



## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Granados presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:26 P.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 Bodek and seconded by Commissioner Williams, roll call showed eight members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker absent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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1. Thursday, November 9, 2023 - Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, November 9, 2023 - Regular Meeting

Chairman Granados called for a motion to approve the November Minutes. On a motion made by Commissioner Kowalski and seconded by Commissioner Williams, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative for the November 9<sup>th</sup> Agenda Setting Session, with Commissioner Garretson abstaining and Commissioner

Baker absent; and eight votes in the affirmative for the November 9<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting, with Commissioner Baker abstaining.

#### **ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION**

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**846-2023 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION" BY AMENDING, PART I -ADMINISTRATIVE CODE: CHAPTER 1, UNION COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE: ARTICLE III- BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S AND ARTICLE XXI-DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; AND PART II-POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION: CHAPTER 50 (NEW) FILMING PERMITS, RESTRICTIONS AND FEES.**

##### **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

The meeting was opened for the purposes of commenting on Ordinance Number 846-2023 only.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, asked for additional information related to the amendments being made.

Counsel Bergen advised that the revisions being made related to permits, restrictions, and fees related to filming, adding that these changes were recommended by the State of NJ to codify said regulations. He noted that filming companies would be expected to register with the County, adhere to safety measures, and mitigate and or minimize all potential interferences with traffic and or the County of Union community.

##### **FINAL READING STATEMENT**

Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, Policy and Administrative Code Chair, moved Ordinance Number 846-2023 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

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.

**847-2023 ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE COUNTY MANAGER, COUNTY COUNSEL AND DEPARTMENT HEADS FOR 2024.**

##### **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

The meeting was opened for the purposes of commenting on Ordinance Number 847-2023 only.

Bruce Paterson, of Garwood, made comments relative to the cited raises as well as previously issued raises. He also noted a recent report that was released by the Office of the State Comptroller and its alleged findings.

NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio spoke relative to Union County's procedures for salary increases, noting that these practices were consistent with the procedures of the other charter counties in New Jersey. He noted that he believed hard-working, dedicated public employees should be compensated fairly.

#### **FINAL READING STATEMENT**

Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Fiscal Subcommittee Chairman, moved Ordinance Number 847-2023 for Final Reading and authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law.

On a motion made by Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded and seconded by Commissioner Mirabella, 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 relative to several resolutions and other County matters. Relative to Reso No. 2023-1068, he inquired about the constitutional officers cited. Mr. Paterson also made comments relative to the Aries Linden Biosolids Gasification Facility project.

Relative to Reso No. 2023-1068, County Manager Oatman confirmed that constitutional officers were composed of the County Clerk, Sheriff, and Surrogate.

Relative to the Aries Linden Biosolids Gasification Facility, County Manager advised that he was unaware of the press release referenced by Mr. Bruce Paterson.

Steve Hockaday, of Plainfield, spoke to the leadership of Finance Director and UCIA Executive Director Bibi Taylor. He thanked the County of Union for their recent participation in the State's Homeless Task Force in Trenton. He also spoke about the County's golf courses, noting them as some of the best in the state, and encouraged the County to increase its fees. To close, he congratulated Commissioner Garretson for her service as a Union County Commissioner and wished her well in the future.

Jenny Davis Toth, of Mountainside, spoke on behalf of Christopher Kolibas, Chairman of the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA). She noted the exceptional job done by UCIA Executive Director Bibi Taylor, noting her as a tremendous asset. She advised that thanks to Executive Director Taylor's leadership, the County continued to maintain AAA Bond Rating in addition to a 0% tax increase for four years in a row. She closed by wishing everyone a Happy Holiday.

Anthony Salters, of Hillside, also noted the tremendous leadership and performance of UCIA Executive Director Taylor. On another note, he spoke about Commissioner Garretson, noting her countless personal and professional achievements and wished her well in her future endeavors.

Matthew Pisano, of Clark, noted several hazards and safety concerns he observed in various County buildings.

Counsel Bergen advised that the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) had brought several of these issues to the attention of the County. He noted that the County had already addressed several of these issues and would continue to work arduously until all said issues were resolved. He also noted PEOSH's satisfaction with the issues that had already been addressed by the County.

John Donnadio, NJAC Executive Director, noting that in his opinion, Union County was one of the best-run counties in NJ, noting the County's AAA Bond Rating. He also advised that he had had the privilege of working with UCIA Executive Director Taylor for over 20 years, adding that she was highly-respected and valued throughout the State. He spoke relative to the NJ's Office of the Comptroller's investigation and ultimate findings, disagreeing with their conclusion. He added that in his experience, Union County's practices were consistent with other counties throughout New Jersey.

