



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kowalski presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:02P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski, Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella, Freeholder Angela R. Garretson, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Moudeed, Freeholder Andrea Staten and Freeholder Rebecca Williams were present; with Freeholder Angel G. Estrada and Freeholder Sergio Granados absent.

Freeholder Angel G. Estrada arrived at 7:04 P.M.

Also present were County Manager Edward T. 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.

PRESENTATIONS BY THE BOARD

A resolution presentation was made by the Chair Bette Jane Kowalski and Vice Chair Alexander Mirabella congratulating Assistant Prosecutor John Esmerado on his retirement from the County of Union after 28 years of dedicated service and Chief of County Investigators Vincent Gagliardi on his retirement from the County of Union after 27 years of dedicated service.

Chairman Kowalski spoke relative to Assistant Prosecutor John Esmerado and Chief of County Investigators Vincent Gagliardi noting some of their accolades during their distinguished careers with the county. She added that Mr. Gagliardi started his career with the county as a legislative aide for the Freeholder Board.

Assistant Prosecutor John Esmerado thanked the Board for their continued support, in particular as it relates to the Child Advocacy Center which he noted as his passion and vocation as well as facilitating the induction of the Family Justice Center. He thanked former Director Frank Guzzo, Chairman Kowalski, Vice Chairman Mirabella, and Freeholder Estrada for their willingness to help and assistance in establishing the noted services. He thanked the Prosecutor's Office for allowing him to do what he loved for 28 years.

Relative to Chief Investigator Vincent Gagliardi, Vice Chairman Mirabella expressed his appreciation related to their friendship of many years, noting that throughout his career Chief Investigator Gagliardi had worked tirelessly for the residents of the community. He wished him well in his retirement and the best in future endeavors.

Chief Investigator Gagliardi expressed his disbelief over having started his career 30 years ago as an intern for the Freeholder Board and standing before them now in light of his retirement. He noted his love for working for Union County, noting his distinct pleasure of working with his mentors, the late Sheriff Ralph Froehlich and Frank Bartone. He added that the only thing missing from the evening was Marie Oakie performing "God Bless America". He closed by thanking the Board, noting the tremendous honor of being recognized for his efforts and hard work over the years.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairman Kowalski called for a motion to approve Communications. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. July 25, 2019 – Agenda Setting Session
2. July 25, 2019 – Regular Meeting
3. August 22, 2019 – Agenda Setting Session
4. August 22, 2019 – Regular Meeting

Chairman Kowalski called for a motion to approve the Minutes. On a motion made by Freeholder Hudak and seconded by Freeholder Garretson, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the minutes of July 25th's Agenda and Regular meetings; seven votes in the affirmative, with one abstention for the Agenda and Regular Meetings of August 22nd; with Freeholder Granados absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Seeing no speakers wishing to comment, Chairman Kowalski closed the public comment portion.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

2019-827 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend not to exceed \$350,979.62 from the Fiscal Year 2019 New Jersey Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) in order to enhance the County's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-828 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend not to exceed \$2,224,824.00 from the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness under the FY 2019 Urban Areas Security Initiative.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-829 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Spec Rescue International, Virginia Beach, Virginia, to provide training to members of the Metro Urban Search and Rescue (MUSAR) Task Force from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Region, through the 2017 and 2018 UASI grants, in an amount not to exceed \$123,390.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-830 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Authorizing the County Manger to apply, accept, and expend the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety Drug Recognition Expert Call Out Grant to assist Law Enforcement Agencies in

reducing drug related crashes, injuries and fatalities in the amount of \$52,750.00, for grant period October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-831 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Westfield Veterinary Group, Westfield, New Jersey for veterinary services and food for the Union County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$9,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-832 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a proposed contract obtained through negotiation, after two (2) unsuccessful bid processes (NBA-4-2019), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(3) to Tecan US, INC., Morrisville, North Carolina for the purchase of automated liquid handlers and supplies in the total amount of not to exceed \$304,812.89.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-833 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award the Third Party Claim Administration contract for Workers' Compensation and Managed Care Services, General and Auto Liability, Property and Auto Physical Damage to Dietz & Hammer Risk Solution, Newton, NJ, for the contract period of November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$492,450.00 per year for a total amount not to exceed \$984,900.00, with an option to extend for 24 months.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-834 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Concurring with the Town of Westfield's Resolution Number 217-2019, for the installation of solar powered crosswalk

systems at the intersections of South Avenue and Cacciola Place, and West Broad Street and Palsted Avenue.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-835 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Concurring with the Township of Cranford Ordinance No. 2019-11 dated August 13, 2019 designating South Avenue East from the Garden State Parkway to the Roselle line as "Parking Prohibited At All Times."

