



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Mohamed S. Jalloh presided and called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Roll call showed Vice Chairman Bruce Bergen, Freeholder Linda Carter, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Sergio Granados, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella and Freeholder Vernell Wright were in attendance.

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

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

ADOPTION OF THE COLA / CAP BANK RESOLUTION

The meeting is open to the public for the purposes of commenting on Resolution Number 2015-442 only.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood, asked if these are two separate CAPs. He asked for an explanation of "exceed the tax levy limit." He urged the Board to vote no on the Cap bank. He claims there was money buried in the budget from the sale of Runnels. Vote no on both parts.

Director Taylor stated that it is a proforma Resolution before you provide all public entities in the State of New Jersey by the Division of Local Government Services. She stated that the Resolution is specific to the 1977 CAP. She said as previously stated there are two CAPs, one is the 1977 CAP and the other is the 2010 CAP. We have to use the more restrictive of the Cap and the budget has to be within those 2 CAPs. The Resolution based upon the 1977 Cap does not utilize the excess amount authorized so as a result it establishes as a Cap bank that can be used for the next 3 consecutive budget years, if needed. It only provides maximum flexibility, it does not necessarily add to the budget. It is only for future use.

Director Taylor stated that in reference to the sale of Runnells Hospital, the proceeds is not in the budget, the only amount in the budget deals with the \$1.5 million grant that will go back to the municipalities to reinvest in their infrastructure and \$488,000 is required by law to pay off debt service. The balance is reserved in our AFS (Annual Financial Statement) which can only be approved by the Board and inserted into the budget.

John Bury, Kenilworth, stated the 1977 CAP maximum of \$335,283,323.32 was raised by taxations. He asked if it means if the County cannot legally spend any more than that amount. He asked if this amount is the absolute maximum.

Director Taylor stated that in prior years they had a Cap Bank under the 2010 Cap Bank Resolution and one under the 1977. The amount authorized under the 1977 Cap Bank, the excess was not anticipated in this budget. She said if we needed we could have utilized Cap Bank from the 2010 CAP that we did not need, but we had Cap Bank from prior years that we did not include. She said it is not necessarily the maximum at this time.

Freeholder Hudak stated following the Fiscal Committee's review, we are now set tonight for a final vote on the 2015 budget. She said as she previously stated throughout this process, the state of this year's budget is a reflection of the continued strength in Union County's economy and this Freeholder Board's success in setting goals, and continuing progress on a variety of important issues.

Freeholder Hudak stated that since the County Manager presented his executive budget (in February), the Fiscal Committee was able to reduce the tax levy by an additional \$820,000. He said it was done without any loss of jobs or impact to our services and it also maintains the safety net for the most vulnerable among us, and provides for funding where there have been state and federal aid cuts. The overall result is a tax increase of just 2.51 percent, the lowest in a decade. (Average tax increase is \$52) The County's bond rating remains one of the highest attainable at Aa1. He said a recent report from Moody's credit rating agency cited this strength, while also removing the negative outlook from our bond ratings. He added that over the past several years, they have been able to boost the surplus by 71 percent, which the ratings agencies have taken note of.

Freeholder Hudak stated that with regard to the Infrastructure grant opportunity, it was announced in April, that 21 municipalities have now applied to fund over 40 projects through this program, and through this initiative, a total of \$1.5 million will be made available to assist our municipalities to accomplish tasks undertaken in the calendar year 2015. He stated that funding will be provided through the proceeds from the sale of Runnells Specialized Hospital and the goal will be to stimulate the development of local public projects of economic, social, and also governmental importance to local municipalities. Freeholder Hudak stated that the Department of Economic Development will now begin the process of vetting these projects with the goal of announcing the award information within the next 30 days so work can begin.

Freeholder Hudak said that they have emphasized repeatedly, the budget is now a year-round process as they continue to examine all avenues for efficiencies. He thanked the members of the Fiscal Committee, Freeholders Mirabella, Estrada, and Granados and also thanked County Manager Al Faella, Deputy County Manager Bill Reyes, Chief of Staff Vikki Drake, and our department heads, Finance Director Bibi Taylor and her staff for their outstanding effort on this year's budget.

2015-442 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Resolution to exceed the County tax levy limit and to establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.14).

