



# UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Granados presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:36P.M.

## **ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed Chairman Sergio Granados, Vice-Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Joseph C. Bodek, Commissioner Angela R. Garretson, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Commissioner Lourdes M. Leon, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, and Commissioner Rebecca Williams were present, with Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr. absent.

Also present were County Manager Edward T. Oatman, County Counsel Bruce H. Bergen, 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**

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Note and File

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

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

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The meeting was opened for the purpose of commenting on resolutions being offered for adoption and 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 and asked questions relative to several resolutions. Relative to Reso No. 2023-853, he asked about how the cost had been calculated. Relative to Reso No. 2023-861, he asked for additional information related to the cost. Relative to Reso No. 2023-844, Mr. Paterson asked for additional details relative to the Warinanco Park Upgrades. Relative to Reso No. 2023-899, he

asked for additional information related to this item. Relative to general comments, he made comments about the recent indictment of NJ U.S. Senator Robert Menendez for allegedly accepted bribes and using his official position to influence foreign affairs. Mr. Paterson also inquired about the events that unfolded at the County's Annex building.

Relative to Reso No. 2023-853, Acting Director Burke advised that the annual cost for this shared service for New Providence would be approximately \$159,000 annually. He added that pricing was based on a three-year historical analysis of dispatching costs of New Providence with their current vendor.

Relative to Reso No. 2023-861, Acting Director Policay advised that the cited amount also included construction management costs associated with the replacement. He added that the Office would go out to bid for construction management and installation as needed.

Relative to Reso No. 2023-884, County Manager Oatman advised that this item was related to adding a new skating center at Warinanco Sports Center.

Relative to Reso No. 2023-899, Deputy County Clerk Fernandez advised that the County Clerk's Office was being renovated. She noted that this purchase would include desks, chairs, and other office furniture to replace the existing furniture that is no longer suitable for the Office's needs.

Relative to the County's Annex Building, County Manager Oatman advised that a pipe had broken on-site.

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#### RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

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The following resolutions are being offered for adoption:

**2023-853 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a ten (10) year Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of New Providence for 911 Police, Fire and EMS Dispatching Services, commencing January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2033 in the amount of \$159,181.00 for the first year, with a 2% increase January 1st of each subsequent calendar year.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-854 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, Division of Administration, Department of Law and Public Safety through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, FY 2021, Gunshot Detection Technology Initiative for the period of December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2024 in the amount of \$150,000.00. (At no cost to the County of Union) Subaward number GDT-17-21.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-855 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Amending Resolution No. 2023-378, a contract with Coronis Health RCM, LLC, Morganville, NJ to reflect an increase to the 2023 contract in the amount of \$9,615.33 for a new total amount not to exceed \$259,615.33.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-856 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend the FY 2023 Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant funds from the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness to provide equipment and training to the UASI region to prepare for, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism in an amount not to exceed \$1,891,305.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-857 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend the Fiscal Year 2023 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 in the amount not to exceed \$301,158.42.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-858 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Amending Resolution No. 2020-410, a contract with Visual Computer Solutions (Jobs4Blue), Freehold, New Jersey, to implement and administer an Off-Duty Detail Management System for the County of Union to exercise the only option to extend the contract for a period of 24 months from November 1, 2023 through October 31, 2025 at no direct cost to the County.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-859 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Amending Resolution No. 2022-809, a contract with Bridgeway Behavioral Health Services, Union, NJ, for the provision of wrap-around services to eligible Union County residents experiencing homelessness in conjunction with the Continuum of Care program, extending the contract period for an additional three (3) months through December 31, 2023 and increasing the contract award in the amount of \$22,500.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$121,504.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-860 COMMISSIONER 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 24LJJFA16) for the period of October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024 for a sum not to exceed \$18,465.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-861 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with USA Architects, Somerville, New Jersey to provide Architectural Services for the Union County Administration Building Sliding Door Replacement, City of Elizabeth, County of Union, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$34,000.00 (Union County Engineering Project Number 2023-022).

