



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kowalski presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 8:02P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

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.

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 Granados, roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. Thursday, September 5, 2019 – Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, September 12, 2019 – Regular Meeting
3. Thursday, September 26, 2019 – Agenda Setting Session
4. Thursday, September 26, 2019 – Regular Meeting

Chairman Kowalski called for a motion to approve the Minutes. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Hudak, roll call showed eight votes in the affirmative for the minutes of the September 5th Agenda Setting Meeting; with one abstention; nine votes in the affirmative for the September 12th Regular Meeting minutes; and seven votes in the affirmative for the Agenda Setting Meeting and Regular Meeting minutes of September 26; with two abstentions.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

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

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, asked questions and made comments relative to several resolutions. Relative to Resolution No. 2019-879, Mr. Paterson commented on the cited amount and inquired about a limousine service company nearby. Relative to Resolution 2019-881, Mr. Paterson inquired as to how much of the cited amount was designated to the county. Relative to Resolution No. 2019-884, he asked for additional information related to this item. Relative to Resolution No. 2019-886, Mr. Paterson asked for additional information relative to the vendor's qualifications as it relates to the initiative.

Relative to Resolution No. 2019-879, Director Anderson advised that half of the cited parking fees would be reimbursed by the state, while the remaining 50% would be the county's responsibility to furnish. She added that the spots were intended for 30 Social Services' employees, working at 432 Westminster Avenue. Director Anderson confirmed that the limousine service company nearby was unrelated to this item.

Relative to Resolution No. 2019-881, Director Anderson noted that the increase was in compliance with state statute relative to the Code Blue initiative.

Relative to Resolution No. 2019-884, Director Taylor advised that the funds would be used to provide assistance to homeless and at-risk families as well as individuals who were ineligible for WorkFirst NJ funding. She added that the remaining Chapter 159 resolutions were unrelated to the FY 19 funds that were withheld by the state.

Relative to Resolution No. 2019-881, Director Moran advised that the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) was a regional project hence, it proved difficult to identify the allocation of funds at the local level. He added that the cited amount only reflected a portion of the total amount assigned to the region to assist in the preparation, prevention and response to terrorism.

Relative to Resolution No. 2019-886, Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo advised that former U.C. Assistant Prosecutor Maureen O'Brien would be heading the program, noting that Ms. O'Brien spent a great deal of her distinguished career working with the county's mental health diversion program and Veterans Affairs services. Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo added that

the Prosecutor's Office was one of the first in the state to establish a mental health diversion program as well as a Veterans diversion program, before it became state mandated. She added that Ms. O'Brien had organized a panel of educators to participate in the one-week initiative cited in Resolution 2019-886, including members of the Linden Police Department, noting that the LPD was one of the most specialized departments in terms of Crisis Intervention. In summation, Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo expressed her confidence in Maureen O'Brien and her ability to spearhead the program.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were offered for adoption:

2019-868 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Amending Resolution 2019-577, increasing the 2019-2021 Area Plan, to reflect an additional increase in funding only in the amount of \$138,235.00 for a new grand total not to exceed \$5,357,811.00 to be allocated as outlined and charged to account numbers specified for the same contract period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 with no other changes to the 2019-2021 Area Plan.

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

2019-869 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Amending Resolution 2019-111, a contract with MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY, for the continued provision of Paratransit Service, to reflect an adjustment to the appropriation accounts with no change in the total amount of the award.

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

2019-870 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Authorizing the County Manager to award Greening Union County 2019 grants to eighteen (18) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the Greening Union County grant criteria, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$102,072.00.

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

2019-871 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Authorizing the County Manager to award Preserve Union County 2019 grants to nine (9) historic sites

throughout the County of Union, in an amount not to exceed \$300,315.00 in conjunction with and for the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

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

2019-872 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Authorizing the County Manager to award Kids Recreation Trust 2019 grants to twenty (20) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the Kids Recreation Trust grant criteria, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$999,697.25.

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

2019-873 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED: Amending Resolution 2019-637, increasing the Union County Homeless Trust Fund, Homelessness Housing Fund surcharge, to reflect an effective date of January 1, 2020.

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

2019-874 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and execute the FY2020 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) agreement in the amount of \$219,916.00 from the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs (NJDC) for the grant period of January 1, 2020 through March 30, 2021 for the purpose of providing community programming for low income residents of Union County; and would also recognize and accept that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from NJDC, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement. (Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Moueded)

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

2019-875 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Community Coordinated Child Care of Union County Inc, Rahway, New Jersey, for the period of October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 in the total amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 in GAP funding to continue the Union County Child Care Subsidy program.

