



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 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 Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Sergio Granados, Freeholder Christopher Hudak, Freeholder Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Freeholder Andrea Staten and Freeholder Rebecca Williams were present; with Freeholder Angela R. Garretson 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 called for a motion to approve Communications. On a motion made by Vice Chairman Mirabella and seconded by Freeholder Granados, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative; with Freeholder Garretson 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:

2019-912 FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA: Authorizing the use of Competitive Contracting, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq, for the provision of medical and psychiatric care to patients of Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-913 FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Connecticut Canine Services, Bethany, CT for the purchase of two (2) dogs to be trained and utilized by the Union County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit for a total amount not to exceed \$14,900.00.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-914 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with Landauer Inc., Glenwood, IL for service and repair of radiation monitoring systems in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 through December 31, 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 Garretson absent.

2019-915 FREEHOLDER KIMBERELY PALMIERI-MOUEDE: Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a quarterly agreement as needed with Visual Computer Solutions, Inc., Freehold, New Jersey, to provide maintenance for the Division of Social Services employees Time Management System/Time Clock for the period of December 1, 2019 through February 28, 2020 in the total amount not to exceed \$8,767.50.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-916 FREEHOLDER KIMBERELY PALMIERI-MOUCED: Amending Resolution Number 2019-424, adopting the 2019 Union County Homeless Trust Fund (HTF) Spending Plan, to reflect additional grant dollars in the amount of \$31,925.00 awarded to Family Promise-Union County for a new Spending Plan grand total not to exceed \$241,925.00; with no changes to the terms and conditions of the Spending Plan, nor the contract period.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-917 FREEHOLDER KIMBERELY PALMIERI-MOUCED: Authorizing the County Manager to approve the Countywide Code Blue Emergency Shelter Initiative for the Winter of 2019-2020 in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.00 to address the needs of the homeless during periods of extreme weather conditions.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-918 FREEHOLDER ANDREA STATEN: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept grant funding, and enter into a contract with the State of New Jersey, Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA), for the FY2021 Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program award in the amount of \$556,097.00 for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 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 Garretson absent.

2019-919 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$52,419.01 as a result of notification for additional funds received from the State of New Jersey, City of Summit for a program entitled: Locust Culvert at Tulip Street, City of Summit (Sanitary Sewer) Project.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-920 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$147,905.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) Program-Multi-Jurisdictional Gang, Gun and Narcotics Task Forces Grant.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-921 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$50,000.00 as a result of notification for additional funds received from the County of Union, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Paratransit Fares.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-922 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$14,171.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Megan's Law and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-923 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$1,950.01 as a result of notification for additional funds received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State for a program entitled: HAVA Election Security-ADA Polling Place Accessibility Program Grant.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-924 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$1,752,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Corrections for a program entitled: Department of Corrections State Aid.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-925 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Resolution modifying the 2019 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$41,263.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Law Enforcement Officers Training and Equipment Fund (LEOTEF).

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 Garretson absent.

2019-926 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA: Approving Transfer of Current Fund Appropriations.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-927 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor, State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, to continue efforts of insurance fraud investigation in Union County for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$250,000.00.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-928 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety under the SFY 2019 Law Enforcement

Officers Training and Equipment Fund (LEOTEF) grant, for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 in the amount of \$41,263.00.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-929 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept grant funding from the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program to support the Multi-Jurisdictional Gang, Gun, and Narcotics Task Force for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$147,905.00.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-930 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety funded by the New Jersey Department of Health through the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for FFY2019 Overdose Data to Action-Operation Helping Hand Grant Program in the amount of \$65,000.00 for the period of September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020. Subaward number FYOHH-15-2019.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-931 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager through the Union County Prosecutor's Office to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, Megan's Law and Local Law Enforcement Assistant Grant Program in the amount of \$14,171.00 for the period of September 1, 2018 through August 31, 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 Garretson absent.

