running such a great organization.

Congressman Pallone stated that he remembers going to a Plainfield school on Election Day and seeing Assemblyman Jerry Green and Freeholder-Elect Linda Carter, which is a testament to how hard they work.

Congressman Pallone also mentioned the tragic events that took place in Tucson, Arizona. He stated that Congresswoman Giffords was a friend of his and that she is a very wonderful person. He thanked God that she a had a good chance of surviving this tragedy and recovering. He stated that when the Congresswoman was shot



she was at an event that was aimed at reaching out to the constituency and that they cannot be inhibited from meeting constituents.

He also spoke about the nine year old child that was murdered. He said that she had recently been elected to the student council and was there because she wanted to meet her elected officials.

He also stated that he was glad that discussions on the repeal of the Health Care Bill were postponed and that if anything positive was to come out of this tragedy he hoped that it would be that people think about what they say and how they say it.

Chairman DeFilippo then introduced Congressman Leonard Lance of the 7th Congressional District.

Congressman Lance congratulated the Sheriff Froehlich, Clerk Rajoppi, and the three elected Freeholders. He stated that he hoped they would all continue to work together as they have. He also stated that he represents 16 out of 21 municipalities in Union County.

Congressman Lance stated that governmental service was at the essence of our democracy. He quoted Speaker of the House John Boehner by saying that the acts that took place in Tucson, Arizona were "inhumane and heinous acts."

He stated that all the flags in Washington D.C. were ordered at half-staff in honor of those who lost their lives, most of all for the staff member of Congresswoman Giffords' office who was also killed. He stated that staff members are really at the heart of government. He then asked all the elected officials to join him in applause for all the staff members that were present in the room.

He then stated that he would be updated later via conference call with Congressman Frank Pallone, and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi on the condition of Congresswoman Giffords. He ended his remarks with a quote by Abraham Lincoln, "America is still mankind's last best hope on Earth".

Chairman DeFilippo made special mention of several dignitaries that were present.

The Honorable Raymond J. Lesniak, New Jersey Senator, 20<sup>th</sup> District
The Honorable Annette Quijano, New Jersey Assemblywoman, 20<sup>th</sup> District
The Honorable Joseph Cryan, New Jersey Assemblyman, 20<sup>th</sup> District
The Honorable John Bramnick, New Jersey Assemblyman, 21<sup>st</sup> District
The Honorable Nicholas P. Scutari, New Jersey Senator, 22<sup>nd</sup> District
The Honorable Jerry Green, New Jersey Assemblyman, 22<sup>nd</sup> District
The Honorable Linda Stender, New Jersey Assemblywoman, 22<sup>nd</sup> District
The Honorable M. Teresa Ruiz, New Jersey Senator, 29<sup>th</sup> District
The Honorable Albert Coutinho, New Jersey Assemblyman, 29<sup>th</sup> District
The Honorable James S. LaCorte, Union County Surrogate
The Honorable J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor, City of Elizabeth



#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO UNION COUNTY SHERIFF RALPH G. FROEHLICH

The Honorable Karen M. Cassidy, A.J.S.C., administered the Oath of Office to Union County Sheriff Ralph G. Froehlich.

Holding the Bible was the Sheriff's wife, Marlene Froehlich.

Sheriff Froehlich thanked Judge Cassidy for administering the Oath of Office. Sheriff Froehlich then stated that he had run in 12 General Elections, and 6 Primary Elections, and that he would be currently serving his 12<sup>th</sup> term in office. He stated that when he was younger he had no desire to be involved in politics. He stated that he first got involved with politics when he was 44 years old and was not liked by very many people.

He stated that he did not know how or who to thank for his continued success over the years. He thanked Senator Ray Lesniak; he stated that Senator Lesniak was always willing to guide him, even before he himself was an elected Senator. He also thanked Tommy Deveron, who the Sheriff said was one of the finest men in politics, and who unfortunately is no longer with us. He thanked County Clerk Rajoppi, he stated that they have known and ran together for many years and have a very nice friendship. He stated that these people have prevented him from becoming arrogant.

He also stated that part of his success was that he had the loyalty of his staff, especially the undersheriffs, who were the best at their jobs. He mentioned Undersheriff Vincent Detrolio, Undersheriff Jerry Green, and Undersheriff Joseph Cryan. He also stated that his Sheriff's office was one of the best and most efficiently run in the State.