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-862 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution No. 2019-1103, with Pennoni Associates to provide additional design and construction and inspection services in an amount not to exceed \$2,175.00 for a new contract amount of not to exceed \$108,706.84. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2010-017)

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-863 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution No. 2021-333, a contract with IH Engineering, Princeton, New Jersey to provide additional design and construction and inspection services in an amount not to exceed \$100,898.56 for a new contract amount of not to exceed \$803,405.48. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2011-051)

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-864 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution No. 2022-963, 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 Challenger Fence, Inc. Paterson, NJ, for Fencing Systems Services, approving Change Order Number 1 to increase the original contract amount by \$50,000.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$260,000.00 (B.A. # 32-2022).

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-865 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with A & K Equipment Company of Rahway, NJ, on ESCNJ 23/24-04, for the purchase of two (2) dump truck bodies in an amount not to exceed \$38,671.40.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-866 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Granting permission to the Township of Springfield to hang a banner on October 19, 2023 thru November 27, 2023 and close S. Springfield Avenue, Milltown Road, Laurel Drive, Linden Avenue, Wabeno Avenue and Mountain Avenue on November 23, 2023 from 8:00 am to 10:00 am advertising the annual 5K For Thanks, Turkey Trot.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-867 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Granting permission to the Township of Scotch Plains to close a portion of Park Avenue from East 2nd Street to Front Street from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm on November 11, 2023 for the Veteran's Day Ceremony.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-868 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Granting permission to the Borough of Mountainside to hang a banner across Mountain Avenue from October 11, 2023 to October 28, 2023 advertising Restaurant Week.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-869 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution No. 2023-817 to reflect an increase in the Area Plan Contract Spending Plan for Year 2 of the 2022-2024 Area Plan in the amount of \$846,187.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$8,224,154.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-870 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, to award Kids

Recreation Trust 2023 grants to eighteen (18) municipalities in the County of Union, in accordance with the Kids Recreation Trust grant criteria in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,002.00

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-871 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund to award 2023 Greening Union County grants to fifteen (15) municipalities in the County of Union in accordance with the grant criteria in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-872 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, to award Preserve Union County 2023 grants to nine (9) historic sites throughout the County of Union in an amount not to exceed \$308,350.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-873 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending Resolution No. 2023-50 to increase the allocation amount for Murray Paving & Concrete, LLC., through ESCNJ Co-op (20/21-03), for the replacement of Rahway Park pool gutter system for the Department of Parks & Recreation for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in an additional amount not to exceed \$1,033,866.56 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,033,866.56.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-874 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to PS&S, Warren, New Jersey to provide planning, engineering, and design services for the replacement of the Cedar Shingle Roofs at the six houses located at the Deserted Village of Feltsville, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, in an amount not to exceed \$44,500.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-875 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Remington & Vernick Engineers, Secaucus, New Jersey to

provide design and inspection services for the Warinanco Park Tennis Courts Improvements Project No. 2023-012, in an amount not to exceed \$64,787.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-876 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** 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, T.R. Weniger, Inc., Piscataway, NJ for the purpose of hydro raking of Union County Ponds (BA 32-2023) in the amount of not to exceed \$289,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-877 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute an agreement with the Gateway Family YMCA, Elizabeth, NJ for the administration and implementation of swim lessons at their indoor facilities for the remainder of 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$16,302.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-878 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Professional Farrier Services, Inc., Green Brook, NJ, pursuant to a competitive contract procurement process, RCCP #1-2023, for farrier services at Watchung Stables in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 for the period of December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2025 with options to extend for one twenty-four (24) month period and one final additional twelve (12) month period at the County's sole discretion.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-879 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Amending Resolution 2021-720, an agreement with the County of Hudson for rehabilitation services to reflect a new contract period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-880 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey Department of

Corrections (NJDOC) for FY 2023 in the amount of \$100,000 to support the County Reentry Coordinator Program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-881 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$611,349.00 as a result of notification received from the United States Department of Justice for a program entitled: DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-882 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$1,891,305.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness for a program entitled: Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-883 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$301,158.42 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.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-884 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$11,000,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Division of Local Government Services for a program entitled: Warinanco Park Upgrades.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-885 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$13,750,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Division of Local Government Services for a program entitled: Development, Capital and Operating Expenses.



