



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruce Bergen presided and called the meeting to order at 7:26pm.

ROLL CALL

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

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

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Oath of Office: Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board: Maria Carvalho; Open Space Trust Fund Public Advisory Board: Lisa Palin and Janice Siegel; Union County Air Traffic and Noise Advisory Board: Robert Beiner; Union County Commission on the Status of Women: Sally Samuel; Union County Shade Tree Advisory Board: Nick Polanin; Union County Transportation Advisory Board: Robert Beiner, Louis DeSocio, Michael Disko, Jr., Joseph Sarno, III, Jayme Lynn Negron, Joseph Venezia, and George Vircik.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 2017 Executive Session Minutes

Chairman Granados called for a motion to approve the 2017 Executive Session Minutes. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Vice Chairman Kowalski, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Freeholder Garretson abstaining.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

793-2018 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND “THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION” BY ADOPTING THE 2018 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, FEES FOR RECREATION FACILITIES.**FIRST READING STATEMENT**

Freeholder Linda Carter, Policy Subcommittee Chairman, will move Ordinance Number 793-2018 for First Reading and authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The Public Hearing and Final Reading will be held on March 22, 2018.

On a motion made by Freeholder Carter, and seconded by Vice Chairman Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting 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.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to a number of resolutions. Relative to Resolution Number 2018-226, he inquired if this is normal increase, and questioned how much was spent on the previous year's contract. Relative to Resolution Number 2018-232, he inquired as to the need of an overhaul if it was only used three times. Relative to Resolution Numbers 2018-240 and 2018-242, he made comments relative to political donations. Relative to Resolution Number 2018-243, he inquired as to the number of miles of roads to be inspected, and made comments relative to political contributions. Relative to Resolution Number 2018-250, he inquired as to why it is a “not to exceed” contract. Relative to Resolution Number 2018-255, he inquired as to where the Juvenile Detention Center was getting the funds for the contract. Relative to Resolution Numbers 2018-258 and 2018-259, he made comments relative to the Wiener Law Group and encouraged the Board to vote against the resolution. Relative to Resolution Number 2018-260, he inquired as to the purpose of the litigation.

Relative to Resolution Number 2018-226, Director Anderson advised the Area Plan for aging that involves federal, state and local funding. She stated that it is an increase over last year the County received \$4.1 million.

Relative to Resolution Number 2018-232, Director Moran advised the vehicle is thirteen years old, and was owned and maintained by Morris County. He advised that the UASI Fire Subcommittee identified the apparatus as a critical component of the UASI response capabilities in response to large fires for the region.

Relative to Resolution Number 2018-250, Chairman Granados advised that the contract is in fact a “not-to-exceed” contract.

Relative to Resolution Number 2018-260, County Counsel Barry advised the litigation will be directed towards the pharmaceutical industry, the manufacturers and the distributors. He stated that it will address costs that have been incurred by the County on a variety of things, inclusive of costs incurred by the Medical Examiner's Office, in addition to the medications that have been abused as a result of the County being self-insured; noting that the goal is to get the pharmaceutical industry (and distributors) to stop their abuse use of this narcotic that has caused numerous deaths

Relative to Resolution Number 2018-243, Director Graziano advised the County will be paving 23.9 miles. He advised that this amount is approximately 4.3% of the full contract, equating to approximately \$8.5 million. He noted that the County will be receiving approximately \$7 million in State grants.

Seeing no other speakers, Chairman Granados closed comments on resolution being offered for adoption.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions are being offered for adoption:

2018-223 FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN: Amending the 2018 Temporary Budget Ch. 96 P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20).

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

2018-224 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the option to award year three contracts for the period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, in accordance with the three year 2016-2018 Coordinated Community Care Program pursuant to a Request for Proposal (RFP), in the total amount not to exceed \$100,000; entering into agreements with various agencies to provide Home Care and Nursing services to Union County residents 60 years or older; further authorizing the transfer of funds among the agencies, during the contract period, should services needs change and/or if any of the funded agencies should fail to meet its contractual obligation.

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

2018-225 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the option to award year three contracts in the total amount not to exceed \$304,513 pursuant to a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 to deliver respite services to unpaid caregivers under the Statewide Respite Care Grant; further authorizing the transfer of funds among the funded agencies during the contract period should services needs change and/or if any of the agencies should fail to meet its contractual obligation.