He said that there were many other people he had to thank, including family, teachers, friends, and especially fellow United States Marines.

He mentioned his father, who worked multiple jobs to support his family, He stated that he never knew his family was poor because there was so much love in their home. He also mentioned his mother, and described her as a true women's libber. He stated that his mother could take control of any situation and still set guidelines for him as a young child. He also mentioned how his grandparents helped make him into the person he is today.

Sheriff Froehlich also thanked those members of his family that were present. He thanked God he has been able to see his family extend.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO UNION COUNTY CLERK JOANNE RAJOPPI

The Honorable Karen M. Cassidy, A.J.S.C, admininstered the Oath of Office to Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi.

Holding the bible were Clerk Rajoppi's sons, Peter-Anthony Pappas and Andrew Pappas.



Clerk Rajoppi thanked Judge Cassidy for swearing her in. She also thanked Chairman DeFilippo for her kind words. She stated that she has known Chairman DeFilippo for many years and she is one of the hardest working women in the Democratic Party. Clerk Rajoppi also stated that it was very nice to have had a woman administer the Oath of Office.

Clerk Rajoppi thanked the people of Union County who re-elected her, and that it was her pleasure to serve the residents. She also thanked her staff, she stated that her staff was at the top of the list when it came to ability, courtesy and hard work, especially her deputy Alan Falcone, and her assistant Donna Konnel, former Deputy David Wright for his Counsel, and her press advisor Frank Capece. She also gave special thanks to Union County Surrogate James LaCorte, and to Assemblyman Joe Cryan.

She thanked her family, especially her two sons, Peter-Anthony, whom she stated, created and manages her Facebook page, and Andrew, whom she thanked for all of his instrumental help throughout the election. She also thanked two members of her extended family, Jacky and Claire, for their support and encouragement and thanked them for their gift of languages, which was very helpful.

She also mentioned the passing of her mother a year and half ago, at the age of 99. She mentioned that she knew that her mother as well as Sheriff Froehlich's mother, Nettie, were there in spirit because she knew that they would not have missed this moment in their children's lives.

She stated that she has run in many elections, with many different running mates. She stated that this year she ran with four very talented individuals.

In closing, she stated that it was an honor to serve as Union County Clerk.

Congressman Donald Payne of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District entered the meeting at this point and made some remarks.

Congressman Payne stated that it was a pleasure to be present at the swearing in ceremony of people who have really gained the respect of the residents of Union County. He mentioned the wonderful job Sheriff Froehlich and Clerk Rajoppi have done for Union County.

Congressman Payne congratulated Freeholders Daniel Sullivan and Bette Jane Kowalski, he also welcomed Freeholder-elect Linda Carter. He also stated that he was a former freeholder and that the job is often underestimated in its importance.

He congratulated the government of Union County for the outstanding services they provide to the residents of Union County, and that he was very proud to represent the County in Congress. He also stated that it was always a pleasure to be in Union County.



#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDER DANIEL P. SULLIVAN

The Honorable J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor of the City of Elizabeth, administered the Oath of Office to Freeholder Daniel P. Sullivan.

Holding the Bible for Freeholder Sullivan were his wife, Connie, and their children, Daniel, Kristen and her husband, William, Brendan, and his wife, Joanna and their son, Sean Thomas.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI

Mr. Robert Renaud, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski.

Holding the Bible was Freeholder Kowalski's father, Edwin Kowalski.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER

The Honorable Joan Robinson Gross, Plainfield Municipal Judge, administered the Oath of Office to Freeholder Linda Carter.

Holding the Bible, was Freeholder Carter's mother, Adele Carter.

#### **(38)**

Chairman Charlotte DeFilippo, Union County Democratic Committee introduced the newly sworn-in Freeholder.

Chairman DeFilippo stated that when they began looking for Freeholder candidates she was one of the first names mentioned as a candidate for Office. She also stated that Freeholder Carter was very willing to be at events and reach out to the community.

Freeholder Linda Carter addressed the public.

Freeholder Carter thanked Judge Gross, who has administered all her Oaths of Office since her election to Plainfield City Council in 2004.