On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-886 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$4,624.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State for a program entitled: Online Board Worker Training Bilingual Enhancement Grant Program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-887 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$10,000,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection for a program entitled: Union County Middlesex Reservoir Water Reclamation Project.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-888 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children & Families for a program entitled: Union County Mental Health Program-Pediatric Behavioral Health Access Expansion Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-889 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$228,476.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Justice for a program entitled: Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program-Competitive.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-890 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$74,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety for a program entitled: Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Callout Program Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-891 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$63,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety for a program entitled: STEP Traffic Safety Enforcement Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-892 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$78,650.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety for a program entitled: Comprehensive Traffic Safety Program.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-893 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$4,375.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of State-Division of Elections for a program entitled: Rutgers Training Grant - Back to Basics Election Training.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-894 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$41,977.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Paratransit - Aging APC Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-895 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$17,700.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection for a program entitled: County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-896 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Trinitas Regional Medical Center, Elizabeth, NJ for the provision of wrap-around services to eligible Union County residents experiencing Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), under the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) FY2024 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Innovative (ADAI) funding in the total

amount not to exceed \$169,574.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-897 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$15,250.00 as a result of notification received from the Township of Hillside, New Jersey for a program entitled: UCBOE - Township of Hillside Run-Off Election 2023.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-898 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$170,574.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Mental Health for a program entitled: Alcohol and Drug Abuse Innovative (ADA-I) Grant.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-899 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Haworth Inc, Holland, MI, through New Jersey State Contract #81619 for the purpose of purchasing furniture for the renovation of the Union County Clerk's Office, in the amount not to exceed \$147,603.63.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-900 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners to serve as independent contractors as part of the Union County Sexual Assault Response Team for the period of October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-901 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding for the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program to support the Multi-Jurisdictional Gang, Gun, and Narcotics Task Forces for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$107,630.00. Subaward JAG-1-20TF-22.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-902 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding for the purpose described in the application from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the BJA FY 23 Formula DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program in the amount of \$611,349.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2025.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-903 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Concurring with Resolution 2023-28 of the Union County Workforce Development Board authorizing the Program Year 2022 Workforce Development Area Budget indirect expenses.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-904 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Concurring with the Union County Workforce Development Board's Resolution No. 2023-29 to increase the total contract amount to Weber Dowd Law, LLC for legal services by \$5,000.00 for a new total contract not to exceed \$15,000.00 for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-905 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution No. 2022-819, a contract with Community Access Unlimited, Elizabeth, NJ, for the operation of the Union County Children's Shelter for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, to increase the contract award in the amount of \$25,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$553,000.00, with no other changes to the terms or conditions of the contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-906 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution No. 2022-878, a contract with Family Promise Inc. Summit, NJ, for the provision of the 2023 Shelter Diversion Program to increase the contract award in the amount of \$25,000.00, for a total contract not to exceed \$175,000.00, with no further changes to the terms or conditions of the contract.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-907 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Rescinding and withdrawing the prior action whereby Union County did construct and maintain Bonnie Burn Road within the County of Somerset.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-908 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolutions Nos. 2023-18 and 2023-477 to confirm a name change for the Law Firm of Gluck Walrath, L.L.P. to Dilworth Paxon LLP, Philadelphia PA.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-909 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution No. 2017-259 to include permission for additional County owned vehicles to park on the premises leased from the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and to allow installation of a fence thereon.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

**2023-910 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute a Letter of Intent for acquisition of property from the Union County Vocational Technical School, being a portion of the property designated on the tax map of the Township of Scotch Plains as Block 14001, Lot 9, containing a baseball field, for the sum of One and 00/100 Dollars (\$1.00).