2019-932 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: 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, 2020 through December 31, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$21,205.00.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-933 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Resolution rescinding Resolution Number 2018-1034 authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement with Orchard Holdings, LLC, Manasquan, New Jersey for the Intersection Improvement at West 7th Street (CR 601) Corridor, City of Plainfield, New Jersey, for failure to meet the requirements of 49 CF 26.53 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-934 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution Number 2017-870, a Shared Service Agreement with the City of Summit, New Jersey to provide for the Replacement of the Locust Drive Culvert (Su105) reimbursement costs related to the design, construction and relocation of the sanitary sewer line, City of Summit, to provide for additional reimbursement costs from the City to the County of Union in the amount not to exceed \$52,419.01 for a new reimbursement cost to the County of Union in an amount not to exceed \$253,872.01. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-005)

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 Garretson absent.

2019-935 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Amending Resolution 2019-505 to reflect a change in date for the Linden Halloween Parade to Sunday, November 3, 2019; and further closing Wood Avenue from Routes 1&9 to Gibbons Street from 12:00pm to 6:00pm.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-936 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Modern Equipment Sales of Edison, NJ for the purchase of a Cam Supreme 16 ft Trailer Vehicle in the amount of \$10,691.29.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-937 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 Parks and Recreation: Country Feed and Grain, Haskell, NJ, for the purpose of providing Horse Feed (BA 2019-40), for a period of 24 months from December 1, 2019 through November 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$116,000.00.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-938 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Requesting an amendment to Resolution 2018-1071 authorizing the County Manager to approve an extension in the authorization of Kemper Sports Management's operational budget for operational expenses related to the golf courses for the extension period of November 17, 2019 through December 31, 2019; no change in budget amount.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-939 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Requesting amendments to Resolution 2014-881 and Resolution 2018-422 (said Resolution amended the services provided to include the Scotch Hills Golf Course through the County's Shared Services Agreement with Scotch Plains) for the purpose of extending the term of the contract for Golf Operations and Management Services and Concessionaire Services at Galloping Hill and Ash Brook Golf Courses with Kemper Sports Management and for same services for the Scotch Hills Golf Course, respectively, from November 17, 2019 through December 31, 2019, under the same terms and conditions as the original contract and increasing the contract amount in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.00 to cover the Management Fee for Galloping Hill and Ash Brook Golf Courses and an amount not to exceed \$4,600.00 to cover the Management Fee for the Scotch Hill Golf Course, both for the extension period of November 17, 2019 through December 31, 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 Garretson absent.

2019-940 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Requesting an amendment to Resolution of 2018-423 for the purpose of extending the term of the Shared Services Agreement for the Operation and Management for Scotch Hills Golf Course with the Township of Scotch Plains from November 17, 2019 through December 31, 2019, under the same terms and conditions as the original shared services agreement and increasing the contract amount in an amount not to exceed \$4,400.00, to be paid by the Township of Scotch Plains to the County, to cover the Management Fee for Scotch Hills Golf Course for the extension period of November 17, 2019 through December 31, 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 Garretson absent.

2019-941 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Requesting an amendment to Resolution of 2019-131 for the purpose of extending the term of the Management and Concessionaire Services contracts for the Warinanco Sports Center assigned to Kemper Sports Management LLC and KemperSports Golf Group LLC, respectively, from November 17, 2019 through December 31, 2019, under the same terms and conditions as the original contracts and subsequent assignment and increasing the contract amount in an amount not to exceed \$10,266.00 to cover the Management Fee for the Warinanco Sports Center for the extension period of November 17, 2019 through December 31, 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 Garretson absent.

2019-942 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Requesting an amendment to Resolution 2018-1072 authorizing the County Manager to approve an increase in Kemper Sports Management's operational budget for Warinanco Sports Center operations expenses by an amount not to exceed \$93,049.00 to address additional operating expenses resulting from the extension period of November 17, 2019 through December 31, 2019 for new total amount not to exceed \$609,049.00.

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 Garretson absent.

- 2019-943 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: A resolution authorizing Settlement of pending litigation in the matter entitled Justin Marranca v. UC, et al, Docket No. UNN-L-002825-18, in accordance with the settlement agreement, in amount not to exceed \$56,154.80 (gross).

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 Garretson absent.

- 2019-944 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI: Authorizing the County Manager to adjust and/or change the Internal Position Control Schedules.

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 Garretson absent.

FREEHOLDER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

- 2019-945 FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK: Resolution congratulating the veterans who are named the Linden Hometown Heroes at the Welcome Home Heroes Ceremony on Monday, November 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 Garretson absent.