She stated that she was humbled to be in the presence of such distinguished dignitaries and was looking forward to working with all of them. She thanked God for blessing her with an amazing family, friends, and sorority sisters who have supported her throughout her journey of life. She also expressed gratitude to Chairman DeFilippo for her support and trust.

She thanked all the individuals that helped to get her elected as Freeholder. She also thanked the citizens of Plainfield for their continued support. She also thanked her colleagues with whom she has served on the Plainfield City Council.



She expressed her admiration to her running mates and stated that she looked forward to working with all of them to continue to strive toward making Union County the best County in New Jersey.

Freeholder Carter ended her remarks with a quote by Shirley Chisholm, "service is the price we pay for living on this earth."

Mistress of Ceremonies Charlotte DeFilippo turned the meeting over to Nicole L. DiRado, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Roll call showed nine Members of the Board were present.

The Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by the Clerk of the Board

#### ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2011 UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

The first order of business was the election of a Chairman Pro-Tem. The Clerk called for nominations for a Chairman Pro-Tem to conduct the election of a Chairman.

Freeholder Jalloh nominated Freeholder Kowalski for Chairman Pro-Tem. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Carter. Roll call showed nine Members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

Chairman Pro-Tem Kowalski called for nominations of Chairman of the Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2011. Freeholder Sullivan nominated Freeholder Scanlon for Chairman of the Board. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Mirabella. Roll call showed nine Members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

#### **(385)**

The Honorable Joseph Cryan, New Jersey Assemblyman, 20th District, administered the Oath of Office to Chairman Deborah P. Scanlon.

Holding the Bible, were, Pat, the Chairman's husband, her daughter, Lisa, son, Patrick, and her grandchildren, Casey, Alyssa, Jason, Jack, and Patrick V

#### ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2011 UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

The next order of business was the election of a Vice Chairman for the Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2011. Chairman Scanlon nominated Freeholder Mirabella for Vice-Chairman of the Board. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Kowalski. Roll call showed nine Members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

#### (380)

The Honorable Raymond Lesniak, New Jersey Senator, 20<sup>th</sup> District, administered the Oath of Office to Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella.



Holding the Bible were his wife, Phyllis, and their children, Alexander & Micayla.

#### ANNUAL MESSAGE

Reverend Clergy, Judge Cassidy, members of the Freeholder Board, elected officials, friends, family and citizens of Union County: thank you for joining me as we welcome another New Year.

The nation was shocked and horrified yesterday by the event in Arizona. I would like to observe a moment of silence for the dead, the wounded, Congresswoman Giffords and the late Judge Roll. May we keep them all, and their families in our prayers.

I am honored that my colleagues have selected me as Chairman this year. I look forward to continuing to work with this board in improving the lives of our residents.

I am also grateful to have Al Mirabella as our Vice Chair. He has distinguished himself as a man of great integrity and leadership.

Congratulations to Ralph Froehlich---America's sheriff---County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, and my colleagues Dan Sullivan, Bette Jane Kowalski and Linda Carter for winning their elections. And a special welcome to our newest members—Freeholders Linda Carter and Chris Hudak.

We are excited to have you aboard, and look forward to your participation.

Thank you to Dan Sullivan for serving as chairman last year. Dan showed his leadership in seeing Union County through to the beginning of an economic recovery. It was an honor to serve as his Vice-Chairman. I am reminded of what the famous actor Gregory Peck once said, "Tough times don't last, but tough people do."

I would like to give special thanks to a few people, especially, Nicole DiRado, who is Clerk of the Freeholder Board. She has recently been re-appointed and is a top notch clerk. Also thanks to Chairman Charlotte DeFilippo, my Municipal Chairman, Joe Cryan, County Manager George Devanney, and Deputy County Manager Liz Genievich. We are a team, and we work well together to make Union County the best it can be.

I would like to thank my husband Patrick and our children, Tammie, Lisa, and Patrick for their continued love and support; and our eight grand children for being the best!

I am clearly family oriented, and for many, our family and children remain a foundation of support.

This year, as part of our right priorities, I am announcing a set of five initiatives that focus on families and children. We will continue to build on the foundation for economic growth that Freeholder Sullivan set in place. We will implement new shared service and environmental initiatives. All of my initiatives will be done at little expense to taxpayers.