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

2018-226 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Amending Resolution 2018-147, awarding various contracts pursuant to a Request for Proposal in accordance with the 2016-2018 Area Plan, to reflect an increase in funding only in the amount not to exceed \$2,193,856 for a new grand total not to exceed \$3,722,524 to be allocated as outlined and charged to account numbers specified for the same contract year three period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 with no other changes to the 2016-2018 Area Plan.

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

2018-227 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Amending Resolution Number 2017-265, further extending the contract period awarded to SAGE Eldercare, Inc. for the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP), for the period of April 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 in the total amount not to exceed \$7,125 with no other changes to terms of agreement.

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

2018-228 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Re-appointing the following members to the Senior Citizen Disabled Resident Transportation Advisory Board: Ina White and Sonja Ash - January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019 and Tony Hall for a term ending December 31, 2018.

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

2018-229 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON: Amending Resolution 2017-1056 to approve the amended 2018 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Grant (A/DA) Spending Plan reflecting the reallocation of \$50,200 in treatment services funding from CenterPath Wellness to Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services for the same period of 1/1/2018-12/31/2018; no change in total spending plan, no other changes.

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

2018-230 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON: Re-appointing John Morgan to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board to represent the Town of Scotch Plains for a term beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018.

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

2018-231 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON: Appointing Kathleen Silance as a member to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board to represent the Township of Springfield for a term ending December 31, 2018.

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

2018-232 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with RG Industries, Mahwah, NJ, for the overhaul of the Morris County UASI Neptune Engine in an amount not to exceed \$21,685 utilizing 2017 Urban Area Security Grant Funding.

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

2018-233 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Amending Resolution 2017-178, Per Diem Doctors, and authorizing the County Manager to increase and expend an additional sum not to exceed \$16,900.00, for the contract period ending December 31, 2017, for a total contract not to exceed \$216,900.00.

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

2018-234 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Professional Agreement with four per diem pathologists to be available in the absence of the County Medical Examiner, at a cost of \$900.00 per autopsy, \$200.00 per external exam and \$600.00 per day for court testimony for the 2018 calendar year, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00.

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

2018-235 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH: Re-appointing Lynn Brown to the Union County Air Traffic and Noise Advisory Board to represent the Borough of Fanwood for a term beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2019.

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

2018-236 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement between the County of Union and City of Summit to install MUTCD and NJ State compliant "Illuminated Pedestrian Warning Signs" at the following locations: Broad Street and Elm Street; Morris Avenue and Aubrey Street; and Morris Avenue and Weaver Street.

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

2018-237 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution Number 2017-473 adopted on June 8, 2017; BA#23-2017, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Foggia Trinity Electric, LLC, of Scotch Plains, New Jersey approving Change Order Number 1 (final) for Intersection Improvements at Chestnut Street and Fifth Avenue, Borough of Roselle, New Jersey. This change order will reduce the original contract amount by (\$49,818.05) for a new contract amount not to exceed \$159,494.15. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-020)

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

- 2018-238 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2017-299 adopted on April 20, 2017; BA#7-2017, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Manor II Electric, Inc., of Holmdel, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 (final) for the Installation of an Emergency Generator at John H. Stamler Police Academy. This Change Order will reduce the original contract amount by (\$13,447.17) for a new contract amount not to exceed \$341,552.83. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2013-015)

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

- 2018-239 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2017-135 adopted on February 9, 2017; BA#31-2016, a contract awarded through advertised public bidding process in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-1 et seq., to Tony & Son Inc., of Colonia, New Jersey for the Replacement of Springfield Avenue Minor Bridge, Berkeley Heights, County of Union, New Jersey; approving Change Order Number 1 (final) in an amount not to exceed \$14,010.15 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$796,919.15. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2013-010)

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

- 2018-240 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to T&M Associates of Middletown, New Jersey to provide Engineering Design Services, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for Intersection Improvements, River Road & Chatham Road / Meile Place, City of Summit, County of Union, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$63,934.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2017-007)

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

- 2018-241 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement with the County of Morris for the Superstructure Replacement of Bi-County Bridge No. 2011-060 1400-521 County Route 647 (Passaic Street) over the Passaic River in the Borough of New Providence, County of Union, and the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, New Jersey and that the County of Morris will provide reimbursement costs on a 50% shared basis related to the design, construction administration and inspection services and construction costs of this project. This project is partially funded by New Jersey Department of Transportation - 2016 Local Bridge Future Needs Program in the amount of \$640,000.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2016-003).