#### **RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION**

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The following resolutions are being offered for adoption:

**2023-1032 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to approve the 2024 Union County Opioid Settlement Fund Grant Spending Plan in the total amount not to exceed \$766,776.00 for subcontracted services to be provided during the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 and authorizing the transfer of funds among agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any of the listed agencies fail to meet contractual obligation.

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.

**2023-1033 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for funding through the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$502,828.30; consisting of up to a \$330,903.10 (75%) Federal Award with a County in-kind match of up to and in an amount not to exceed \$125,707.08 (25%), for the period of September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2027.

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.

**2023-1034 COMMISSIONER JAMES BAKER JR:** Amending Resolution 2023-855, a contract with Coronis Health RCM, LLC, Morganville, NJ to reflect an increase to the contract in the amount of \$71,000.00 for a new total amount not to exceed \$330,615.33.

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.

**2023-1035 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Concurring with the Township of Scotch Plains Ordinance No. 2023-15 adopted on August 12, 2023 prohibiting parking along Front Street (C.R. 620) from 1785 Front Street, Block 1001.01 to the end of Lot 63, approximately 203 feet in a westerly direction.

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.

**2023-1036 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Amending Resolution Number 2021-327 adopted on May 6, 2021, 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 H & S Construction and Mechanical, Inc, of Elizabeth, New Jersey for the UC Dispatch Center, Froehlich Building, Township of Westfield, County of Union, New Jersey. This Final Change Order Number 1 decreases the contract amount by \$239,403.32 for a final contract amount not to exceed \$3,043,695.68.

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.

**2023-1037 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to submit a grant application and enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) LA-2024 LBF Union County Main Project 20 – 2024 Local Bridges, Future Needs Program – LBFN 2024 for the (CR 988) Martine Avenue Bridge over Stream 10-7-22-1, Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey.

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.

**2023-1038 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Flemington Department Store, Flemington, through Somerset County Coop CC-0004-22, to purchase uniforms in the amount not to exceed \$7,700.00.

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.

**2023-1039 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Opengov Inc., San Francisco California, to provide the licensing, upgrade and maintenance to the web-based Operations Management System with Enterprise Licensing for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in the amount not to exceed \$ 116,700.00.

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.

**2023-1040 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a revenue generating agreement with SAGE Eldercare Inc., Summit, New Jersey, for the provision of transportation services through the Union County Paratransit System for Adult Day Care clients attending their programs based upon scheduled trips provided by the County on Monday through Friday for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 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.

**2023-1041 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a revenue generating agreement with Inroads to Opportunities, Roselle, New Jersey for the provision of transportation services through the Union County Paratransit System for Partial Care clients attending their programs based upon pre-scheduled trips provided by the County on Monday through Friday for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 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.

**2023-1042 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2023-689, a contract awarded to MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY to reflect adjustment to the appropriation accounts.

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.

**2023-1043 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract with MPC Bus Corporation, Garden City, NY, pursuant to Reso 2021-967 (RCCP 9-2021), for the provision of Transportation Services for the Paratransit System, for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 (Year 3) in the total amount not to exceed \$5,374,850.30 with the option to extend the contract for two (2) one-year periods.

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.

**2023-1044 COMMISSIONER LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with T&M Associates, Bloomfield, NJ, to provide grant application, planning, engineering, and design services for the three (3) 2024 green acres grants for park improvements in the County of Union in an amount not to exceed \$129,825.00.

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.

**2023-1045 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to establish payments under the Lease Agreement for Cornerstone Psychiatric Unit, with Runnells BH Operating, Inc. for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$4,944,412.45.

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.

**2023-1046 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to certify to the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health Services that there have been no changes to the plan for delivery of mental health services and that the County of Union will continue to operate a psychiatric facility during the 2024 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.

**2023-1047 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Approving Medical Practitioners authorized to provide services to Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 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.

**2023-1048 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into agreements with pre-qualified Medical Practitioners to provide necessary services for the patients of the Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County for the contract period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 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.

**2023-1049 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to exercise the County's fourth option to extend the contract awarded to Center for Family Guidance, PC, Marlton, NJ, for the provision of Medical and Psychiatric services at Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital, for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, at the County's sole discretion, in an amount not to exceed \$1,551,760.00.