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

#### **COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS**

**2023-911 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Offering this Board's deepest condolences to the family of Nancy Mondella, former Councilwoman and Board of Education member for the Township of Hillside, during their time of sorrow.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

- 2023-912 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating the awardees at the 17th Annual Harambee Breakfast and Awards Ceremony hosted by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Greater Elizabeth Area Section, on September 30, 2023.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

- 2023-913 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating the Plainfield Fire Department as they host their Annual Fire Prevention Fair on Saturday, October 21st, in honor of National Fire Prevention Week.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

- 2023-914 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDE, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing October 2023 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month, reflecting the continued commitment of the Union County Board of County Commissioners to the Union County Office for Persons with Disabilities & Special Needs and the disabled community they serve.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Bodek, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

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#### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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In light of the conflict in the Middle East, Commissioner Garretson expressed her sympathy for those that had lost their lives and those that continued to suffer as a result of the conflict in the Middle East.

Commissioner Bodek invited non-profit organizations to attend a free, virtual professional development workshop of Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> hosted by the County's Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs. He advised that the workshop, entitled 'Build Your Audience with Social Media' would be hosted by Red Root Marketing Founder Jessica Maarek and would teach participants ways to use social media as a tool to promote their organization and enhance connectivity with their communities. He advised that interested organizations could register for the workshop on the County's website. He noted that eligible organizations could also seek funding through the County's local Arts Grant, History Grant, and HEART Grant programs. He advised that non-profit organizations outside of Union County were also encouraged to participate in the professional development workshop.

Commissioner Leon advised that the County's month-long Hispanic Heritage Month would conclude with a Family Fun Day at Warinanco Park, noting that due to anticipated rain the event had been rescheduled to October 15<sup>th</sup>. She noted that the event would include music, food trucks, informational tables, and arts & crafts among other activities. She added that there would also be a special outdoor screening of the movie Vivo. She closed by noting that she enjoyed celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and looked forward to Family Fun Day on Sunday.

Commissioner Kowalski offered her condolences to those that lost their lives in Israel and Gaza, echoing the sentiments of her colleagues in imploring for a swift and amicable resolution to the conflict. On another note, she spoke about several events she attended including a multicultural Dance Festival at Liberty Hall, organized by Bugge Ballet. She also noted her attendance of Roselle Park's Indian Festival. Commissioner Kowalski reminded residents about the County's upcoming Four Centuries in a Weekend, taking place on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. She advised that the event would include special exhibits, activities, and tours, noting that Union County had more than 30 house museums that would be open to the public that weekend, free of charge. She recognized NJ's Historical Commission and the County's Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs for their efforts to this end. She encouraged residents to visit the County website to learn more about the tour.

Commissioner Mirabella invited residents to attend a Maritime Authority Job Fair, in partnership with the Port Authority of NJ and NY, the County's American Job Center, and Union College of Union County, on October 19<sup>th</sup> at Union College's Kellogg Building in Elizabeth. He noted the many job-fairs organized by the County, highlighting a recent County Cannabis Job Fair which drew more than 200 participants. He encouraged job seekers to visit the County's website to learn more about upcoming job fairs and thanked the American Job Center and the Workforce Development Department for their efforts. On another note, Commissioner Mirabella noted his attendance of the County's Columbus Day Flag raising that took place earlier that day and thanked Rosa Russo for the wonderful refreshments. He also noted that he had recently represented Union County at a recent Central Jersey Group of Commissioners event hosted by NJ's Association of Counties. To close, Commissioner Mirabella thanked Sheriff Corvelli for his collaborative efforts in enhancing security at places of worship throughout Union County. He congratulated Chairman Granados on his recent nuptial.