- 2019-946 FREEHOLDER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS: Resolution congratulating Dr. Stefanie Minatee, retired Vocal Music Teacher for the Plainfield Public School District, on her success as a music teacher, and for creating "We Are Plainfield", an event established to celebrate the talents of artists in the City of Plainfield.

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 Garretson absent.

- 2019-947 VICE CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA, & FREEHOLDER SERGIO GRANADOS: Resolution recognizing the talents of Lucero

and Alison Lopez, also known as Sister Power, upon the premier of their music video on November 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 Garretson absent.

2019-948 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Aileen Mary Pellettiere (Wild), Florham Park, aunt of Clerk of the Board James Pellettiere, upon the occasion of her passing.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-949 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution thanking Maureen Tinen on her tireless efforts in assisting economic success for small and large businesses throughout Union County during her 32 year tenure at the Union County Economic Development Corporation; and further wishing her health and happiness on her retirement and all future endeavors.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-950 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution commending Josephine's Place for its tireless community efforts throughout the year; and further congratulating the honorees of their Annual Fall Celebration: Sister Judith Mertz, receiving the Mother Josephine Marie Humanitarian Award and the City of Elizabeth and Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, receiving the Corporate Partner Award.

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 Garretson absent.

2019-951 CHAIR BETTE JANE KOWALSKI & THE ENTIRE BOARD: Resolution commending the work of the Union County Chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Safety in America, and standing in support of the NJ Red Flag Law that went into effect on September 1, 2109; and further endorsing the BeSmart education program, and encouraging all municipalities to participate in the educational program that

discusses responsible actions that can prevent child gun deaths and injuries – safe storage of firearms, the importance of asking about guns in the home when children go on play-dates, as well as recognizing the role of firearms in suicides.

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 Garretson absent.

Freeholder Angela R. Garretson arrived at the meeting.

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.

Robert Scutro, of Linden, made comments relative to certain discrepancies he noted on time-sheets related to City of Linden and Union County employees and provided Clerk of the Board Pelletiere with documentation.

Vice Chairman Mirabella noted Mr. Scutro's concerns, citing that the allegations were indeed alarming and the provided documentation would be reviewed and the allegations, if founded, would be investigated.

FREEHOLDER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Freeholder Granados congratulated his fellow Board members Chairman Kowalski and Freeholder Williams for their election victories as well as all the other candidates throughout the county that secured a win. On another note, he referenced Operation Warm Heart, coordinated by the Division of Social Services, in particular Nathalie Hernandez, Coordinator of the Office of Community Engagement and Diversity. He thanked everyone who participated and donated winter clothing and other accessories for those in need, noting that 100 families had been helped through the initiative. He closed by thanking everyone for their generosity, in particular the county staff for facilitating such an invaluable initiative.

Freeholder Williams also congratulated fellow Board members Chairman Kowalski and Freeholder Granados in light of their election victory. She also congratulated the other candidates throughout the county on their win as well as everyone that ran, noting the somewhat difficult nature of being a public servant. On another note, she spoke relative to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new turf field at Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield. Joined by Chairman Kowalski, Vice Chairman Mirabelle, Freeholder Staten,

Assemblywoman Linda Carter, and Plainfield Mayor Adrian Mapp, she noted the excitement of the children that attended the event, dressed in their soccer uniforms and ready to try out the new field. She added that new multi-use field could be used for soccer, football, and lacrosse by both adults and children and given the sturdy and resilient nature of the turf, everyone would be able to utilize the field even after inclement weather.

Freeholder Hudak spoke relative to fire safety in light of the onset of cold weather and urged residents to take extra precautions to prevent fires. On another note, he thanked Director Graziano and the Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities Management for their hard work and diligence in addressing several problematic roads in Linden and Roselle. He congratulated his fellow Board members Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Granados, and Freeholder Williams in light of their recent electoral victories. He also congratulated everyone throughout the county that secured a victory and thanked all of those who ran for their interest in holding public office and taking part in the democratic process. He closed by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and encouraged residents to shop locally, whenever possible, for their holiday needs.

