



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018
AGENDA SETTING MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sergio Granados presided and called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Sergio Granados, Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Bruce H. Bergen, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Angela R. Garretson, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella and Freeholder Rebecca Williams were present, with Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh absent.

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

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The prayer and salute to the flag were led by Clerk of the Board Pellettiere.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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

Chairman Granados asked for a moment of silence for the innocent victims, and their families and friends, as a result of the senseless and tragic mass shooting last night in Thousand Oaks, California.

Chairman Granados thanked Mayor Shelley Brindle for the use of Town Hall for the meeting, and her vision, leadership and work to benefit all residents.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

A presentation was made by Union County Board of Elections Administrator Nicole DiRado to the Board relative to the initial implementation of the ExpressVote XL voting machines used in the November 6, 2018, General Election. She said 182,831 of the County's 338,107 registered voters turned out to vote in 431 election districts, spread out among 169 polling places; as of Tuesday evening, another 18,954 cast their ballots by mail compared to 60,773 in the 2016 General Election. Turnout exceeded 54 percent, compared to 36 percent in the 2014 midterm election, 38 percent for the 2017 Gubernatorial election, and 68 percent for the 2016 Presidential election. Administrator DiRado said 11,107 voters cast ballots on the County's new voting machines in Westfield.

Freeholder Estrada asked if the intention for the next election was to use these machines throughout the County. Administrator Nicole DiRado confirmed this, and Freeholder Estrada asked how many. Administrator Nicole DiRado said she hadn't gotten that far but the plan is to roll out the new

machines in 10 municipalities in the primary and to be complete for the General Election. Freeholder Estrada commended Administrator DiRado's staff, and said more poll workers are needed to help seniors and bilingual persons. Administrator DiRado agreed and said the poll worker application is on the website; she asked the Board to please encourage people to download it and fill it out. She said poll workers are needed, and though the Board had been able to augment the number of bilingual poll workers (doubled for this election) more are needed.

Freeholder Hudak asked if the poll workers had to be 18 years and up and registered voters. Administrator DiRado said they don't have to be registered, as the Board of Elections can accept 16- and 17-year-olds to work a partial day. Freeholder Hudak asked the percentage of vote by mail ballots Westfield received this year. Administrator DiRado said countywide about 60%. County Clerk Rajoppi had sent just over 30,000 and the Board of Elections got back about 20,000 vote by mail ballots.

Freeholder Mirabella congratulated Administrator DiRado and her staff for a great job, especially having only taken the directorship six months ago. Administrator DiRado noted that it had been 69 days.

Freeholder Garretson asked Administrator DiRado to put together a fact sheet so that other municipalities could learn from the pilot. Administrator DiRado said she would do so.

Freeholder Bergen commended Administrator DiRado for a good job under difficult circumstances, with thirty-five days to teach poll workers how to use the machines. Freeholder Bergen said he would encourage an online submission form for citizens to provide feedback. Administrator DiRado said voters who would like to provide feedback on their voting experience on the new machines or any other issue could email the Board of Elections at ucboe@ucnj.org.

Chairman Granados said it would be great to have first-hand knowledge of what the poll workers are dealing with. He said the Board received some phone calls in reference to Westfield on Election Day; there were some issues with the vendor regarding technicians, time, and voting location. Administrator DiRado said five of the vendor's techs were in Westfield all day, ensuring there was a staff member at the polling site to ensure the polls were opened. She added that they were there from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. to make sure the polls were open and to observe the first few voters to see how things were going. Her staff went back at 7:30 p.m. to make sure the machine closed properly. She noted that she had met with one of the master poll workers, who said that while it was busy, she didn't experience people being angry and not voting. Administrator DiRado said she's planning a group meeting with the master poll workers after Thanksgiving to see what was missed in training and what procedural changes are needed and adjust training to reflect the poll workers' experience at the polls.

Chairman Granados added that if anyone from the public had comments or concerns regarding the election, they were welcome to comment at the Regular Meeting, and Administrator DiRado would be there to answer any questions.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Granados said the Board would approve the communications at the Regular Meeting to commence immediately after the conclusion of the Agenda Meeting.