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

2019-876 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED: Authorizing the County Manager to renew the Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and Overlook Hospital for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (one part-time employee) to process Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 at no cost to the County of Union (State and Hospital funded in full).

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

2019-877 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED: Authorizing the County Manager to renew the Agreement of Understanding between the Union County Division of Social Services and Trinitas Medical Center for the out-stationing of County Welfare Agency staff (four full-time employees) to process Medicaid applications for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 at no cost to the County of Union (State and Hospital funded in full).

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

2019-878 FREEHOLDER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED: Authorizing the County Manager to concur with the Borough of Kenilworth's Resolution No. 12 authorizing the consolidation of their General Assistance (GA) caseload with the County of Union, Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services, effective October 31, 2019.

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

2019-879 Authorizing the County Manager to enter in to a Lease Agreement with Sharma Realty Investments LLC, Elizabeth, New Jersey, for the rental of 30 parking spaces located at 432 Westminster Avenue, Elizabeth, for Division of Social Services' employee parking in the amount of \$75 per space or \$2,250.00 per month, total annual amount not to exceed \$27,000.00 for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. (Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Moueded)

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

2019-880 Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$350,979.62 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a program entitled: State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-881 Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$2,224,824.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a program entitled: Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-882 Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$7,969.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-883 Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$90,909.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families for a program entitled: Sexual Assault, Abuse, and Rape Care (SAARC) Supplemental Funds. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-884 Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$10,689.00 as a result of notification for additional funding received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Social Services for the Homeless(SSH) Grant. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-885 Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$17,496.00 as a result of notification for additional funding received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Older Americans Area Plan Contract (APC). (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-886 Authorizing the County Manager, through the Union County Prosecutor's Office, to enter into a contract with O'Brien & Kolano, LLC, of Glen Gardner, NJ to provide Crisis Intervention Team Training to law enforcement and mental health personnel in an amount not to exceed \$23,000.00. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-887 Authorizing the County Manager through the Union County Prosecutor's Office to enter into an agreement for the purchase of various badges, trophies and plaques from West Hudson Industries, Rahway, New Jersey for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-888 Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the option to extend a contract with Medcom, Birmingham, AL, to provide Retiree Benefit Billing Services and COBRA Administration Services from November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$36,000.00. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-889 Authorizing the County Manager to apply for the NJ Department of State 2020 Complete Count Commission County Grants Program in the amount of \$221,000.00 for marketing efforts and active outreach of hard-to-count (HTC) populations to encourage a full participation in the decennial 2020 Census.

Upon receipt of the grant funds, the County Manager is authorized to enter into a Grant Agreement with the NJ Department of State, and is further authorized to expend said funds pursuant to the terms of the grant agreement, for the period of November 12, 2019 through June 30, 2020. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-890 Amending Resolution Number 2018-403 adopted April 26, 2018, (BA #10-2018) 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 Smith-Sondy Asphalt Construction Company, of Wallington, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 for the 2018 Road Resurfacing Project, Various Municipalities, County of Union, New Jersey. This change order will increase the original contract amount by \$477,996.21 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$7,886,612.06. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-891 Concurring with the Township of Berkeley Height's Resolution Number 286-2019 prohibiting left turns from Mountain Avenue (County Road 622) onto Timber Drive, Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. prevailing time; and establishing a new, reduced, speed limit of 30 MPH on Springfield Avenue (County Road 512) in the Township's downtown area from the center of Lawrence Drive to the Center of Passaic Avenue, Township of Berkeley Heights, New Jersey. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-892 Amending Resolutions Number 2018-897 adopted on October 11, 2018, a Professional Construction Management Contract with Cumming Construction Company, of Cranford, New Jersey, to provide additional construction management services associated with the Ash Brook Golf Course Clubhouse Project located in Scotch Plains, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$163,408.80 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$1,513,131.80. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-893 Authorizing the County Manager to amend the previously adopted Resolution 2019-631 for the 2019-2020 Deer Management Program for Union County, relative to the reduction of the white-tailed deer population within Union County. Licensed hunters, acting as agents of the County, would harvest during the permit season, in the manner prescribed by the Fish and Game Code of the State of New Jersey and the 2019-2020 Deer Management Program for Union County Guidelines revised 10/18/2019. The County Manager is authorized to restrict areas when conditions necessitate. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-894 Authorizing the County Manager to award a Professional Engineering Service Contract, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to CME Associates, of Parlin, New Jersey to prepare a comprehensive Open Space & Recreation Plan Element of the Union County 2020 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan in the amount not to exceed \$167,500.00. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-895 Amending Resolution Number 2019-87 dated January 24, 2019, to increase the appropriation for litigation support experts in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 for a total contract sum not to exceed \$50,000.00. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-896 Amending Resolution Number 2019-692 dated August 22, 2019, to increase the appropriation to Ruderman & Roth, LLC of Springfield, NJ in the matter entitled Eric Graham v. UC, et als. in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a total contract sum not to exceed \$40,000.00. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-897 Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA Local 203-Weights &