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

2018-242 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to T&M Associates of Middletown, New Jersey to provide Engineering Design Services, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for Intersection Improvements at South Springfield Avenue and Hillside Avenue, Township of Springfield, County of Union, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2017-010)

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

018-243 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to Neglia Engineering Associates of Clark, New Jersey to provide Engineering Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for 2019 Union County Road Resurfacing Project, County of Union, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$372,362.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2017-029)

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

2018-244 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40:A11-1 et seq to: Magic Touch Construction Company, Inc., Keyport, NJ (BA#8-2018) for the purpose of providing Plumbing Services for the Department of Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management, Division of Facilities Management for twenty-four (24) consecutive months with the provision for one (1) twenty-four (24) month optional extension, contract amount not to exceed \$131,988.00.

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

2018-245 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Resolution granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights for the hanging of a banner across Springfield & Plainfield Avenue, to advertise Restaurant Week from September 1, 2018 through September 17, 2018.

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

2018-246 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Resolution granting permission to the Township of Berkeley Heights Downtown Beautification Committee to hang a banner across Springfield Avenue, from April 18, 2018 to May 13, 2018 to promote Beauty & Wellness Weeks.

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

- 2018-247 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq; Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities Management; Division of Public Works to W.E. Timmerman Company, Inc. for the purpose of providing a 2017 Street Sweeper, in the amount of \$267,889.00.

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

- 2018-248 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution 2018-193, adopting the 2018 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Spending Plan, to reflect a shift in funds under account numbers only; no change in amount of funds allocated; no change in total spending plan amount; no other changes to the terms of the 2018 CSBG Spending Plan.

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

- 2018-249 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Dr. Eshban Muthuka, APN, to provide professional Psychiatric Services to the patients of the Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County for the period of March 16, 2018 through December 31, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$88,982.00.

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

- 2018-250 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** 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 Parks and Recreation: Johnny on the Spot, LLC, of Old Bridge, NJ for the purpose of providing Portable Toilet Rental & Septic Pumping Services (BA# 7-2018), for an open ended contract for a period of 24 months from the date of signing of the contract, in the amount of \$83,484.00.

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

- 2018-251 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Appointing Michael M. Yuska as the Commissioner to the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund and Eugenio Esquivel, as Alternate to the Fund pursuant to Resolution 2016-770 which approved the membership with the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund.

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

- 2018-252 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to renew a Public Official Bond with the Travelers Insurance Company, Morristown, NJ for

Anthony Ugoaru from March 09, 2018 through March 08, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$756.00.

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

- 2018-253 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-1002, a Shared Services Agreement with Bergen County, Correctional Center Hackensack, NJ to reflect a change in the account numbers only due to the Juvenile Detention Center now being part of the Department of Corrections. The agreement is to provide secure detention beds for Union County Juvenile detainees on an as needed basis, at a per diem cost of \$225.00 per juvenile per day, for a total amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 per year for a five (5) year period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2021 for a total amount not to exceed \$750,000.00.

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

- 2018-254 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-1001, a Shared Services Agreement with Morris County Correctional Center, Morris Township, NJ to reflect a change in the account numbers only due to the Juvenile Detention Center now being part of the Department of Corrections. The agreement is to provide housing for Union County Juvenile detainees on an as needed basis, at a per diem cost of \$215.00 per juvenile per day, for a total amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 per year for a five (5) year period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2021 for a total amount not to exceed \$250,000.00.

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

- 2018-255 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2017-389, a contract with CFG Health Systems LLC, Marlton, NJ to reflect a change in the account numbers only due to the Juvenile Detention Center now being part of the Department of Corrections. The agreement is to provide healthcare services to Union County Jail and Union County Juvenile Detention in an amount not to exceed \$24,434,839.00, services will be divided between Union County Jail and Union County Juvenile Detention Center for the period of September 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019. Whereas Union County Juvenile Detention center will pay an amount not to exceed \$2,537,973.00 for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

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

- 2018-256 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2016-352, a contract with Aramark Correctional Services, LLC, Philadelphia, Pa. to reflect a change in the account number only due to the Juvenile Detention center now being apart of the Department of Corrections. The agreement is to provide food services for Union County Juvenile Detention center.