Note and File

Oath of Office: Advisory Council on Aging: Theodore A. Freedman; Union County Commission on the Status of Women: Jacqueline Abend and Ayana Joseph; Union County Vocational-Technical Board of Education: Denise R. Piatnochka; Senior Citizen Disabled Resident Transportation Assistant Program Advisory Board: Robert F. Edwards.

OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY CLERK

Joanne Rajoppi, County Clerk

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with IBM, Piscataway, New Jersey through State Contract Number is 40047, T- number M0483 16-R-24098, for the purpose of providing new hardware and continued software maintenance/support for the Union County Clerk's imaging and web servers in both the Elizabeth and Westfield locations in an amount not to exceed \$295,281.08. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

County Clerk Rajoppi congratulated Freeholder Mirabella and Freeholder Williams, noting that while the election had not been certified, they had won by big margins.

A discussion ensued between County Clerk Rajoppi and Vice Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Estrada, Freeholder Hudak, and Freeholder Williams regarding issues with vote by mail, absentee and provisional ballots, and new election laws. County Clerk Rajoppi provided statistical data regarding the ballots and the Freeholders provided suggestions to address issues going forward.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Ron Charles, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Corrections (BA # 40-2018); Todd Devin Food Equipment, Inc., Yardley, PA for the purchase of one (1) tray washer and one (1) tray dryer for use in the kitchen at the Union County Jail in an amount not to exceed \$69,692.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

Chairman Granados asked if any company from New Jersey had applied. Director Charles advised that one contractor was from Cape May, one from Pennsylvania and one from Connecticut. Chairman Granados asked about the cost difference between this award and the next lowest bidder. Director Charles replied the difference was \$30,000.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Edmunds & Associates, Inc., Northfield, NJ, to provide maintenance and technical support for the County's Financial Accounting and Electronic Requisition System for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$20,580.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

Freeholder Garretson asked if Edmunds & Assoc. is the current company. Deputy County Manager Wagner confirmed that was the case, noting it was the same price as last year.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENTJoseph Graziano, Director

County Engineer Thomas O. Mineo represented the department.

Freeholder Hudak asked for an explanation of Resolution #1 and #4 the expansion of the contract in reference to #1. County Engineer Mineo said Resolution #1 is due to the logistics of moving the staff and judges out of the rotunda when asbestos work is being done. Freeholder Hudak asked how old the rotunda is. County Engineer Mineo advised that the rotunda is 120 years old. Vice Chairman Kowalski advised that she believed it was erected in the 1930s. Freeholder Hudak said that per the 1995 turnover, the County is responsible for renovations and architectural work, noting it's the responsibility of all counties by law. County Engineer Mineo replied yes, and it is in regard to the fire code violations.

Chairman Granados noted that the Courthouse was built in 1905.

1. Amending Resolution Number 2016-882, adopted November 22, 2016, a Professional Architectural Service Contract with Netta Architects, of Mountainside, New Jersey, to provide additional design, construction, administration and inspection services associated with the Union County Courthouse Complex, New Tower Stairwell Modernization project, in an amount not to exceed \$178,500.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$4,506,830.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-033) **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**
2. Amending Resolution Number 2017-828 adopted on October 12, 2017, BA#52-2017, 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 Colonnelli Brothers, Inc., of Hackensack, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 (final) for the Rehabilitation of East Hazelwood Avenue Minor Bridge, City of Rahway, County of Union, New Jersey. This change order will reduce the original contract amount by (\$311,631.97) for a new contract amount not to exceed \$1,084,698.03. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2013-009) **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**
3. 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: Engineering, Public Works, & Facilities Management; Division of Engineering: J.C. Contracting, Inc. of Rahway, New Jersey, for the Intersection Improvement at Jefferson Avenue and North Avenue, City of Elizabeth, County of Union, New Jersey, for an amount not to exceed \$248,032.00). **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Architectural / Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to The Musial Group, of Mountainside, New Jersey to provide design and construction administration services for the replacement of three (3) elevators in the Union County Courthouse Tower Building, Elizabeth, New Jersey for an amount not to exceed \$38,380.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2018-017) **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**
5. Resolution granting permission to the City of Linden to close North Wood Avenue from Elizabeth Avenue to Elm Street, on Friday, December 7, 2018 from the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**

6. 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 CS Products DBA Conshohocken Steel, Ambler, PA for the purchase of a five (5) 25 Yard Refuse Containers & five (5) 18 Yard Refuse Containers in the amount of \$49,480.00. **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Bibi Taylor, Director

1. Approving Transfer of Current Fund Appropriations. **(Freeholder Bruce H. Bergen)**

Freeholder Estrada asked what was the total amount of transfers being approved. Director Taylor advised the amount was \$5,132,500.00.