My first two initiatives acknowledge that eight million children remain uninsured in America today, and are in need of vital health services.

First, building on the success of the child immunization clinic in Elizabeth, we will open a new facility in Plainfield to better serve children in the western end of the County. We will open the children's immunization clinic in the County's Park Madison building, using existing resources. This will create a one-stop location for children's services.

Second, childhood obesity has become a very serious national issue that affects children and adolescents. It is particularly troubling because children are starting on the path to health problems that were once confined to adults, such as diabetes, high blood pressure and psychological issues.

Working with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County and their "get moving, get healthy" program, we will develop a targeted childhood obesity program that we can carry into the schools and to PTAs in Union County.

My third initiative for children and families deals with internet safety, texting and cyber bullying. The internet and modern technology have changed the landscape of parenting. On a regular basis, we witness the horror stories that result from cyber bullying and from the contact our children have made with others through the web, and cell phones.

The Union County Prosecutor's Office has been proactive with an initiative that conducts outreach through the High Tech Task Force. Sergeant Michael Hoose, who is a recognized authority on this issue, visits dozens of schools each year making presentations.

This year, we will work in partnership with the Union County Prosecutor's Office to develop a DVD of this presentation that can be made available to the public.

Speaking of protecting our children, we must continue our work in assisting youth who are at risk. This past year, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders partnered with the New Jersey Superior Court to introduce Christopher's Program, an intensive effort to help prevent gang violence. The program was created and spearheaded by Freeholder Nancy Ward and won an award for its effectiveness.

As my fourth initiative for children and families, we will create an Advisory Board for the Prevention of Youth Violence to oversee, implement and sustain Christopher's Program. The Board will consist of stakeholders involved with youth in our communities.

Among its functions, the advisory board will work to develop delinquency prevention plans, assess programs and identify resources. It will report back to the board with the goal of furthering the reduction of delinquency and youth gang involvement.

My final initiative for children and families creates a pilot program that would enable high school students to see real-world applications of their studies in County Government.

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For example, we would offer students in environmental classes the opportunity to experience our leaf composting program. We could offer sociology and gerontology classes the opportunity to observe caring at Runnells Hospital.

Besides assisting families, having the right priorities means controlling spending, creating jobs, providing \$276 million in tax relief, and sharing services.

It also means creating new revenue sources. And it means keeping our 2011 budget within the two percent cap—which I am pleased to announce that we will accomplish.

Having a Union County "toolkit" in place long before it became fashionable in Trenton helped. We took a number of steps that have saved us approximately \$7.7 million in the past few years. These savings will continue this year as well.

We began by freezing wages. All elected officials and many non-contractual employees have had their wages frozen for more than two years—saving approximately \$2.3 million during that period.

Eight public employee unions had their wages frozen in 2010 and three—including CWA--will have their wages frozen in 2011. County Police and Corrections Officers accepted a zero percent raise this past year, as well as Council 8 (the largest County union).

Trenton is also talking about having employees contribute more to their benefit plan, capping sick time, and vacation time. We've already done all that.

We began having employees contribute more to their benefits package about ten years ago—and it's saving us a million a year. In fact, 14 unions recently agreed to increase contributions to their prescription drug plans.

Some of the highlights of the Union County "toolkit" include:

- Annualized savings of \$4.7 million achieved through vacancy, retiree position eliminations, and layoffs in 2009.
- ➤ We took advantage of low interest rates. Refinancing of \$77.4 million in debt in 2009 that will save a total of \$4 million.
- ➤ The implementation of a fiscal turnaround plan for our golf operations following a 2008 season in which we incurred a loss of \$650,000. This past year, we made nearly a \$1 million turnaround---over a \$250,000 profit.
- All the above accomplishments and more led to the stabilization of our budget and the building of our reserve to \$28 million. Our County's bond rating has once again been affirmed as triple "A" by Moody's and Fitch. Both ratings are the highest attainable.

In contrast, our critics took extreme positions and proposed cuts that would have created mass layoffs, hurting government services. They never mentioned any ideas about how to create jobs in Union County. You know, it's easy to be critical. The real test is to come up with constructive alternatives.