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-836 CHAIR 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 Engineering: Tricon Enterprises Inc., of Keyport, New Jersey, for the purpose of providing the Bi-County Bridge Replacement Passaic River superstructure replacement (LBFN-2016-00001) Borough of New Providence, County of Union, New Jersey and Township of Chatham, County of Morris, New Jersey, in an amount not to exceed \$2,115,000.00 subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (BA# 32-2019); This project is being funded by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Local Bridge Future Needs 2016 in an amount not to exceed \$640,000.00. Morris County will reimburse the County of Union 50% of construction costs.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-837 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to execute a Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division, West Trenton, New Jersey for a Joint Funding Agreement (Agreement Number 20LIJFA16) for the period of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$16,855.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-838 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Garden State Highway Products, Inc. of Millville NJ, pursuant to Somerset County Co-op CC-0099-17 for the purchase of various traffic signs and accessories for use by the Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities; Bureau of Traffic, in an amount not to exceed \$8,385.85.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-839 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution Number 2017-474 adopted June 8, 2017, (BA#6-2017) 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 P&A Construction, of Colonia, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 (final) for the 2017 Road Resurfacing Project. The change order will reduce the original contract amount by \$596,427.52 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$7,618,123.34

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-840 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution Number 2016-642 adopted August 17, 2017 (BA#30-2015), 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 Pravco, Inc., of Rahway, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 2 (final) for the Union County Courthouse Justice Complex Renovations Phase III. This change order will reduce the original contract amount by \$177,845.07 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$3,765,286.93.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-841 CHAIR 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: Engineering,

Public Works & Facilities Management, Division of Facilities Management: Diversified Display Products, LLC, Hillside, NJ (BA#35-2019) for the purpose of purchasing a wide format printer & flatbed finishing system to be utilized by the Division of Facilities Management, Print Services in the amount not to exceed \$162,884.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-842 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract originally obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law; NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq: Department of Engineering, Public Work & Facilities, Division of Facilities Management: Paul's Electronic Maintenance, Inc., dba SBP, South Plainfield, NJ, BA#62-2017, for the purpose of providing emergency generator repair, maintenance and installation services, for the period of twenty-four (24) months commencing November 20, 2019 through November 19, 2021 in the amount not to exceed \$123,600.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-843 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Concurring with the Township of Springfield Resolution 2019-251 and granting permission to the Township of Springfield to close Mountain Avenue northbound from Shunpike Road to Morris Avenue and Meisel Avenue southbound from Linden Avenue to Milltown Road on October 6, 2019 between 9:00 am and 10:00 am for a Salute to Veterans 5k Run with a rain date of October 20, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-844 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Granting permission to the Township of Scotch Plains to close the following roads: a portion of Park Avenue (between Westfield Avenue/East Second Street and the intersection of Front/Bartle Avenue) on Sunday, September 29, 2019 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm for a car show on Park Ave; a portion of Park Avenue between Front Street (Westfield Road) and a section of Front Street (between Park and Senger Place) on Sunday, October 6, 2019 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm for the "Scotch Plains

Day" event and Saturday, October 26, 2019, including a rain date of Sunday, October 27, 2019 to close said road to shut down on October 6th for the Township's "Trunk or Treat" event from noon until 7:00 pm.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-845 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP), to Lorco Petroleum Services, of Elizabeth, New Jersey for the provision of motor oil and filter recycling services for the contract period of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2021 with an option to renew for 24 months in an amount not to exceed \$1,800.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-846 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract awarded to Safeguard Document Shredding, Millstone, New Jersey, originally awarded by way of Resolution 2017-836, for a period of twenty-four (24) months commencing October 15, 2019 through October 14, 2021, at an annual amount of not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-847 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution 2019-267 dated March 28, 2019 to increase the appropriation to Weber Dowd Law of Woodland Park, NJ in the matter entitled Eric Graham v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$40,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-848 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: A Resolution appointing Weiner Law Group , LLP of Parsippany, NJ to represent the Union County Prosecutor's Office in

the matter entitled Union County Prosecutor's Superior Officers PBA Local 250A v. UC Prosecutor's Office in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-849 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with IBEW Local 1158, effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-850 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA 73 - County Police Officers, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2019-851 FREEHOLDER ANGELA R. GARRETSON: Resolution recognizing the Second Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk "Pink Shuffle on the Hillside Walk," Saturday, October 5, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-852 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution recognizing Terrence C. Reilly School Number 7 in Elizabeth and Washington Elementary School in Westfield for being honored by the U.S. Department of Education with a 2019 federal "blue ribbon" award for high academic excellence, quality programs and improving student achievement.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-853 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Resolution offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Nancy Braxton during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-854 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution supporting Senate Bill S3846 and Assembly Bill A5716, which permits school districts to close schools on days of general and primary elections (S3846) and raises pay for election workers (A5726).