On a motion made by Freeholder Kowalski and seconded by Freeholder Hudak roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Ellen Dixon, Mayor of Summit, stated that Summit has a lease from Union County which is 55 acres, a 99 year lease for a transfer station requesting permission to have a party at the dump for recycling. She said the fund raising event will be held on June 14, 2015 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. She stated that she has worked very closely with Betty Kelly and Vikki Drake with reference to Resolution Number 2015-471.

Assemblywoman Annette Quiano thanked the Board for introducing the Bill to make sure that people on the road are tested, licensed, insured, and are driving in cars that are registered and have insurance. She said Union County is the first County in the state to support the Bill and about eight municipalities has also passed Resolutions backing the measure. She said the Bill is modeled after a California law referring to Resolution Number 2015-475.

Pat Mochetti, New Providence made comments to the following Resolutions: 2015-445 internal position controls; 2015-450, he asked how the system is monitored and who is considered disadvantaged; 2015-458, he asked why so many special counsels are needed; 2015-466, he asked if there is a discrepancy in the amount and he also asked about the two locations that will be added; and 2015-473, he asked for the legal expenses.

Director Guzzo stated the monitoring provides services for 16 through 60 years of age referring to Resolution Number 2015-450.

County Counsel Barry stated it is not uncommon for extensive ongoing litigation to be six months referring to Resolution Number 2015-458; and there is no outside legal expenses referring to Resolution Number 2015-573.

Deputy County Manager/Director Reyes stated the amount of \$196,241.25 is correct and Union and Rahway is the location that Resolution Number 2015-466 refers to.

Jeff Freeman, Garwood, asked for an explanation of Resolution Number 2015-443.

Chief of Staff Vikki Drake stated this is something that is procedural through Green Acres which is part of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection that certifies the County's inventory of open space referring to Resolution Number 2015-443.

Irwin Turnel, Plainfield, asked which agencies are going to be involved, what are the changes, he asked if criteria in the future can educate my families and if there are going to be new procedures in place; and which agencies are going to be involved referring to Resolution Number 2015-475.

County Counsel Barry stated it does not impact existing citizens who are undocumented to obtain driver's licenses, insurance or registration to utilize motor vehicle agencies of the State of New Jersey.

Pastor Ramon Collazo, of the Santa Isabel Lutheran Church in Elizabeth, spoke in support of the measure of Resolution 2015-475. He stated that it would benefit immigrants and citizens. They will be able to drive their children to school, and go to grocery stores as they live in fear of being stopped and not having a license.

(inaudible) Plainfield Territory, asked for an explanation of an undocumented citizen, relative to 2015-475.

Matia Jiminez spoke in favor of Resolution Number 2015-475. She asked the Board to support the Resolution so that she could provide her children with transportation to school.

Greg Robert, Elizabeth, stated that he is opposed to undocumented residents having driver's licenses in relative to Resolution Number 2015-475.

Chairman Jalloh stated he supports Assemblyman Cryan and Assemblywoman Quijano's Bill. He added that there are other states that already have this policy in place. He stated that Jersey City supported the Bill the night before at their meeting, but there is no procedure in place. He added that Union County would be the first County to actually support it.

Nuno Periera, Hillside, stated he commends the previous speaker and he is also in support of Resolution 2015-475.

John Bury, Kenilworth, made comments to the following Resolutions: 2015-459 he asked if Dr. Lanza is a County employee or if this for his private practice; 2015-460 asking for the difference in last year's amount; 2015-464 he asked for an explanation; and 2015-444, he asked if taxes are increased using the entire Cap and how much could it be increased to and how much would it be increased by.

Director Albert stated that Resolution Numbers 2015-459 through 460 are renewals at approximately the same amount and 2015-459 does not cover Dr. Lanza. There is a new policy that will cover all claims.

Director Taylor stated that the levy is up to \$1.55 million under the 1977 Cap allowed and \$4.6 million and they are below both. Number 2015-444.

Linda Flores, Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, thanked the Board for the contract and their support for the homeless on building a stronger network.

Jan Levin, Director of YWCA, commended the Board for supporting their agency.

Debbie Anderson, United Way, thanked the Board for supporting the organization. She stated that 1 in 5 people are homeless in Union County and this will help them with a better life.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood, made comments referring to Resolutions 2015-475, stating that the word "concept" was left out. He said he appreciates Assemblywoman's explanation regarding the Bill for undocumented residents. He spoke about the salary increases and decreases of each department and the dollars from the sale of Runnells is not visible.