We started last year off with a constructive alternative---our tax relief announcement that literally turns trash into cash. I am referring to Freeholder Sullivan's announcement of the long-term \$276 million tax relief plan for



Union County. The plan, which is unique to Union County, cuts waste disposal costs for all and shares the revenues with municipalities.

Participating towns will realize 12-14 dollars a ton in savings, just for continuing in the plan. All others will realize savings from a reduction in tipping fees from \$64 per ton to \$61 a ton. Participating municipalities like Elizabeth save \$700,000, Union saves \$300,000, Plainfield saves \$250,000 and Summit saves \$100,000.

It was all done by extending a lease and refinancing. Nothing else!

I am pleased to announce that we are moving forward on "Go Green" environmental initiatives with a new recycling endeavor, including the installation of new solar panels throughout the County, and a \$4.9 million "green jobs" grant to retrain workers.

In our effort to help municipalities augment their recycling programs, we will present Recycling Enhancement grants to all 21 municipalities. Increasing a town's recycling rate will not only help Union County maintain its' 50% recycling rate, but will help it to reach a 60% recycling goal.

Having the right priorities for Union County also means sparking economic development, creating hundreds of jobs.

We've done so by initiating projects such as the new Union County College School for Nursing, and the new Elizabeth parking deck and commercial building, which by the way, is under way and under budget.

Recently, we announced that we would work with the City of Elizabeth to retain Wakefern, one of the County's largest employers, which threatened to leave.

We responded with \$44 million in Federal stimulus bonds that will enable Wakefern not only to stay, but expand and create new jobs. \$25 million of that came from money the state wasn't using.

The Federal Stimulus program, while opposed by critics, assisted Union County greatly.

We worked to create more jobs through the acquisition and distribution of \$23 million in Federal Stimulus funds that are being used to:

- repave miles of roadway and fix bridges;
- provide thousands of meals for the elderly;
- Provide job training for County residents;
- Provide affordable housing for displaced families.

Over the past five years, there has been much talk about governmental consolidation and sharing services. New Jersey has 566 municipalities, and 621 school districts. County Governments are well positioned to become centers for sharing services.

Again, we've been ahead of the curve. Union County is now a state leader in shared services.



Here are two highlights:

- Fanwood Dispatch---earlier this year, we announced emergency dispatch services to the Borough of Fanwood, saving residents almost a quarter million dollars over a three-year period. Fanwood dispatch went "live" in September and the transition has been successful.
- EMS---through our talks with municipalities, we've identified an urgent need to provide umbrella coverage during times of shortages. In April, Union County will launch a pilot ambulance service to help local squads respond to emergencies on weekdays when volunteer levels are low.

Given the new 2% tax cap requirement for every municipality, we need to continue to investigate opportunities which will allow us to reduce costs while maintaining services. This is why this week I am sending an invitation to every local elected official in the County to attend a summit on Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> designed to explore new areas of shared services.

The purpose of the summit will be two fold. First, to identify areas of immediate need and potential savings in our municipalities. Second, to establish the Union County Shared Services Coalition which will meet throughout the year to plan long term shared service initiatives.

There are many variations of shared services. Having the right priorities means exploring all possible options for reducing costs and improving services. I urge all Union County representatives to join me at this meeting and join this new coalition.

I've spoken a lot about the nuts and bolts of County Government policy. Now I will talk about our approach to quality of life that provides balance in Union County.

We've maintained programs such as our Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, which helps provide balance. This program has preserved more than 316 acres of green space in one of the nation's most densely populated counties.

Over the past few years, we've also opened new parks in Berkeley Heights and Clark funded through the Trust Fund. We paid for the renovation of dozens of athletic fields and assisted hundreds of children with athletic scholarships and equipment.

We maintained our popular Summer Arts Program that includes free movies in the parks, and free summer concerts. We've maintained events such as Rhythm and Blues By The Brook in Plainfield, and MusicFest in Clark.

MusicFest has evolved into Union County's version of the County Fair showcasing many local businesses, artists, and bands, rides and entertainment for children.

Over and over again, the people who attend these events tell us how much they enjoy them and ask us to keep them going.

In closing, the past few years have been a trying time for our nation.



We believe the right priorities have set Union County on a path to long-term recovery. Now is the time to press forward with bold and innovative leadership that improves our economic condition and quality of life.

As President Harry Truman said: we "make history and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

In Union County, we're doing just that.