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-855 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN: Resolution recognizing the Yvonne McCalla Foundation for their noteworthy community efforts as they host a Breast Cancer Awareness Brunch on October 5, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-856 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN: Resolution acknowledging October 10, 2019 as World Mental Health Day 2019: Focus on Suicide Prevention, and encouraging communities to join together in participating in "40 Seconds of Action" to raise awareness of suicide prevention.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-857 FREEHOLDER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Resolution proclaiming October 11, 2019 as 'Coming Out Day' throughout the County of Union; and further declaring Union County a safe space for LGBTQ individuals.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-858 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution offering this Board's congratulations to Chief of County Investigators Vincent Gagliardi on his retirement from the County of Union after 27 years of dedicated service.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-859 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution congratulating Assistant Prosecutor John Esmerado on his retirement from the County of Union after 28 years of dedicated service to the County.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-860 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution congratulating Sally Straus, a resident of the Township of Union and affectionately referred to as "Miss Union" throughout the Township, for her dedication to her community and all its residents.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-861 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution offering this Board's sincere condolences to the family of Antonio Cicchetti, longtime Union County Division of Facilities Management employee and husband of Annette Cicchetti, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

2019-862 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution recognizing the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 18, 2019 (third Friday of October) as National Mammography Day throughout Union County.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-863 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution recognizing the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month throughout Union County.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-864 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Resolution congratulating the 2019 Honorees of the Community Access Unlimited 40th Annual Gala Dinner Dance: Humanitarian of the Year, Elaine E. Katz; Ira Geller Award, Arthur "Skip" Winter; and Public leadership Award, Steve Hehl.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-865 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Resolution congratulating the 2019 honorees of the Union County College 17th Annual Scholarship Gala: Harvey Hirschfeld and Tammy Murphy.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-866 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution congratulating UNICO District X, and Plainfields' UNICO for developing and co-sponsoring Union County's Eleventh Annual Columbus Day Flag Raising Event on Friday, October 11, 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

- 2019-867 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI, VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution congratulating Michel Paul Willemse on his recognition by the Union Knights of Columbus Council 4504 at their Past

Grand Knights' Dinner on October 12, 2019 for his hard work and dedication to their Council during his tenure as Grand Knight for the years 2017 - 2019.

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting was opened to the public for comment on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the county.

Charlotte Gala aka "Mama Meow", of Irvington, an advocate for community cats implored the Board to join her efforts in managing and mitigating the issue of stray cats throughout the community.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Williams spoke relative to National Coming Out Day on October 11th at Union County College's Cranford Campus. She advised that Chairman Kowalski would join her to celebrate the momentous event the following morning, which marks the 31st anniversary of National Coming Out Day. She noted the importance of National Coming Out Day as it encourages members of the LGBTQ+ community to come out to their family, friends, co-workers and public at large. She noted that the Board was proud to support and partner with local organizations to support such endeavors which aim to create safe and welcoming spaces for LGBTQ+ individuals and families throughout the county. She noted the importance of coming out as a means to encourage and promote equality for members of the LGBTQ+ community. She thanked Union County College President Margaret McMenamin and the UCC community for supporting the initiative.

Freeholder Hudak spoke relative to a promotional ceremony he attended on October 3rd in Mountainside, joined by Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Estrada, Public Safety Director Andrew Moran, and U.C. Police Chief James Debbie. He noted Raymond Berry's promotion to Lieutenant as well as Matthew Schiable's and Bernard Gerrity's promotion to Sergeant. He offered his congratulations to the officers on their promotions and expressed his deep appreciation to these and all law enforcement professionals for their diligent work aimed at keeping our communities safe.

Vice Chairman Mirabella invited residents to attend Union County's 11th annual Columbus Day Flag Raising ceremony, taking place the following day at 1 P.M. at the front steps of the Union County Courthouse. He noted the Board was honored to have

Senator Nicholas P. Scutari as the host and special guest speaker for the event. He added that U.C. Surrogate James S. LaCorte and Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded would also be in attendance as well as various chapters of UNICO, who co-sponsored the event. He noted the importance of such a ceremony in honoring the achievements of Italian Americans, who continue to make extraordinary contributions to the rich and diverse fabric of America. He also thanked Rosa Russo for her efforts in presenting refreshments for the event. Vice Chairman Mirabella addressed Charlotte Gala relative to the concerns she expressed during the comments' portion of the meeting and advised that a subcommittee had been established to address and combat the issue.