Chairman Jalloh stated as a public defender, he believes there is a serious issue of people driving without insurance. He said a Bill passed by the State would increase people having car insurance and 5 to 11 million dollars will be generated to the State for licenses.

Chairman Jalloh said that in reference to the budget, he stated that \$1.5 million dollars will be going towards the infrastructure grant for municipalities instead of including it in the budget. He said those dollars have been set aside and it is viewable and visible for the people to see. He added the County has seen the lowest tax levy in 15 years.

Sid Blanchard, Elizabeth, commended the Board for the Resolution to encourage the State Legislative body. He thanked the Board for giving back value to the lives of the citizens in the County and commended the Board for making tough decisions. He also thanked County Manager Faella.

Louie Veja, Elizabeth, stated that when he had a driver's license he felt like an American citizen; he had new car with full coverage, paid high taxes, had good earnings. He said he used to drive people around, was a salesman and is now a day laborer at an employment agency. He said he felt like his wings were cut slowly. He said a salesman without a car is like an eagle without wings. He said the Board's vote is very important and will help New Jersey in many forms, fewer risky drivers without licenses and less without insurance. He added the economy will grow.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption: 2015-459

- 2015-443 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to certify to the updated Recreation and Open Space Inventory and to further authorize the County Manager to execute with regard to the certification of the update of the Recreation and Open Space Inventory.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-444 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Adopting the 2015 County of Union Budget as Amended.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-445 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizes the County Manager to adjust and/or change the Internal Position Control Schedules.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-446 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Sponsorship Agreement with the non-profit organization, Peruvians for Progress, Elizabeth, NJ for the purpose of sharing and celebrating the Peruvian heritage, and bringing awareness of the Peruvian culture and traditions. This sponsorship is in the amount of \$3,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-447 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Sponsorship Agreement with The Elizabeth African American Heritage Day Parade Committee, a non-profit organization, for the purposes of sharing and promoting pride and cultural awareness of the traditions and heritage. This sponsorship is in the amount of \$4,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-448 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Sponsorship Agreement with Melly Mel Productions, Inc., Elizabeth, NJ to support the non-profit event entitled the Elizabeth Latin Waterfront Festival. This sponsorship celebrates Hispanic Heritage and is in the amount of \$5,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-449 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Sponsorship Agreement with the 2015 Portugal Day Committee, Elizabeth, NJ, a non-profit organization in the amount of \$4,000.00. This sponsorship will assist in promoting and celebrating the culture and heritage of the Portuguese community.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 8 members of the Board voted in the affirmative with Freeholder Granados abstaining.

- 2015-450 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with NJ Transit to secure funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 in the amount of \$896,554, received through the Casino Tax Revenue, Senior Citizens and Disabled Residents Transportation Assistance Program (SCDRTAP) Grant for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, for the provision of curb-to-curb transportation for seniors age sixty and older, persons with disabilities and/or economically disadvantaged residents of Union County to medical, education, employment, nutrition, shopping and recreational facilities.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-451 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with NJ TRANSIT to secure DHS/TIF SFY 2015 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Operating funding in the amount of \$70,000 with a 100% County match of \$70,000 for a total of \$140,000 for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 for inclusion in NJ Transit's Consolidated Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Grant Application, submitted to the NJ JARC state funded program as the successor to the former federally funded JARC program.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-452 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Appointing Dana Farrell-Famiglietti as a member to the Advisory Council on Aging for a term commencing January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-453 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to authorize the purchase of computer software from SHI of Somerset, New Jersey using the pricing of state contract #77560 in an amount of \$91,000 for the Office of the Union County Prosecutor.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-454 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to purchase forensic software & hardware system from Cellebrite USA, Inc., Parsippany, NJ, in an amount not to exceed \$19,669.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-455 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to enter into a contract with Porter Lee Corporation, Schaumburg, Illinois, for the purpose of providing annual support services and supplies for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-456 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager through the Office of the Union County Prosecutor to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth, New Jersey to provide individual therapy sessions to victims of sexual assault for the period of January 1 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. (Grant Funded)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-457 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to enter into an Agreement with The Forensic Panel of New York for litigation support and services for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