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

- 2018-257 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution Number 2017-653, a contract with Essex Regional Educational Services Commission to reflect a change in the following account number only due to the Juvenile Detention Center now being a part of the Department of Corrections. The agreement is to provide and supervise the educational program at the Juvenile Detention Center for the period of September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018 in an amount not to exceed \$833,055.00.

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

- 2018-258 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2018-124 dated January 25, 2018 to increase the appropriation to Weiner Law Group, LLP of Parsippany, NJ in the matter entitled Stephen Repella v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$60,000.00

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

- 2018-259 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2017-1110 dated December 21, 2017 to increase the appropriation to Weiner Law Group, LLP of Parsippany, NJ in the matter entitled Farnia Bashaw v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$40,000.00

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

- 2018-260 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Letter of Engagement with The Keefe Law Firm and Kanner & Whiteley, LLC., to pursue litigation related to the opioids epidemic.

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

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2018-261 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Proclaiming the month of April as Parkinson's Awareness Month throughout the County of Union.

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

- 2018-262 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER:** Commemorating Shioloh Baptist Church upon its Black History Month celebration and further congratulating its two honorees: Deacon James L. Norfleet and Charles Booker.

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

- 2018-263 FREEHOLDER LINDA CARTER & FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Congratulating the Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield upon its 19th Annual Wine Casting Dinner Fundraiser.

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

- 2018-264 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA:** Congratulating and recognizing the recipients of the National Council of Negro Woman, Inc. Greater Elizabeth Area Section as they celebrate their 13th Annual Harambee Breakfast on March 17, 2018.

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

- 2018-265 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & FREEHOLDER BRUCE H. BERGEN:** Supporting both the New Jersey Assembly legislation and the Senate legislation prohibiting offshore oil and gas exploration, development and production within the States borders.

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

- 2018-266 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Concurring with the City of Linden's Ordinance pertaining to the prohibition of parking on West Elizabeth Avenue, Linden, New Jersey.

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

- 2018-267 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK, CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS & FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Dr. Morgan Laury and his entire Kean University family, during this time of sorrow. Dr. Laury proudly served as a professor of public administration, and as coordinator of undergraduate education in the School of Criminal Justice and Public Administration.

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

- 2018-268 FREEHOLDER MOHAMED S. JALLOH:** Congratulating the Roselle Park Wrestling Team upon earning its 1,000th victory in program history.

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

- 2018-269 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Congratulating Otis Hall upon his retirement from the Union County Dept. of Human Services- Division of Social Services after 41 dedicated years.

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

- 2018-270 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Proclaiming March 8, 2018 as International Women's Day throughout the County of Union.

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

- 2018-271 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK:** Congratulating Jared Wilson of Troop 80, Cranford, upon attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

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

- 2018-272 VICE CHAIRMAN BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Betty Pistol of Cranford upon her passing.

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

- 2018-273 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Congratulating The Change on their 10th Anniversary of Operation PB &J.

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

- 2018-274 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Freeholder Linda Carter upon being the recipient of the 2018 Service Above Self Award by the Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield.

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

- 2018-275 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating the Boy Scouts of America 2018 Springfield-Union Good Scout Award recipients upon being honored at its Awards Dinner on March 21, 2018.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Vice Chairman Kowalski, roll call showed nine members voting 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.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, stated that he appreciated the County Manager Oatman temerity in his willingness to introduce himself in spite of his (Mr. Patterson's) criticism. He (incorrectly) stated that he had concerns with Mr. Oatman living outside of the state. He

advised that Director Dinsmore should be the Acting County Manager. He made comments relative to the annual Walk to Washington and asked for a report.

Jamie Misselman, of Westfield and co-lead of Union County Chapter of Jersey Off-Road Biking Association (JORBA), spoke on the purpose of JORBA and noted the number of trails that have been maintained by their group. He made comments on the history of mountain biking in the Watchung Reservation, and of the recent vote (May 2017) taken by the Board to remove mountain biking from the Watchung Reservation. He quoted some of the Freeholder's previous comments relative to the Board potentially reconsidering the plan. He stated that the relationship between the County and JORBA needs to be strengthened and look to reopen the dialogue.