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.

**2023-1050 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Center for Family Guidance, PC, Marlton, NJ, for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, for the service of Administrator and Director of Nursing at Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital, in an amount not to exceed \$416,094.00.

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.

**2023-1051 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter in a contract with Jaqueline Napper, PsyD, PsyPharm, Plainfield, NJ, to provide psychological services to the patients at Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital including weekend psychological care and group sessions, for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, 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.

**2023-1052 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to approve KemperSports Management, Inc.'s operational budget for the Shady Rest/Scotch Hills Golf Course in an amount not to exceed \$471,017.00, the Warinanco Sports Facility in an amount not to exceed \$849,866.00, and the Union County Golf Courses in an amount not to exceed \$6,302,893.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,623,776.00 for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 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.

**2023-1053 COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers, Secaucus, New Jersey to provide professional engineering services for the Union County Vo-Tech Field in an amount not to exceed \$269,568.00. (Union County Engineering Project Number 2021-009)

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.

**2023-1054 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$100,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Corrections for a program entitled: SFY 2023 County Reentry Coordinators (CRC) 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.

**2023-1055 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$43,146.60 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Treasury for a program entitled: Opioid Litigation Recovery Funds.

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.

**2023-1056 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$30,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Community Mental Health Services Block 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.

**2023-1057 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$8,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Logisticare - Title XIX 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.

**2023-1058 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$18,000.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Office on Aging - State Aid Reimbursement 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.

**2023-1059 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$117,411.28 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families for a program entitled: Child Advocacy Development Grant - Treatment Services, Programs, Technology and Capital Improvement.

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.

**2023-1060 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$250,500.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Automated License Plate Reader Initiative (ARPA).

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.

**2023-1061 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$11,196.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services for a program entitled: Area Plan 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.

**2023-1062 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Modifying the 2023 Union County adopted budget in the amount of \$107,630.00 as a result of notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety for a program entitled: Multi-Jurisdictional County Gang, Gun and Narcotics Task Force.

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.

**2023-1063 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Canceling Capital Balances to Capital Surplus and Deferred Charges Unfunded.

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.

**2023-1064 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Canceling unexpended grant account balances.

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.

**2023-1065 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Approving Transfer of Current Fund Appropriations.

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.

**2023-1066 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a subcontract in accordance with the attached Union County

Youth Services Commission Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Spending Plan in the total amount not to exceed \$83,000.00 for the contract period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 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.

**2023-1067 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Approving Constitutional Officers' 2024 Salaries.

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.

**2023-1068 VICE CHAIRWOMAN KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Authorizing the County Manager to adopt the 2024 Exclusionary Wage Increase.

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.

**2023-1069 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** 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, Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, to continue efforts of insurance fraud investigation in Union 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.

**2023-1070 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, FY21 ARP Automated License Plate Reader Initiative for the period of December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2024 in the amount of \$250,500.00.

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.

**2023-1071 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager, through the Office of the Union County Prosecutor, to apply for and accept funding from the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families for the Child Advocacy Development Grants - Treatment Services, Programs, Technology and Capital Improvement in the amount of \$117,411.28 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 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.

**2023-1072 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 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program - Competitive in the amount of \$228,476.00 for the period of October 1, 2023 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.

**2023-1073 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2023-832, a contract with Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., (D/B/A/ Life Technologies), Waltham, MA, to reflect a change/addition of account numbers only.

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.

**2023-1074 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Robert Santilli, Middletown, NJ to serve as IT Manager for the Union County Prosecutor's Office for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$70,000.00.

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.

**2023-1075 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with University Van Lines, Rahway, New Jersey, for the purpose of transporting voting machines, electronic poll books and election supplies for the contract period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

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.

**2023-1076 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Liberty Transportation & Storage Co. Inc., Berkeley Heights, NJ for the purpose of transporting voting machines, electronic poll books and election supplies for the contract period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$140,000.00.

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.

**2023-1077 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Royal Printing Services, West New York, NJ for the purpose of providing election printing services to print voting authority slips, challenger badges, voter and poll worker instructions and all other printing needed to conduct elections for the contract period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, in the amount not to exceed \$130,000.00.

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.

**2023-1078 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Election Systems & Software LLC (ES&S), Omaha, NE to provide on-site election resources which includes the Primary Election, General Election and Early Voting for the contract period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$276,575.00.

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.

**2023-1079 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter in a contract with Election Systems & Software LLC (ES&S), Omaha, Nebraska, for the purpose of purchasing consumables for the Union County Vote Tabulation System for the contract period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

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.