- 2015-458 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Amending Resolution Number 2015-017, a contract with Bauch, Zucker, Hatfield, Springfield, New Jersey, special counsel for labor negotiations to increase the cap for legal services in the amount of \$125,000 for an amount not to exceed \$225,000.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-459 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Renewing the Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital Staff Medical Malpractice Liability Policy with Princeton Insurance Company, Princeton, New Jersey, from December 15, 2014 through December 15, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$38,236.98.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-460 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Renewing Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital-General and Professional Liability Umbrella and Excess Umbrella Liability with Princeton Insurance Company, Princeton, New Jersey, for the policy period of December 15, 2014 through December 15, 2015 for a contract amount not to exceed \$36,215.03.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-461 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to renew the contract with Sage Software, Inc., St. Petersburg, Florida for software licensing renewal, software updates and enhancement services for the County of Union's Human Resource Management System for the period of June 2, 2015 through June 1, 2016 in the amount of \$24,848.02.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-462 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement to provide liability coverage for the operation of the ambulances owned and operated by the County Emergency Services in the amount of \$2,358.00 with Western World Insurance Company, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, for the period of April 26, 2015 to April 26, 2016.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-463 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Renewing the following Public Official Bond: Erick Mesias, Comptroller Bond with The Hartford Fire Insurance Company from August 1, 2015 through August 1, 2016 in an amount not to exceed \$274.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-464 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** New Policy for Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital-Tail Reporting for the Umbrella and Excess Liability Lines of Coverage & Excess Tail Coverage with Princeton Insurance Company, Princeton, New Jersey for the policy period of December 15, 2014 through December 15, 2015 for a contract amount not to exceed \$218,061.05

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-465 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Economic Development, Division of Engineering: Yannuzzi Group, Kinnelon, New Jersey for the purpose of providing the Replacement of Raritan Road Culvert, Sc-6, Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey, for an amount not to exceed \$387,135.75. (BA#21-2015; Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-006B)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-466 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract with the United Way of Greater Union County, Elizabeth, NJ to expand their Family Success Network for the opening of two new Family Success Centers, for a period of June 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$196,241.25

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-467 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to award Start Now grants to the three schools with the highest scores in the Donate to Educate Start Now grant contest which is the culminating activity of the UC STEP program. Winning schools are as follows: 1st Place Union Catholic High School-grant award \$1,000; 2nd Place U.C. T.E.A.M.S. Charter School-grant award \$500; 3rd Place Governor Livingston High School-grant award \$500.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-468 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a professional engineering service contract to Neglia Engineering Associates of Lyndhurst,, New Jersey for the purpose of providing Conceptual Design Services for the development of a park at the property known as 1000 Lowden Avenue located in the Township of Union, County of Union, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$9,100.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2015-017)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-469 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Resolution concurring with Borough of Mountainside to close Mountain Avenue from New Providence Road to Mountainview Drive on Sunday, June 21, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of the PAL Cancer Fundraising Event. Also, granting permission to hang a banner from May 14, 2015 to June 21, 2015 on Mountain Avenue.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-470 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept the guidelines of the 2015 NJDEP Food Waste, Tire Clean-up & Public Space Bonus Recycling Grant in the amount of \$25,000. The grant will be used to increase recycling opportunities for residents at various County sporting venues by enhancing the number of garbage and recycling receptacles available. Increased educational initiatives will also be incorporated for the contract period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. (Tentative Based On Date Of Award)

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-471 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** A Resolution approving the City of Summit-Summit Conservancy Fundraiser at Summit Transfer Station.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-472 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** A Resolution requesting DEP to endorse an easement of Union County parkland to Springfield Township for Subsurface Sewer Line in Exchange for Acquiring Quarter Acre of Undeveloped Property in Fee Simple.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-473 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Resolution authorizing the settlement of pending litigation entitled Barbara Sandargus v. UC, et als, in an amount not to exceed \$70,000.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2015-474 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Madison, New Jersey for the purposes of bringing six live productions of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet to various outdoor venues throughout the summer of 2015. The total expenditure for this contract is not to exceed \$2,550.00.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2015-475 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Resolution in support of expanding access to driver's licenses to undocumented New Jersey Residents.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2015-476 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Laudatory Resolution congratulating Daniel J. Bernier, Merritt M. Duffy, Bruce D. Linger, Jonathan G. Phillips, and Karen Positan for receiving the Boy Scouts of America "Union Lifetime Achievement Award" at their Awards Dinner on June 4, 2015.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2015-477 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & VICE CHAIRMAN BRUCE BERGEN: Laudatory Resolution extending this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Miriam Ann Moody, Cranford, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2015-478 FREEHOLDER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Resolution urging Governor Christie to support additional funding in the State of New Jersey FY 2016 Budget in the amount of \$6,000,000 to bring the Casino Revenue Fund's 'Senior Citizens and Disabled Residents Transportation Assistance Program' funding back to FY 2012 levels.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