I thank you and wish you all a successful and prosperous New Year.

#### PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- A gift presentation to Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, Clerk Joanne Rajoppi and Freeholders Daniel P. Sullivan, Bette Jane Kowalski and Linda Carter was made by Nicholas Fixmer, Executive Director of the Union County Democratic Committee.
- Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, former President of the Union County Women's Political Caucus and Lenore Scurry, President of the Union County Women's Political Caucus, made a gift presentation to Freeholders Daniel P. Sullivan, Bette Jane Kowalski and Linda Carter and Chairman Deborah P. Scanlon on behalf of the Union County Women's Political Caucus. County Clerk Rajoppi stated that the Women's Political Caucus of Union County is a multi-partisan group, which supports women who are appointed to elected offices. President Scurry, also presented a gift to County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi.
- Dawn Armstrong, President of the Plainfield Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated presented a gift to Freeholder Linda Carter
- The Honorable Colleen Mahr, Mayor of the Borough of Fanwood and Chairwoman of the Fanwood Democratic Committee, made a gift presentation to Freeholder Alexander Mirabella. Mayor Mahr stated that she has witnessed how Vice Chairman Mirabella and his wife is dedicated to the community and has passed that down to his children.
- The Honorable Joseph Cryan, Chairman of Union Township Democratic Committee, made a gift presentation to Chairman Deborah P. Scanlon. Chairman Cryan stated that he was very proud of Chairman Scanlon and that she and her husband were always accessible to the community.
- The Honorable William Malone, Chairman of the Elizabeth Democratic Committee, made a gift presentation to Freeholder Daniel P. Sullivan. Chairman Mallone congratulated Freeholder Sullivan and stated that he has done a wonderful job as a Freeholder for Union County.



- The Honorable Carolyn Vollero, Chairwoman of the Cranford Democratic Committee, made a gift presentation to Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski. Chairwoman Vollero stated that she was honored to give this gift to such a dedicated and committed Freeholder, and that they were extremely proud of all of her accomplishments. Freeholder Kowalski, thanked everyone who worked on the campaign, and all of her running mates. She also stated that the Board was going to work hard to achieve positive outcomes. She also thanked Chairman DeFilippo and County Manager Devanney.
- The Honorable Jerry Green, Chairman of the Plainfield Democratic Municipal Committee made a gift presentation to Freeholder Linda Carter. Chairman Green stated that Freeholder Carter is a very intelligent woman, and who represents the City of Plainfield positively

#### BENEDICTION

Pastor Kelmo C. Porter, Jr., St. John's Baptist Church, Scotch Plains, led the Benediction.

Pastor Porter acknowledged that it has been a pleasure to lead the Benediction along with Father Hummel for the last twenty years. Pastor Porter also acknowledged Vice Chairman Mirabella and his wife Phyllis, who are always present at St. John's Baptist Church when he requested they be there.

#### RECESS

There was a ten minute recess.

# REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2011

Chairman Deborah P. Scanlon presided. Roll call showed Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella, Freeholder Linda Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Daniel P. Sullivan, and Freeholder Nancy Ward were present.

Also present were County Manager George W. Devanney, County Counsel Robert E. Barry, Esq. and Clerk of the Board Nicole L. DiRado

The Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by the Clerk of the Board

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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



Bruce Patterson, Garwood, congratulated the Freeholders on their election victories. Mr. Patterson then commented on Resolution 2011-19 and remarked that there was a large amount of money being allocated to that vendor. He also remarked on resolution 2011-25, which he stated was another large amount of money being allocated to a vendor for a job that should be done in-house. Mr. Patterson then remarked about resolution 2011-26, and remarked on the timing of delivery of the Union County Directions Newletter

#### RESOLUTIONS

Chairman Scanlon called for a motion to adopt Resolutions 2011-1 through 2011-44

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR ADOPTION:

**2011-1 CHAIRMAN SCANLON**, adopting the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure for the year 2011.

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

**2011-2 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** adopting the Temporary Budget for the year 2011.

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

**2011-3 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** approving the Temporary Debt Services for the year 2011.

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

**2011-4 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** establishing certain change funds for the year 2011.

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

**2011-5 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** designating depositories wherein all public monies and funds of the County of Union shall be kept for the year 2011.