Nancy Piwowar, of Plainfield, made comments relative to a Congressional Bill (HR 1349) amending the Wilderness Act to allow mountain biking in designated wilderness. She stated that 115 organizations oppose amending the Act. She commended the Board on its vote last year to ban mountain biking in the Watchung Reservation. She provided a copy of the bill and a letter to Congress on behalf of the 115 organizations to the Clerk (attached).

Margaret Southwell, of Fanwood, stated, among a number of experiences, that she helped restore forests with the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Force Team for eight years. She stated that Union County will start a Union County Invasive Species Strike Team. She made comments relative to the destruction of invasive species to forests, and made comments in opposition to mountain bike trails.

Mathew Schwaber, of Cranford, made comments in support of mountain biking and encouraged further dialogue relative to finding a location to allow mountain biking in Union County. He compared mountain biking with skate boarding. He quoted some of the Freeholder's previous comments relative to the Board potentially reconsidering the plan.

Charles Weltner, of Plainfield, noted he was involved in the effort to prohibit mountain biking in the Watchung Reservation. He made comments relative to a mountain biking death in the Mills Reservation in Essex County on June 26, 2017. He quoted Scotch Plains Fire Chief Daniel Sullivan in his concerns relative to the difficulty in rescues in the Watchung Reservation. He noted that Scotch Plains voted to not support mountain biking in the Watchung Reservation.

Seeing no other speakers, Chairman Granados closed the meeting to public comments.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Hudak made comments relative to the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 10, 2018, noting the parade is one of the largest St. Patrick celebrations in the state and one of the most popular events in Union County.

Freeholder Hudak commended the County's Public Safety and Public Works staff during the two recent weather storms.

Freeholder Mirabella made comments relative to the opening of a new Senior Lounge at the Mountainside Municipal Building, noting that the County assisted in its funding with a \$25,000 Senior Focus Grant.

Freeholder Garretson thanked the speaker for providing some history on the mountain biking proposal, noting that she would familiarize herself more on the topic.

Freeholder Garretson made comments relative to International Women's Day (March 8, 2018), stating that every day should be celebrated International Women's Day in light of the great amount of contributions made by women internationally.

Freeholder Granados urged residents to check on the senior citizens within their community, as many areas are still without power.

Freeholder Bergen stated that there are still approximately 5,000 homes without power, noting that about half of the JCP&L houses are without power.

Freeholder Bergen welcomed the new County Manager (Edward Oatman) and congratulated him on his first meeting, noting his opinion that he (Mr. Oatman) is the right person for the job and that he was looking forward to working with him moving forward.

Freeholder Bergen made comments relative to mountain biking, noting that nothing has changed since the last time the Board voted: members of the mountain biker community continue to violate the law and ride within the Watchung Reservation to the detriment of nature and legal park users. He stated that his opinion hasn't changed, and that he has indeed looked into other locations that may be amendable for mountain biking, but none have been deemed appropriate. He made comments relative to some of the inaccurate statements, made during the meeting, by the mountain biking community.

Freeholder Bergen made comments relative to his frustration with the President's Administration's lack of support for the Gateway Tunnel project. He spoke to the importance of the Gateway Tunnel as it relates to the economic success of Union County, on northern New Jersey, the entire Eastern seaboard, and the entire country. He stated that this should be a non-partisan issue, rather than petty political issues between the President and the Senator from New York. Freeholder Bergen reinforced the County's support for the project.

Freeholder Bergen congratulated Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi for being recognized with a "Women in American History" Award by the National Society of the Daughters of the Revolution. He noted that Madame Clerk Rajoppi has served Union County residents for many years; as a Mayor of Springfield, as a member of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the first woman chairman of the Board, Assistance Secretary of State (and as County Clerk). He noted that she was being recognized for her recent book entitled: Northern women in the aftermath of the Civil War.

Freeholder Carter thanked Union County Public Safety, Public Works, and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for their efforts during the recent weather storms. She also thanked Parks Director Zuber and his staff for their efforts in maintaining the parks during the storm. She thanked all of the County employees for coming into work and doing an exceptional job for the residents of Union County while they too may be having issues at home as a result of the storm.

Freeholder Carter made comments relative to National Women's Day, and reflected on two prominent female figures in New Jersey: Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg and

Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt. She stated that women in New Jersey, on the average, earn 80 cents on the dollar. She added the black women earn 58 cents on the dollar and Hispanic women earn 43 cents on the dollar. She noted that both Senator Weinberg and Assemblywoman Lampitt are working on legislation towards “pay equity,” noting that they need support of residents and voters to make this a reality.