2. Resolution modifying the 2018 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$4,815 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Workforce Development for a program entitled: Supplemental Workforce Development Benefits (SmartSTEPS) Grant. **(Freeholder Bruce H. Bergen)**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to establish County funds to comply with State Legislative mandate N.J.S.A.40A:9-49.1 that establishes burial costs for Union County's indigent, unidentified or unclaimed deceased residents be the responsibility of Union County at a burial rate not to exceed \$1,550, in the total amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**

Freeholder Williams asked whether the burial is by cremation. Director Anderson confirmed that the method is cremation, noting that this is a standard set by the State of New Jersey.

2. Authorizing the County Manager to renew the contract with Unitronix Data Systems, Raritan, New Jersey, to provide services and maintenance for the Division of Social Services' software and hardware systems for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 in the total amount not to exceed \$111,739.13. **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**
3. Amending 2017-970, contracting with Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, NJ, for the operation of the Union County Children's Shelter at a per diem rate of \$260, to reflect an increase of \$41,080 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$428,480 for the same Year 2 period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018; all other terms remain the same. **(Vice Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski)**

Chairman Granados asked the Director to elaborate on Resolution #3. Director Anderson said the shelter assists juveniles who are runaways, abused and neglected; adding that this is a temporary shelter partnership with the family court judge. She advised the department seeks an increase because the population of youth under 18 in need of the services has increased; the original contract was for 36 beds and this resolution seeks funds for 94 additional beds, for a total of 130 beds.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATIONRon Zuber, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Attorney Title Services of Cranford, NJ to conduct a title search of the Gurd Ave. Baseball Field in Hillside, NJ in an amount not to exceed \$3,000. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into agreement with West Hudson Industries, of Rahway, New Jersey, for the provision of plaques and markers throughout Union County in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETYAndrew Moran, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Perimeter Solutions LP, Martinez, CA to provide a fire suppression course to approximately 36 firefighters from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Region, through the 2018 UASI Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$138,600. **(Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh)**

Freeholder Hudak asked if any Union County towns are sending firefighters to the training. Director Moran said there are five firefighters, confirmed from Westfield and Scotch Plains as of now. Chairman Granados asked how many firefighters from Union County municipalities participate. Director Moran said sixteen out of twenty-one fire departments participate, chosen by their firefighting capabilities and the hazards within their municipalities. He said that since 2010, the County has sent 234 Union County firefighters for training. Freeholder Hudak asked if the Resolution is only for general suppression training, not including any new equipment. Director Moran said it is for training in large-scale fires, tanker fires, and those that involve flammable liquids, pressurized gas and compressed gas tanks.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGEREdward Oatman, County Manager

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with FMBA Local R2343, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

Chairman Granados asked if any Freeholders would like to join as a co-sponsor for any of the Freeholder-sponsored Resolutions.

Freeholder Williams asked to co-sponsor Resolutions #3 and #8. Chairman suggested #8 be from the entire Board.

Vice Chairman Kowalski asked to co-sponsor Resolution #2.

Freeholder Hudak asked to co-sponsor Resolution #10.

Freeholder Bergen asked to co-sponsor Resolution #1 and #10. Chairman Granados suggested #10 be from the entire Board.

Chairman Granados asked to co-sponsor Resolution #1.

Freeholder Garretson asked to co-sponsor Resolution #9.