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

**2011-6 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** authorizing certain signatures for checks, wire transfers and other disbursements of the County of Union for the year 2011.

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



**2011-7 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** establishing certain petty cash funds for the year 2011.

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

**2011-8 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** adopting the Freeholder Standing Committee Assignments for the year 2011.

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

**2011-9 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** appointing Members of the Freeholder Board as liaisons to various advisory boards.

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

**2011-10 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** adopting the meeting schedule for the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2011.

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

2011-11 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, designating the Star Ledger, Courier News, The Home News Tribune, Gannett NJ Newspapers, El Especialito, La Voz, Luso Americano, NJN Publishing, Vistaso Hispano, Suburban News, the Trenton Times, Union County Local Source, USA Distributors, the Westfield Leader and Worall Newspapers as the newspapers to receive legal notices for the year 2011.

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

2011-12 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, awarding a contract to Suplee, Clooney & Company, Westfield, New Jersey, to provide statutory audits of accounts of the County of Union and its agencies from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

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

2011-13 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, awarding a contract to Rogut McCarthy, LLC, Cranford, New Jersey to provide specialized counsel services in connection with the issuance of bonds or notes by the County of Union from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

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

**2011-14 CHAIRMAN SCANLON**, approving a list of pre-qualified financial advisors for the year 2011.

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

2011-15 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, amending Resolution Number 2010-327, a contract with CBIZ Valuation Group, LLC, Germantown, Wisconsin, to increase the contract in the amount of \$16,500 for additional services rendered for a new contract amount of \$48,300.

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

**CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** appointing **Manuel R. Grova, Jr., Esq.** as Special Counsel for the County of Union Planning Board for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and terminating on December 31, 2011, at an annual salary of \$27,500.

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

**2011-17 CHAIRMAN SCANLON**, amending Resolution Number 2010-1094 to amend the list of pre-qualified law firms to provide legal representation to the County in relation to labor negotiation and personnel matters.

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

2011-18 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, awarding a contract to Bauch, Zucker, Hatfield, Springfield, New Jersey to serve as labor and personnel counsel from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

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

2011-19 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, awarding a contract to DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, & Cole, Teaneck, New Jersey to serve as personnel counsel from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

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



2011-20 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, awarding a contract to Ruderman and Glickman, Springfield, New Jersey to serve as personnel counsel from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

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

2011-21 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, awarding a contract to Roth D'Aquanni, Springfield, New Jersey to serve as personnel counsel from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

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

**2011-22 CHAIRMAN SCANLON**, approving a list of pre-qualified firms for the provision of paid communication services.

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

2011-23 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Strategic Media Group, Jersey City, New Jersey to provide paid communication services in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

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

**2011-24 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** approving a list of pre-qualified firms to provide comprehensive grant writing and procurement consulting services.

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

2011-25 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Winning Strategies Washington / Hoboken Strategy Group, Washington, DC, to provide services for comprehensive federal government relations / lobbying services for the contract period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in an amount of \$150,000.

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

2011-26 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to the Union County Alliance, Rahway, New Jersey for the purpose of providing comprehensive research and Minutes of The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders Installation & Reorganization Meeting – January 9, 2011 - Page 18 of 24



communication services for the contract period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in the amount of \$322,125.

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

2011-27 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, designating the following as representatives to the New Jersey Association of Counties for the term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2011: Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Delegate; Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Alternate; and County Manager George W. Devanney, Second Alternate.

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

2011-28 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, designating the following as representatives to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority for the term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2011: Freeholder Daniel P. Sullivan, Delegate and Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Alternate.

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

**2011-29 CHAIRMAN SCANLON,** designating **Freeholder Angel G. Estrada** as the Union County Delegate to **Meadowlinks** from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

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

2011-30 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following to the Construction Board of Appeals for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2014: Frank Vulturo, Construction Code Official (Alternate); and Edward Huey, Plumbing Sub-Code Official (Alternate).

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

2011-31 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following to the Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2013: Richard Samuel, Barbara Jude Brady and Susan Albert.

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

2011-32 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following members to the Advisory Board on the Status of Minorities for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2013: Bertha Little Matthews and Julian Buitrago.