Freeholder Carter made comments relative to the County’s Union County Student Training Enrichment Program (UC STEP) Kick Off for the Branches Against Bullying project (social project) on March 14, 2018. She thanked Deana Mesaros and her staff on her efforts on this project.

Freeholder Estrada congratulated the employees of the County’s Department of Public Safety and the Department of Parks and Recreation for their efforts in managing the storm.

Freeholder Estrada made comments in response to a speaker’s comments relative to invasive plants, noting that the Board would welcome receiving her final report and hearing her suggestions.

Freeholder Estrada made comments relative to the mountain biking proposal; noting that he still believes it will happen, but will need full and transparent cooperation. He stated that he was surprised to hear the comments of Fire Chief as it relates to emergency access to the Watchung Reservation, and noted that he would follow up on these concerns.

Freeholder Estrada congratulated Freeholder Bergen for being elected Chairman of the Raritan Valley Coalition. He made comments as they pertain to the goals and initiatives of the Raritan Valley Coalition, noting his severe concerns with the Gateway Tunnel Project and the one-seat ride.

Freeholder Estrada made comments in support of National Women’s Day, and noted there is more work to be done.

County Manager Oatman commended Directors Moran and Graziano for their efforts in handling the storm. He also commended Director Anderson, noting that one of the programs she oversees is the Meals on Wheels Program, which provided extra food for all of the program’s participants in preparation of the storm.

Vice Chairman Kowalski thanked all of those who participated in the evening’s public comment portion. She thanked Freeholder Estrada for his work in Transportation, but stressed her hope that the Raritan Valley one-seat ride will happen sooner than later. She congratulated Freeholder Bergen on his election as chairman of the Raritan Valley Coalition. She stated that Governor Murphy has promised to address the problems with New Jersey Transit.

Vice Chairman Kowalski thanked Mrs. Southwell for undertaking a study relative to the invasive plants, noting that a few years ago she was in the Watchung Reservation researching the “Mile a Minute Plant” and the “Japanese Knot Weed”. She stated that her comments prove to be another reason she (Vice Chairman Kowalski) believes mountain biking should not be permitted in the Watchung Reservation.

Vice Chairman Kowalski congratulated Freeholder Carter on receiving her award from the Rotary Club, noting that the list of awards she has received is growing exponentially.

Vice Chairman Kowalski made comments relative to celebrating National Women's Day, acknowledging that the entire Board embraces being in the midst of the Year, and perhaps the decade, of Women.

Chairman Granados congratulated Freeholder Carter on her honor by the Rotary Club, and also congratulated Freeholder Bergen on his honor by the Boy Scouts of America.

Chairman Granados acknowledged all county employees who assisted in the efforts in managing the storm, noting that that the EMS dispatch unit received, and responded to, 1,800 calls. He emphasized the success of the shared service between local municipalities and the County.

Chairman Granados commended Director Anderson for hosting the first two roundtable discussions for the two new offices: Office of Special Needs and Office of LGBTQ Services.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Granados called for a motion to adjourn.

On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Carter, a voice vote showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative. Meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2018 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 7, 2018 at 12:00 pm Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 18, 2018

February 1, 2018

February 15, 2018

March 1, 2018*

March 22, 2018

April 12, 2018

April 26, 2018

May 10, 2018

May 24, 2018

June 7, 2018

June 21, 2018

July 12, 2018

August 9, 2018

September 6, 2018

September 27, 2018

October 4, 2018

October 25, 2018

November 8, 2018

December 13, 2018

December 20, 2018

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 25, 2018

February 8, 2018

February 15, 2018

March 8, 2018

March 22, 2018

April 19, 2018

April 26, 2018

May 17, 2018

May 24, 2018

June 14, 2018

June 21, 2018

July 19, 2018

August 16, 2018

September 13, 2018

September 27, 2018

October 11, 2018

October 25, 2018

November 29, 2018

December 13, 2018

December 20, 2018

*March 1, 2018 Agenda Setting Session was cancelled and rescheduled for March 8, 2018 at 7pm. The originally scheduled Regular Meeting for March 8, 2018 at 7:00pm was rescheduled to immediately start following the completion of the Agenda Setting Session.