Measures, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-898 Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA 108-Sheriff Officers, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-899 Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA 108A-Sheriff Superior Officers effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-900 Resolution authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Union and the Union County Improvement Authority to provide financial management services for capital projects. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-901 Resolution re-appointing Nicholas Fixmer to the Union County College Board of Trustees beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2023. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

2019-902 Amending Resolution Number 2019-3, a resolution designating official newspapers as recipients of legal notices of the County of Union for the Year 2019, to reflect a change in name of the following newspaper: Vistazo Hispano,

LLC; now operating under the name of Vision Latina USA LLC. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

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

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2019-903 Resolution congratulating Mikael Sousa Goncalves, of Boy Scout Troop 101, Elizabeth, upon attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. (Freeholder Sergio Granados, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Chair Bette Jane Kowalski & Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)

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

2019-904 Resolution recognizing the New Jersey Mission of Honor and the Krowicki McCracken Funeral Home for their 31st Committal Ceremony at the Krowicki McCracken Funeral Home in Linden on October 10, 2019. (Freeholder Sergio Granados & Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

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

2019-905 Resolution congratulating the City of Elizabeth and the Town of Kitami, Hokkaido, Japan upon their 50th Anniversary as being Sister Cities. (Freeholder Sergio Granados & the Entire Board)

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

2019-906 Congratulating Towonia L. Jackson, Supervisor for the Division of Social Services, Department of Human Services upon her well-deserved retirement after 41 years of dedicated service to the County of Union. (Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded & the Entire Board)

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

2019-907 Resolution congratulating recipients of the South Street Youth Center Golden Anniversary Gala being held on October 24th. (Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams)

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

2019-908 Resolution congratulating Danielle Tucker on her recognition for her outstanding contributions in the field of fine arts and humanitarian deeds by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Delta Pi Chapter at their 32nd Annual Citation Awards Scholarship Breakfast on October 26, 2019. (Freeholder Rebecca Lynne Williams)

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

2019-909 Resolution congratulating Gordon Haas upon his retirement from the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce; and further wishing him well in his retirement and on all future endeavors. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella & Freeholder Sergio Granados)

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

2019-910 Proclaiming November 22, 2019 as Adoption Day throughout the County of Union. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski & the Entire Board)

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

2019-911 Resolution proclaiming October 23rd through October 31st, 2019 as Red Ribbon Week throughout the County of Union. (Chair Kowalski, Entire Board)

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

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.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to Senator Nicholas Scutari relative to his prior position as Linden Prosecutor, current position as County Democratic (Party) Chairman and a previous issue before the Board (rail line) when he

served as Freeholder. He made comments relative to the hiring of County Manager Edward T. Oatman.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Granados invited residents to participate in an online needs-assessment survey which would be used to improve county-wide services related to recreation, education, housing, and healthcare, among other services. On another note, he thanked Victoria Durbin-Drake, Trust Fund Administrator for the Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Trust Fund and staff for their hard work. Relative to the comments made by Mr. Paterson, Freeholder Granados expressed his support for County Manager Oatman and his qualifications and ability to lead the county successfully. Relative to Senator Nicholas Scutari and the allegations against him, Freeholder Granados expressed his support and the Board's support for Senator Scutari in light of these unfounded allegations.

Freeholder Williams invited residents to attend the official opening of the new multi-use turf fields at Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield on Sunday, November 3rd. As a Plainfield resident, she expressed her excitement for the event and the new addition to the park. She added that the county was working on updating existing fields to include the new multi-use surface which allows for use throughout the year. She spoke relative to the recent performance at UCPAC of the renowned play, *The Colored Museum*, commemorating the 400th year anniversary since the first Africans were brought to the United States as slaves in 1619. She noted the positive response to the performance and thanked her fellow Freeholders, County Manager Oatman, and Trust Fund Administrator Victoria Durbin-Drake for attending and facilitating the event.