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

2011-33 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following members to the Commission on the Status of Women in Union County for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2013: Shirley Cathie, Donna Dolce, Angela Garretson, Fanny Jaramillo, Hilda Juda, Theodora Kulish and Catherine Melchione.

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

CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following members to the Emergency Management Council effective January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011: George W. Devanney, County Manager; Ralph Froehlich, Union County Sheriff; Theodore Romankow, Union County Prosecutor; Andrew Moran, Director, Department of Public Safety; Christopher Scaturo, OEM Coordinator; Chief Daniel Vaniska, Union County Police Department; Lathey Wirkus, Fire Coordinator; Gareth Williams, EMS Coordinator; Joseph Graziano, Jr., Director, Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities; Lester Jones, Union County Health Officer; Sebastian D'Elia, Public Information Officer; and Russell Hendrickson, Salvation Army.

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

2011-35 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following members to the Union County Fire Services Advisory Board commencing January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011: Chris Scaturo, OEM Director; Deputy Chief Lathey Wirkus, UC Fire Coordinator; Battalion Chief Robert Cowan, UC Fire Training Committee Chairman; William Kane, UC Hazmat; Tom McNamara, Acting Chief of City of Elizabeth Fire Department; Chief Fred Fretz, Chief of the Union Twp. Fire Department; Anthony Padavano, UC Volunteer Fire Chief; Joseph Houck, UC Career Fire Chief; Paul Modrak, Dean of the Union County Fire Academy; Kristen Von St. Paul, OEM Secretary for the UC Fire Academy; Capt. Gary Steitz, Representative of UC Arson Unit; Joseph Moschello, Representative from Fire Prevention. Chief Dan Kelly, Union County Fire Chiefs' Association President.

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

2011-36 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following as members to the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Public Advisory Committee for a term commencing January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013: Peter Corvelli, Jr.; Arthur Kotitz; Anthony Terrezza, Elected Democratic Official; and John Kulish, Elected Republican Official;



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

2011-37 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following member to the Runnells Specialized Hospital Advisory Board for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2013: Dr. Michele Bitritto.

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

2011-38 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following members to the Motion Picture and Television Advisory Board for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2013: Richard Samiec and Hasmulel Patel.

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

2011-39 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following member to Union County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for a term commencing January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013: Allen Barkin.

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

2011-40 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following members to the Union County Improvement Authority for a term commencing February 1, 2011 through January 31, 2016: John Salerno and Linda Hines.

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

2011-41 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, appointing the following member to the Union County Planning Board for a term commencing January 1, 2011 and expiring December 31, 2013: Sean L. Wright.

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

2011-42 CHAIRMAN SCANLON, creating the Advisory Board for the Prevention of Youth Violence to oversee, implement and sustain Christopher's Program based on local needs and community assessments, utilizing preventions strategies for at-risk children and their families and gang / youth violence.

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



The following Resolutions are Laudatory in content:

2011-43 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND THE ENTIRE BOARD, acknowledging Monday, January 17, 2011 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Union County in memory and recognition of his outstanding contributions to the welfare of mankind.

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

2011-44 CHAIRMAN SCANLON AND THE ENTIRE BOARD, congratulating Antoinette Larussi Ziolkowski on the celebration of her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

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

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

There were no comments.

#### FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

There were no comments

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Scanlon called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative



#### Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders' 2011 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 9, 2011 at 12:00pm Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

AGENDA SETTING MEETINGS	REGULAR MEETINGS
January 20, 2011	January 27, 2011
February 3, 2011	February 10, 2011
February 17, 2011	February 24, 2011
March 10, 2011	March 17, 2011
March 24, 2011	March 31, 2011
April 7, 2011	April 14, 2011
April 21, 2011	April 28, 2011
May 5, 2011	May 12, 2011
May 19, 2011	May 19, 2011
June 9, 2011	June 9, 2011
June 23, 2011	June 23, 2011
July 21, 2011	July 28, 2011
August 11, 2011	August 25, 2011
September 8, 2011	September 15, 2011
September 22, 2011	Tues. September 27, 2011
October 6, 2011	October 13, 2011
October 20, 2011	October 20, 2011
November 10, 2011	November 10, 2011



December 1, 2011 December 15, 2011

# UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

December 1, 2011 December 15, 2011

Nicole L. DiRado, CMC, MPA Clerk of the Board