



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019  
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kowalski presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

### ROLL CALL

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

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 advised that the communications would be approved next week during the Regular Meeting on October 10th.

### PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

Board of Elections Administrator Nicole DiRado spoke relative to last week's meeting resolutions from the Board of Elections related to HAVA Grant funding aimed at improving ADA compliance at various polling locations, including Frank K. Henly School in Clark and Orange Avenue School in Cranford as well as making both facilities more accessible throughout the year, not merely for voting on Election Day.

Freeholder Hudak inquired about potential closure of schools for the Primary and General Elections.

Administrator DiRado noted that polling locations were established by state statute. She advised that the Board of Elections was arduously working to secure alternate polling locations, noting that this year nine districts had been moved from four school polling locations. She expressed her concerns relative to using schools as polling locations, noting that like the Board, she supported the closure of schools during the Primary and General Elections.

Vice Chairman Mirabella asked for a tally of schools in the county that close for the Primary and General Elections.

Administrator DiRado advised that three schools districts were scheduled to close for the 2019 General as well as the 2020 Primary elections, which include Cranford, Elizabeth, and Hillside. She added that most schools districts in the area were open during the Primary Election, with only half of the school districts closing for the General Election.

Administrator DiRado noted that she had written a letter on behalf of the Board advocating for school closures and had forwarded it to the legislative delegation and was currently awaiting a response.

Freeholder Hudak suggested that the Board should also issue a letter of support for the legislation; Chairman Kowalski agreed.

#### OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Lyndsay V. Ruotolo, Acting Prosecutor

1. 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 \$304,812.89. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

Freeholder Granados asked Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo to elaborate on this item.

Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo advised that automated liquid handlers were essentially robots tasked with moving and removing pivots containing biological samples as necessary. She noted that the advantage of using automatons was that they could work around-the-clock, including weekends and also curb the risk of possible contamination and or cross contamination, among other human errors. She advised that the introduction of automated handlers would also assist in speeding up sample processing, including samples from test kits related to sexual assaults and more easily compare them to samples available through the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). She added that the unsuccessful bids related to the inability of previously selected vendors to accommodate the equipment currently in the lab as well as adequately provide the sought service.

## OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY SHERIFF

Peter Corvelli, Sheriff

Lieutenant Meros represented the Sheriff's Office.

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. 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. (Freeholder Sergio Granados)

## DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Laura Scutari, Director

1. 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 with 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

Freeholder Estrada asked Director Scutari to confirm if the price of \$492,450 annually would total the NTE amount of \$984,900.

Director Scutari confirmed that \$492,450 was indeed the annual amount, for a total of \$984,900 for both years.

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS &amp; FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Joseph Graziano, Director

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. 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 at Cacciola Place and West Broad Street and Palstead Avenue. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
2. 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." (Chair 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: 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
4. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
5. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
6. 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 (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
7. 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, City of Elizabeth. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
8. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

9. Authorizing the County Manager to award the proposed contract extension 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
10. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
11. 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 same said road to shut down on October 6th for the Township's "Trunk or Treat" event from noon until 7:00 pm. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
12. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
13. Authorizing the County Manager to use the County's option to extend the contract awarded to Safeguard Document Shredding, Millstone, New Jersey, through 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Andrew Moran, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend \$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. (Freeholder Christopher Hudak)
2. Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend \$2,224,824.00 from the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness under the FY 2019 Urban Areas Security Initiative. (Freeholder Christopher Hudak)

Freeholder Hudak asked if the cited amount for the FY 2019 Urban Areas Security Initiative reflected an increase or decrease in funding.

Director Moran advised that the amount reflected a decrease in funding, noting that the amount cited represented the county's portion of the award which was comparable to prior years, while the remaining amount of the initiative was distributed amongst the other counties and or entities that also subscribed to the initiative.

3. 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. (Freeholder Christopher Hudak)
4. Authorizing the County Manger to apply for, 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. (Freeholder Christopher Hudak)

#### OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

Robert Barry, County Counsel

1. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

Freeholder Williams asked County Counsel Barry whether or not he expected the increase to cover the cited matter.

County Counsel Barry advised that whether or not the increase was enough was dependent on how litigation progressed.

2. 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. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

#### OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Edward T. Oatman, County Manager

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County Manager Oatman advised that he may introduce a new item related to the U.C. Improvement Authority at next week's Regular Meeting.

There were no questions or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to sign any all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with IBEW Local 1158, effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)
2. Authorizing the County Manager to sign any all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA 73 - County Police Officers, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski)

#### FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution recognizing the Second Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk "Pink Shuffle on the Hillside Walk," Saturday, October 5, 2019. (Freeholder Angela R. Garretson)
2. 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. (Freeholder Sergio Granados)

Freeholder Estrada asked to join this resolution; Chairman Kowalski suggested the entire Board join.

3. 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. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

Chairman Kowalski suggested the entire Board join.

4. Resolution congratulating Assistant Prosecutor John Esmerado on his retirement from the County of Union after 28 years of dedicated service to the County. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

Chairman Kowalski suggested the entire Board join.

5. 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. (Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella)

Freeholder Hudak asked to join this resolution, adding that he would have additional items for next week's Regular Meeting.

Freeholder Estrada asked to join this resolution; Chairman Kowalski suggested the entire Board join.

6. Resolution offering this Board's sincere condolences to the family of Tony Cicchetti, longtime Union County Division of Facilities Management employee and husband of Annette Cicchetti, during their time of sorrow. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski & the Entire Board)
7. Resolution recognizing the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 18th, 2019 (third Friday of October) as National Mammography Day throughout Union County. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski & the Entire Board)
8. Resolution recognizing the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month throughout Union County. (Chair Bette Jane Kowalski & the Entire Board)

Freeholder Staten and Freeholder Williams advised they would have additional resolutions to add for next week's Regular Meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Kowalski asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella a voice vote showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Garretson and Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 17, 2019

January 24, 2019

February 7, 2019  
 February 21, 2019

February 14, 2019  
 February 21, 2019

March 7, 2019  
 March 28, 2019

March 14, 2019  
 March 28, 2019

April 4, 2019  
 April 25, 2019

April 11, 2019  
 April 25, 2019

May 2, 2019\*  
 May 23, 2019\*\*

May 16, 2019  
 May 23, 2019\*\*

June 13, 2019  
 June 27, 2019

June 20, 2019  
 June 27, 2019

July 25, 2019

July 25, 2019

August 22, 2019

August 22, 2019

September 5, 2019  
 September 26, 2019

September 12, 2019  
 September 26, 2019

October 3, 2019  
 October 24, 2019

October 10, 2019  
 October 24, 2019

November 7, 2019

November 14, 2019

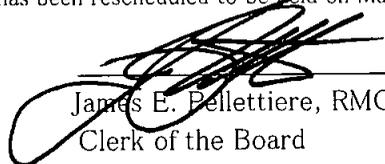
December 5, 2019  
 December 19, 2019

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. Pelletiere, RMC, MPA  
 Clerk of the Board