1. Congratulating Bris Avrohom Center in Hillside for celebrating 33 years of hosting galas. **(Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)**
2. Congratulating the Union County Board of Agriculture upon its 150th anniversary, the oldest County Board of Agriculture in the State of New Jersey. **(Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)**
3. Congratulating the 2018 CJA honorees upon being awarded the Outstanding Award by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Central Jersey Alumnae Chapter at their Award ceremony on December 1, 2018. **(Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)**
4. Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Leona McCarthy upon her passing. **(Freeholder Christopher Hudak)**
5. Appointing Courtney Washington as a member to the Advisory Board on the Disabled to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2018. **(Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh)**
6. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Appraisal Associates, Inc., 523 South Avenue East, Cranford, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing updated appraisal services to and for the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00. **(Freeholder Alexander Mirabella)**
7. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Sterling DiSanto & Associates, 145 West End Avenue, Somerville, New Jersey for the purpose of providing appraisal services to and for the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. **(Freeholder Alexander Mirabella)**
8. Extending the Board's deepest condolences to Union County College President Dr. Margaret McMenamin during her time of sorrow upon the passing of her mother, Elizabeth McMenamin at the remarkable age of 100. **(Freeholder Alexander Mirabella)**
9. Congratulating the Scotch Plains Mayor's Charity Gala to honor the First Responders of Scotch Plains at their 28th annual celebration on December 1, 2018. **(Freeholder Alexander Mirabella)**
10. Resolution urging the United States Congress to support gun control measures that include, but are not limited to, an enactment of a ban on the sale, importation, transfer, and ownership of "assault firearms" (as defined in New Jersey law at N.J.S.A. Section 2C:39-1-w

- as including: a semi-automatic shotgun with either a magazine capacity exceeding six rounds, a pistol grip, or a folding stock; a semi-automatic rifle with a fixed magazine capacity exceeding 15 rounds; a part or combination of parts designed or intended to convert a firearm into an assault firearm, or any combination of parts from which an assault firearm may be readily assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control of the same person, and a firearm with a bump stock attached). **(Freeholder Alexander Mirabella)**
11. Congratulating the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield upon its longevity and history of service, its longstanding commitment to all residents and supporting the arts in Plainfield. **(Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
 12. Congratulating Jennifer Popper of Plainfield upon her 800 plus mile walk to Maine and back in memory of her husband, Michael; and further commending her upon raising funds for charities and establishing the Michael Popper EMT Scholarship for the Plainfield Rescue Squad. **(Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams)**
 13. Appointing Phyllis Mirabella, of Fanwood, (Democrat) to the Union County Vocational-Technical School Board of Education for a term beginning November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2022. **(Chairman Sergio Granados)**
 14. Congratulating the NAACP- Rahway Branch upon its 84th Anniversary at their Annual Freedom Fund and Awards celebration; and further congratulating the award recipients. **(Chairman Granados & the Entire Board)**
 15. Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Martinho Pereira, owner of Valenca Bar in Elizabeth upon his passing. **(Chairman Sergio Granados & Freeholder Angel G. Estrada)**
 16. Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to former New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey and his family as they mourn the passing of his mother, Veronica McGreevey. **(Chairman Sergio Granados & the Entire Board)**

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Granados asked for a motion to adjourn. On a motion made by Freeholder Mirabella and seconded by Vice Chairman Kowalski, a voice vote showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.

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.

**May 10, 2018: Agenda Setting Session was cancelled and rescheduled for May 3, 2018 at 7pm.

***June 14, 2018: Regular Meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for June 7, 2018 to commence immediately after the conclusion of the scheduled June 7, 2018 Agenda Setting Session.

****July 19, 2018: Regular Meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for July 12, 2018 to commence immediately after the conclusion of the scheduled July 12, 2018 Agenda Setting Session.

*****August 16, 2018: Regular Meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for August 9, 2018 to commence immediately after the conclusion of the scheduled August 9, 2018 Agenda Setting Session.

*****October 4, 2018: Agenda Setting Session was cancelled and rescheduled for October 11, 2018 commencing at 7:00pm, the previously scheduled Regular Meeting will commence immediately after the conclusion of the Agenda Setting Session.

*****November 8, 2018: A Regular Meeting has been added to the schedule and will commence immediately after the conclusion of the previously scheduled Agenda Setting Session.

*****November 29, 2018: An Agenda Setting Session has been added to the schedule and will commence at 7:00pm. The previously scheduled Regular Meeting will commence immediately after the conclusion of the newly scheduled Agenda Setting Session.