Vice Chairman Mirabella spoke relative to programs, services and support available for veterans and active duty military throughout the year. In particular, he referenced UC-HERO, an initiative that provides a central clearinghouse for information on eligibility, entitlements, benefits programs, and other available services. He noted that UC-HERO works with the Office of Veterans' Affairs and the Division on Aging, to provide health and mental health referral services, job opportunities through the Workforce Innovation Business Center, and outreach in addition to partnering with local veteran groups. Vice Chairman Mirabella also reminded residents aged 60 and older about the Senior Café program, run by the Division on Aging, which provides hot meals to qualifying residents for a suggested donation of \$1.75. In addition to the Senior Café program, he noted that the Paratransit service provided low-cost transportation for medical appointments and other activities. On another note, Vice Chairman Mirabella spoke relative to Union County College, which was named as one of the top 150 U.S. community colleges eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. He expressed his pride as well as the Board's pride in having U.C.C. nationally recognized for its high achievement and performance. He closed by congratulating his colleagues Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Granados, and Freeholder Williams on their victories, noting that he looked forward to continue their work together.

Freeholder Garretson likewise congratulated Chairman Kowalski as well as Freeholders Granados and Williams on their win. She noted that it was a pleasure to serve and continue to serve with such an esteemed group of people. She commended U.C.C. for being nationally recognized and in the running for the Aspen Prize. On another note, she spoke relative to the Code Blue initiative through the Department of Human

Services, which helps those in need of shelter during the cold weather by providing a warm and safe place to stay at night. She noted that once the Code Blue was activated, the County coordinated with municipal resources to find homeless persons and if necessary, provide transportation to shelters.

Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded spoke relative to CNN's Hero of the Year award, noting that Mountainside resident Mary Robinson had been nominated for the prestigious award, among nine other contenders. She noted that Mary Robinson was the founder of the non-profit organization Imagine - A Center for Coping with Loss, which provides tools, support and a place to heal for children grieving the loss of a parent or sibling. Freeholder Palmieri-Mouded commended Mary Robinson for her efforts and encouraged residents to vote for her. On another note, she reminded residents about several indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities available throughout the county, including programs for toddlers at the Trailside Nature and Science Center and other activities at the Watchung Stable in Mountainside. She also spoke relative to Warinanco Sports Center and advised that the facility was now open for ice skating. She also noted the A. Paul Mallery Model Railroad Center in Union, which was open to visitors on Saturday afternoons, noting their upcoming annual Holiday Sound and Light Show beginning on November 29th.

Freeholder Estrada congratulated his fellow Board members Chairman Kowalski, Freeholder Granados, and Freeholder Staten on their recent election victories. He also congratulated everyone else throughout the county that had secured a win, in particular those from the Board of Education. Joined by County Manager Oatman, Freeholder Estrada spoke relative to the initial briefing conducted for the Union County Department of Corrections by The American Correctional Association earlier that day. Freeholder Estrada noted that the recent audit of the department resulted in exceptional scores of 100% for mandatory standards and 99.3% compliance in non-mandatory standards. He commended Director Ron Charles and the Department as a whole for the stellar performance.

Freeholder Staten spoke relative to the YMCA Food Drive sponsored by the Board and hosted by Gateway Family YMCA and the Shaping Easter Union County organization. She advised that non-perishable food items and toiletries including tuna, soups, cereal, shampoo, and disposable razors among other items could be dropped off at local YMCA branches in Elizabeth, Union and Rahway through December 23rd. She noted that donations would directly support the local community through the YMCA Housing Programs in Elizabeth and The Dudley House Veterans Transitional Housing Program in Plainfield. She closed by congratulating her fellow Board members on their recent re-election wins.

Chairman Kowalski reminded residents that the official election results for the November 5th General Election had been posted and were available on the Union County elections website. She congratulated her colleagues on their election wins as

well as all the newly elected and re-elected municipal and statewide office holders. She noted that the Board looked forward to working with the re-elected and newly elected officials to continue to serve the county residents. She also congratulated Union County Surrogate James S. LaCorte for his win. On another note, she reminded residents that the restricted one-seat ride for rail travel had been recently restored for off-peak hours. She congratulated Freeholder Estrada for his chairmanship of the NJ Transportation Planning Authority, noting that she attended his last meeting as Chairman, and thanked him for serving in that capacity. She closed by noting the various Veterans' Day memorials throughout the county, some of which she attended, adding that the ceremonies were very touching and did well in honoring the Veterans.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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. Pellettiere, RMC, MPA
Clerk of the Board