2015-479 FREEHOLDER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Congratulating Kenneth Burkett on his many years of dedicated service and wish him health and happiness upon his retirement from the Department of Corrections.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-480 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution acknowledging and commending Eric Peters for raising awareness for veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and traumatic brain injury by his walk across America.
- On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2015-481 FREEHOLDER VERNELL WRIGHT:** Laudatory resolution congratulating Union County resident, Ann Walko, on her selection to serve as President of UNICO National, the largest Italian American Service organization in the United States.
- On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2015-482 VICE CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Laudatory Resolution congratulating and honoring the winners of the 2015 Shade Tree "Young Writers of Union County" contest.
- On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2015-483 VICE CHAIRMAN BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Laudatory resolution commending Laura and Aaron Cohen for their involvement in the Multiple Sclerosis Society, and further acknowledging their recognition as the Walk MS 2015 Ambassadors for the New Jersey Chapter.
- On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2015-484 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Laudatory resolution congratulating the Roselle Abraham Clark High School "Leading Tones" on their recognition by singer/actress Lucy Hale as winners of the "Boost The Volume Contest" and for being selected as the Voices of Meningitis.
- On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2015-485 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Laudatory resolution congratulating Daniel Farrell, of Boy Scout Troop 104 of Scotch Plains, on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.
- On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.
- 2015-486 CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory Resolution welcoming renowned author, and former Elizabeth resident, Judy Bloom on the launching of her latest novel "In the Unlikely Event" at Elizabeth City Hall on June 1, 2015.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

- 2015-487 **CHAIRMAN MOHAMED S. JALLOH & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Laudatory resolution congratulating the Gateway Family YMCA on the Grand Opening Celebration held on June 8, 2015.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Kowalski roll call showed 9 members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Barbara Majeski of Rahway made comments in opposition of the Rahway River Park project, citing concerns regarding the improvements.

Stan Majeski, Rahway stated he has been a resident of Rahway for 47 years and the residents are against the football stadium. (He handed out fliers)

Scott Eruda, Clark, made comments in opposition to the Rahway River Park project, citing concerns. He said there was a CBS special report regarding turf fields causing cancer. He read a letter from an Engineer.

Fred Ruppert, Elizabeth, made comments in opposition to the Rahway River Park project and the turf fields.

Joe Wilinski, Rahway, made comments in opposition to the Rahway River Park project, citing concerns regarding lights and accidents near the entrance of the park.

Rosanna, Elizabeth, said she has been a resident for 21 years representing many of the people that were in attendance. She said her and her husband owned a taxi and limousine company, until her husband lost his driver's license. She said it has been difficult in providing a better life for their children.

Jeff Freeman, Rahway, commended the Board for recognizing the students writing poems about trees and learning about them. He spoke about soccer games and asked the Board's plans for the improvements to Rahway River Park, specifically seating and parking.

Peter Burro, Rahway, spoke in reference to the Pinchat family saving these areas, and the apartment units that have been built with a community garden in Rahway. He said the park is for a place for those who could only afford to sit and enjoy the national beauty of the park. He said Veteran's Field should be repaired and used as an athletic field.

Irwin Johnson, Plainfield, spoke in reference to a certified copy of the 1776 State Constitution and County Clerk refusing to file documents. He stated the County Clerk's Oath of Office states that she has an obligation as a senior officer and spoke

about interpreting State Statute. He added that Deputy County Clerk Nicole Dirado did meet with County Counsel and asked how County Counsel can override a Constitutional Officer, stating that he has an appointed position, not an elected position.

Nedia Vorse, Hillside, thanked the Board for adopting Resolution 2015-475 in support of expanding driver's licenses to undocumented New Jersey residents.

Raymond Giarabbe, Jr., 6th Ward Councilman of Rahway, thanked the Board for considering Rahway River Park improvements. He stated the fields are run down and the kids deserve a field to play on, like Linden, Summit, and Berkeley Heights. He said they all have new fields and urged the Board to consider bleachers.