Freeholder Hudak reminded residents that the county was currently accepting applications for per diem Emergency Medical Technicians through the division of Emergency Services and provided additional information for interested residents. He also spoke relative to the 21st annual Red Ribbon Day and Drug Prevention Walk that took place on October 19th at Nomahegan Park. He congratulated Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo for being recognized at the event for her work as it relates to addressing the issue of substance abuse. Joined by Vice Chairman Mirabella, Freeholder Hudak spoke about his attendance of the Know Your Rights seminar hosted by the LGBTQ Department and thanked Director Danni Newbury and staff for their efforts in facilitating the informative event. On another note, he referenced the comments made by Mr. Paterson related to County Manager Oatman, noting his confidence in County Manager Edward T. Oatman's leadership. With regards to the comments made about Senator Nicholas Scutari, Freeholder Hudak noted Senator Scutari's long and distinguished career and expressed his disdain as a Linden resident relative to the allegations made against him. He closed by wishing fellow Board Members, Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Granados and Freeholder Williams success in their upcoming run for re-election to the Board.

Vice Chairman Mirabella reminded residents about the upcoming Halloween Bash at Rahway Recreation Center on October 25th for residents with disabilities and special needs, noting that the event would include a dance party, a haunted house, and a costume contest, among other activities. He also spoke relative to upcoming performances of Max & Ruby and ARB's Nutcracker at the Sensory Friendly Theatre at UCPAC in Rahway. Vice Chairman Mirabella addressed the comments made by Mr. Paterson and spoke in defense of Senator Nicholas Scutari, highlighting his many contributions throughout his distinguished career and also expressed his confidence in County Manager Oatman. He closed by offering his well wishes to Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Granados and Freeholder Williams as it relates to their upcoming election run, noting that he expected them to be victorious.

Freeholder Garretson reminded residents that nominations were now open for the 28th annual Women of Excellence awards, expressing the importance of recognizing the innumerable contributions made by women.

Freeholder Garretson left at 8:35 P.M.

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded thanked the volunteers that worked and facilitated the Four Centuries in a Weekend event the previous weekend, noting that the event was a great success. She also reminded residents about the upcoming Explore the World of Gems, Minerals and Jewelry event taking place on November 2nd & 3rd at Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside as well as the 86th Annual Fall Troop Horse Show at the Watchung Stable on October 25th -27th. She closed by noting her excitement over the check awards that were presented to the various municipalities earlier during the Agenda Meeting, thanking Freeholder Granados for facilitating the Preserve Union County and Greening Union County Grant programs.

Freeholder Estrada made comments relative to the protests taking place in Hong Kong and expressed his distaste related to Nike and certain individuals in the NBA adhering to self-censorship in pursuit of monetary gains, adding that our country was founded on basic freedoms and the ability to express one's opinions without fear of retaliation. Relative to Mr. Paterson's comments, he denounced the allegations and spoke positively about Senator Scutari, who previously served as a Freeholder many years ago. He also commended County Manager for his hard work and successful leadership, noting his initial apprehension.

Freeholder Staten reminded residents about the upcoming forum "21-21" focused on Elder Abuse Prevention hosted by the U.C. Prosecutor's Office and U.C Human Relations Commission. She closed by wishing residents a safe and happy Halloween.

County Manager Oatman thanked Freeholder Estrada for the kind words and recognition.

Joined by Governor Phil Murphy, Vice Chairman Mirabella and Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded, Chairman Kowalski spoke relative to the recent announcement at the Westfield station relative to the resumption of one-seat rides on NJ Transit's Raritan Valley on November 4th. She commended Governor Murphy and NJ Transit as well as other advocates and riders for working diligently to reintroduce this feature to the rail system. She also noted her recent attendance of the Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration sponsored by Assemblywoman Annette Quijano. She commended Freeholder Estrada for being honored at the event with a Lifetime Recognition Award, noting the award was well deserved. She closed by expressing her confidence in County Manager Oatman's abilities and leadership and spoke highly of Senator Nicholas Scutari and all his hard work over the years.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 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

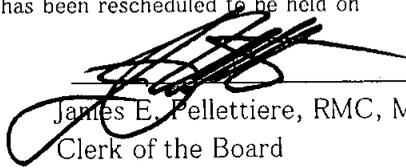
December 5, 2019

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. Pellettiere, RMC, MPA
Clerk of the Board