Commissioner Williams advised that the voter registration deadline for the upcoming 2023 General Election was October 17<sup>th</sup>, noting that the County's Board of Elections would remain open until 9PM to accept applications. She advised that individuals interested in registering to vote could do so online, by mail, or in-person at the Board of Elections Office, adding that applications were available in both English and Spanish. She also advised that the Board of Elections was still looking for bilingual poll-workers for the upcoming General Election, adding that poll-workers would receive a \$300 stipend for the day and new poll-workers were required to complete a mandatory, in-person training prior to Election Day. She encouraged interested residents to visit the Board of Election's website for additional information. On another note, Commissioner Williams spoke about her recent attendance of a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk and Health Fair in Hillside, noting that this cause was particularly dear to her as the daughter of a breast cancer survivor. She also noted that she attended the County's Barn Dance, for

Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs, alongside Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded. Commissioner Williams spoke relative to National Coming Out Day and her participation in the County's Queer Empowerment Hour, noting that it was great to see this series return. To close, she congratulated Chairman Granados on his recent wedding.

Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded invited residents to attend the County's upcoming recycling event entitled "Beyond the Bin" on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at Union County Vocational Technical School in Scotch Plains. She noted that this event would allow residents to recycle various items and materials with ease on the same day, at one location. She encouraged interested residents to visit the County's website for more information and for a complete list of items and materials that would be accepted at the event. On another note, she spoke of her recent attendance of a Sukkot Evening at Temple Emanu-El in Westfield, alongside Assemblyman Atkins, Scotch Plains Mayor Josh Losardo, and various other community leaders. She added that it was a great event that made her hopeful in a better future. To close, she congratulated Chairman Granados on his recent wedding.

Chairman Granados announced the return of the County's Student Training Enrichment Program on December 15<sup>th</sup> at Kean University. He advised that this workshop, open to high school sophomores and juniors, would allow students to participate in various workshops focused on identifying the diversity, concerns, and values of others. Building upon the theme of "Stepping Up to Mental Health," Chairman Granados advised that this year's Step Civic Engagement Challenge would focus on mental health, tasking students to create a county-wide community service campaign. He added that the project with the most votes would become a countywide initiative taken up by participating Union County high schools, noting that the school with the most involvement and enthusiasm would have a chance to win \$1,000 Start Now Grant funding sponsored by the Board. Chairman Granados advised that enrollment for this program was limited to 250 students, adding that the deadline to register was Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Chairman Granados asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 P.M.



**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**2023 MEETING SCHEDULE**  
**REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023 at 6:00 pm**  
**Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street. Elizabeth**

**AGENDA SETTING SESSION**

January 26, 2023  
February 9, 2023  
February 23, 2023  
March 16, 2023  
March 30, 2023  
April 13, 2023  
April 27, 2023  
May 11, 2023  
May 25, 2023  
June 8, 2023  
June 22, 2023  
July 13, 2023  
August 17, 2023  
September 7, 2023  
September 21, 2023  
October 12, 2023  
October 26, 2023  
November 9, 2023  
December 7, 2023  
December 21, 2023

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

January 26, 2023  
February 9, 2023  
February 23, 2023  
March 16, 2023  
March 30, 2023  
April 13, 2023  
April 27, 2023  
May 11, 2023  
May 25, 2023  
June 8, 2023  
June 22, 2023  
July 13, 2023  
August 17, 2023  
September 7, 2023  
September 21, 2023  
October 12, 2023  
October 26, 2023  
November 9, 2023  
December 7, 2023  
December 21, 2023

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James E. Pellettiere, RMC, QPA  
Clerk of the Board

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings are to be regularly held on Thursday evenings and are scheduled to be held on the same evening, with the Agenda Setting Session to commence at 6:00pm and the Regular Meeting to commence as soon as possible after the Agenda Setting Session, unless otherwise noted.

All meetings are to be held in the Commissioner Meeting Room within the Administration Building, 6<sup>th</sup> floor located at 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth New Jersey, 07207.

Due to the Covid-19 coronavirus concerns, County Commissioner meetings may be held remotely via Zoom webinar under the procedures conducted, as published, in 2021. If said procedures are deemed necessary, the Clerk of the Board will revise this Public Notice according to law.

Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908-527-4140.