Freeholder Garretson thanked her cousin Patrick and his daughter from Georgia for attending the meeting. She spoke relative to mail-in ballots and highlighted the Board's support of innovative technology that would help ensure that elections were user-friendly, secure, and accessible to all. She added that U.C. Clerk Joanne Rajoppi was currently pilot-testing a new system for Vote-by-Mail ballots, which would facilitate the printing of customized ballots within seconds for each Vote-by-Mail users. She noted that such an advancement saved time for the voter, while also curbing printing costs and other expenses related to voting. She encouraged Vote-by-Mail voters to try the new system at the County Clerk's main office at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth.

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded reminded residents about several upcoming community events, including the annual Four Centuries in a Weekend event on October 19th and October 20th. She also spoke relative to the countywide Halloween Bash at Rahway Recreation Center on October 25th, catered to residents with disabilities and special needs, which would include a dance party, a haunted house, and a costume contest, among other activities. She also noted a special presentation on the life of Admiral William F. Halsey, taking place on October 30th and hosted by Admiral William F. Halsey Junior Health and Public Safety Academy in Elizabeth.

Freeholder Estrada spoke relative to a Naturalization ceremony he recently attended in which he served as the Master of Ceremonies. Organized by Brandon Givens, the Director of Community Services and presided by the Honorable Judge Karen M. Cassidy, Freeholder Estrada noted that the ceremony was personally moving, as it reminded him of his own Naturalization Ceremony which took place nearly at the same location many years ago. He noted that the 30 naturalized citizens that were sworn in at the ceremony came from all over the world including England, India, Cuba, and Portugal among other countries. On another note, he spoke relative to another event hosted by the U.C. Fatherhood Initiative Coalition, noting the importance of having father figures present in the household. He closed by congratulating the musical act, The Lance Bryant Trio, for a stellar performance.

Freeholder Staten invited residents to attend a free women's health fair at the Atrium at Liberty Hall Center in Union on October 23rd. She added that the seminar would feature a panel discussion by leading female physicians as well as free health screenings and giveaways. She also spoke relative to a free upcoming workshop for non-profit organizations taking place on October 28th at the Wagon Shed at Liberty Hall campus. She closed by thanking Charlotte Gala for her passion and advised that the Board was actively working on her concerns.

Joined by Freeholders Palmieri-Mouded, Granados, Hudak, and Deputy County Manager, Amy Wagner, Chairman Kowalski spoke relative to the Ryan Patrick Faella 5K Run she attended last Sunday at Oak Ridge Park in Clark. She noted that the Ryan Patrick Faella Foundation was founded by former County Manager, Al Faella and his wife, Mary in memory of their son Ryan who passed away at 13. She added that the charity organization awarded scholarships and raised money for youth activities, noting that the recent 5K Run event raised thousands of dollars that would be donated to Prevention LINCS. She noted that previous scholarship winners had gone on to perform volunteer work throughout the country and went on to obtain advanced degrees in various professions, among other feats. On another note, she encouraged residents to submit their nominations for next year's 28th annual Women of Excellence awards.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Kowalski asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella voice vote showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Granados absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2019 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 6, 2019 at 12:00 pm

Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy's Courtroom, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

January 17, 2019

February 7, 2019

February 21, 2019

March 7, 2019

March 28, 2019

April 4, 2019

April 25, 2019

May 2, 2019*

May 23, 2019**

June 13, 2019

June 27, 2019

July 25, 2019

August 22, 2019

September 5, 2019

September 26, 2019

October 3, 2019

October 24, 2019

November 7, 2019

December 5, 2019

December 19, 2019

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 24, 2019

February 14, 2019

February 21, 2019

March 14, 2019

March 28, 2019

April 11, 2019

April 25, 2019

May 16, 2019

May 23, 2019**

June 20, 2019

June 27, 2019

July 25, 2019

August 22, 2019

September 12, 2019

September 26, 2019

October 10, 2019

October 24, 2019

November 14, 2019

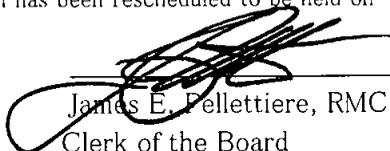
December 5, 2019

December 19, 2019

AMENDMENTS TO THE 2019 FREEHOLDER MEETING SCHEDULE

* The Agenda Setting Session of May 9, 2019 has been rescheduled to be held on May 2, 2019. Same time and location

**The Agenda Setting Session and the Regular Meeting of May 30th has been rescheduled to be held on May 23, 2019. Same time and location.


James E. Fellettiere, RMC, MPA
Clerk of the Board