Pastor Ramon Collazo thanked the Board for adopting Resolution 2015-475. He said it would benefit immigrants and citizens because there would be more people who can be held accountable with licenses. He said people need to go to work and grocery stores. He said if they do not live near mass transit, they live in fear of being stopped having no license.

Pat Mochetti, New Providence, spoke about long term effects of health care and pension in Union County. He spoke about an article by Steve Sterling of the Star Ledger regarding demographics in the County and State, adding that people are leaving the County/State and companies are leaving the State.

Nuno Perez, Hillside, thanked the Board for adopting Resolution Number 2015-475, he said he is a son of an immigrant from Mexico and he thanked the Board for all of their work and support.

Patricia Velina-Velosa, Vice Principal of Rahway High School, and track and field coach. She proud to say that they won 9 State championships, State, America and National champions and was awarded Coach of the Year. She asked the Board to give them an equal facility that will be useful for everyone across the County.

Susan Selamak, Rahway, stated she lived in Rahway for 36 years and rode her bike to the park. She urged the Board to look for another location and spoke about the high real estate taxes.

Bruce Paterson, Garwood, he spoke on the budget regarding operational costs and proceeds of the sale of Runnells Hospital.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Kowalski thanked all the organizations for coming out, she said the Board handles legislation for the County and policies regarding social services.

Freeholder Kowalski spoke in reference to Bio Blitz at the Watchung Reservation on June 12th and 13th and the Summer Arts Festival and Movies in the Park at Warinanco Park where they featured Romeo and Juliet. She said most of the Freeholders were in attendance.

Freeholder Carter thanked the public for attending the meeting and expressing their concerns. She thanked Councilman of Rahway, Raymond Giarabbe, Jr., Mayor Ellen Dickson of Summit and Assemblywoman Quijano for their comments.

Freeholder Carter spoke about the summer series and said she is excited that Rhythm and Blues by the Brook is back. She said it is a free outdoor concert at historic Cedar Brook Park, in Plainfield and the music starts at 12:00 noon and goes nonstop all day until 6:00 p.m. This year w very pleased to welcome two iconic groups from the seventies, The Family Stone and War, along with some very special gucsts. There will be classic cars, kids' activities and food vendors.

Freeholder Carter spoke about UC Step and about the three schools who took 1st, 2nd and 3rd places and that they will be awarded with a monetary presentation at one of the Freeholder Meetings.

Freeholder Estrada stated we are aware of the necessity for the future this is why the Board is supportive of Abbott School District; with reference to Resolution Number 2015-475 the Board has been at the forefront on many issues. He said he worked at the Division of Motor Vehicles for eight years and this was an issue with many people. They were not able to get an ID or a driver's license. He thanked Assemblywoman Quijano and everyone for coming to express their views.

Freeholder Mirabella stated he was proud to support Resolution Number 2015-475 and will ask the Clerk of the Board to send the Resolution to the other 20 counties. He said he was happy to see the young people here tonight. He made remarks regarding the Road Resurfacing program. He said there is \$5 million in State and County funding to include a total of 12 miles on 13 County roads, in 12 towns. He said the project also includes improvements to signage and stripping to improve visibility and there will be additional improvements to curbing, to ensure that intersections are safe and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. He said the program is scheduled to begin in late June and run through September, primarily at night-time except for one project in Fanwood. For complete details on the program, by checking the "Road Construction and Traffic Incident" interactive maps online. Just look for the icon at the bottom of the County home page, at ucnj.org.

Freeholder Hudak made comments in reference to the Exxon Public Meeting. He said our representatives in the state legislature will be conducting a public hearing on the Exxon settlement, for long term environmental damage caused by the company's operations in Union and Middlesex counties. He said the announced settlement was much smaller than expected and it does not come close to reflecting the years of suffering imposed on our communities. The Freeholder Board has joined with other elected officials, and major environmental groups, to demand an explanation for this miscarriage of justice. The public hearing will be located at the Bayonne City Council Chambers, 630 Avenue C in Bayonne, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3rd. He said the hearing is open to the public and he plans to speak on behalf of our citizens. I know that the weekday morning time slot is inconvenient, but I hope that you can make the time to come to the hearing, and show our elected representatives how important this issue is to the people of Union County.

Freeholder Hudak stated that in reference to Resolution Number 2015-475 many people do not have documents to do things that we take advantage of and thanked Chairman Jalloh for his leadership. He said with reference to the Budget, he is proud to spend more dollars on job training and infrastructure. Freeholder Hudak stated that the dollars of the sale of the Runnells Hospital are not missing. It is in the budget and the money helped pay off debt services. He said surplus is a good thing. Freeholder Hudak made comments regarding Fiscal Chair qualifications.

Freeholder Granados stated that he co-hosted a walk with Veterans on Saturday and thanked Vikki Drake for her efforts. He spoke in reference to Resolution Number 2015-475 and said his parents were immigrants and thanked all the speakers. (Freeholder Granados made similar comments in Spanish.)

Freeholder Wright thanked the speakers and translators. He spoke about an issue that affects seniors throughout Union County, as well as veterans and persons with disabilities. He said Union County's Paratransit vans provide a lifeline that enables independent living. He said it transports them from doctor's visits and household shopping, to visiting friends and getting out into the community. The benefits of Paratransit ripple out to thousands of Union County residents, both directly and indirectly. However, state funding for the service has been slashed dramatically. He said Paratransit depends on the Casino Revenue stream, which as we know has fallen off steeply in recent years. He said earlier this evening, the Freeholder Board passed a Resolution urging Governor Christie to restore the funding, and he asked the public to join. He said at the rear of the Freeholder Meeting room there are post cards with a note to the Governor and the Legislature, along with details on the drop in funding. He encouraged the public to pick one up and lend their voice to the effort to keeping Paratransit running in Union County and throughout New Jersey.

Vice Chairman Bergen stated that the Board saw financial problems with Runnells Hospital and they took steps to reduce the deficit, but it was not good enough to keep the Hospital.

Vice Chairman Bergen spoke about the State funding that has affected Paratransit and the funds from the sale of Runnells Hospital is being put towards vital services.

Vice Chairman Bergen also made remarks regarding the Job Fair at the Newark Airport, Union County's Workforce Investment Business Center. He said the Center is now located at the Mills at Jersey Gardens in Elizabeth. He announced on Wednesday and Thursday, June 3rd and 4th, at 10 a.m., the WIB Center will host a job fair for the company OTG Management. OTG is looking to fill 100 positions in food service, including cashiers, cooks, and servers, at their Newark Airport operations. He said this is a great opportunity to meet and interview with a major Newark Airport employer for a possible new career.

County Manager Faella stated he heard the word pride mentioned several times by the Board and that's the way he feels, proud to be a resident of Union County and proud of this organization that cares about people and also challenges his staff on a daily basis to balance the needs and provide programs services to keep the taxes stable. He thanked everyone for coming out.

Chairman Jalloh thanked everyone for coming out and letting their voice be heard, everyone who stayed and even those who left probably see the tough decision that the Board has to make as elected officials. He made remarks regarding Drivers Licenses for Undocumented Persons. He thanked Carlos Rojas and Faith in NJ, El Centro Hispano-Americano, Making the Road NJ, NJ Alliance for Immigrant Justice, and the many faith-based organizations who have banded together to support this cause his colleagues on the Freeholder Board, Sheriff Joe Cryan and Assemblywoman Annette Quijano for their leadership on this matter.

Chairman Jalloh stated that many of us forget that driver's licenses are needed, not just to drive but also to travel, rent or buy a house, and clear a host of many other hurdles legal residents don't even think about. He said it is a matter of practicality, as folks are driving today undocumented, uninsured, and therefore increasing liability and exposure to those who are insured. He said for him, having a valid driver's license and valid insurance in a state where mass transportation is often not a realistic option is in everyone's interest. He said it is a step that stands to benefit all of NJ residents, not just undocumented persons. Many municipalities around the state have lent their support to this issue. He said just yesterday Jersey City issued a similar Resolution. But we hope that by becoming the first to support this issue at the County level, our counterparts in state government will take notice that this is not a municipal issue, but one that we are prepared to address on a larger level.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Jalloh asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:39pm. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Wright, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that meetings are regularly held on Thursday evenings. Agenda Setting Sessions and Regular Meetings are held at 7:00pm in the Freeholders' Meeting Room, Administration Building, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, 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.

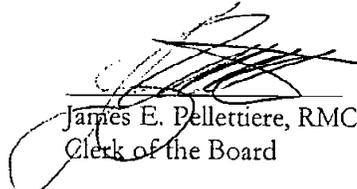
REORGANIZATION MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2015 at 12:00pm
Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

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

Notice

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

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


James E. Pelletiere, RMC
Clerk of the Board

JEP:ac/mb