**2023-1080 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Election Systems and Software, LLC (ES&S), Omaha, NE for the purpose of providing hardware, firmware and software licensing, maintenance and support for Union County's Vote Tabulation System for the contract period of March 1, 2024 through November 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$336,310.00.

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.

**2023-1081 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into an agreement with SOE Software Corporation d/b/a Scytl, Tampa, FL., for the purpose of maintaining a virtual poll worker training platform for a contract period March 15, 2024 through March 14, 2027 in an amount not to exceed \$58,512.00.

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.

**2023-1082 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Winning Strategies Washington, LLC and Hoboken Strategy Group Inc., Washington DC and Avon by the Sea, NJ for an initial twelve (12) month period commencing January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with the potential option to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year periods, at the County's sole discretion in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00.

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.

**2023-1083 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Millennium Strategies, Morristown, NJ, to provide grant writing and procurement services to the County of Union for an initial twelve (12) month period commencing January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with the potential option to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year periods, at the County's sole discretion in an amount not to exceed \$98,000.00.

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.

**2023-1084 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to amend Resolution 2023-472 approving the 2023-2024 (Year 49) Consolidated Action Plan and amend Resolution 2023-833 to increase CDBG funding to utilizing Plainfield Program Income funds to cover the cost of additional Community Development administration cost in the CDBG program project for the City of Plainfield, Office of Community Development increase in the amount of \$24,000.00 from \$112,000.00 to \$136,000.00.

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.

**2023-1085 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Concurring with Resolution No. 2023-35 of the Executive Committee of the Union County Workforce Development Board to award a contract to the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools in the amount of \$375,000.00 for the provision of WIOA out-of-school youth career services.

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.

**2023-1086 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Concurring with Resolution No. 2023-36 of the Executive Committee of the Union County Workforce Development Board to

award a contract to the United Way of Greater Union County in the amount of \$200,000 for the provision of WIOA in-school youth career services.

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.

**2023-1087 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a lease agreement between the County of Union and Immaculate Conception Church, Elizabeth, NJ for the rental of 85 parking spaces at \$87.00 per parking space per month for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$7,395.00 per month for a total annual amount not to exceed \$88,740.00.

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.

**2023-1088 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a lease agreement between the County of Union and 28 Prince Street Holdings, LLC (John Rodriguez), Newark, NJ for the rental of 26 parking spaces at \$65.00 per parking spot for the premises known and designated as 28 Prince Street, Elizabeth, NJ commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in an amount of not to exceed \$1,690.00 per month for the parking spaces used by the County of Union employees, for a total annual amount not to exceed \$20,280.00.

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.

**2023-1089 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award renewal subcontracts to various agencies under the 2024 Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Spending Plan for the period of January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in the amount not to exceed \$327,978.00; further authorizing the transfer of funds among awarded agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any fails to meet its contractual obligations.

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.

**2023-1090 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award renewal subcontracts to various agencies under the 2024 Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) Spending Plan for the period of January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in the amount not to exceed \$486,700.00; further authorizing the transfer of funds among awarded agencies during the contract period should service needs change and/or if any fails to meet its contractual obligations.

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.

**2023-1091 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a lease agreement with Union College of Union County, NJ to rent space for the 2024 Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC) education classes for forty-eight (48) IDRC class dates at a rate of \$247.50 per day during the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in the total amount not to exceed \$11,880.00.

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.

**2023-1092 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with New Hope Integrated Behavioral Health Care, Marlboro, NJ to provide 12-hour education program, clinical Substance Abuse evaluation, and Substance Abuse treatment referral for the Union County Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC) through professional services in the form of licensed and certified clinical alcohol and drug counselors (LCADC, CADC) for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$69,120.00.

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.

**2023-1093 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into contract with the United Way of Greater Union County, Elizabeth, NJ, for the provision of a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to low-income individuals and families of Union County for a period of December 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

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.

**2023-1094 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending resolution 2023-743, a contract with Mount Olive Baptist Church, Plainfield, NJ to provide warming center services on Code Blue nights to increase the contract in the amount of \$2,520.00 for a new total contract in an amount not to exceed \$36,120.00 for the period of November 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.

**2023-1095 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Resolution 2020-353, authorizing a lease agreement with Alfieri-342 Westminster Associates, L.P., to increase the contract in the amount of \$1,834,139.77 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$9,705,754.81 for the inclusion of additional services and miscellaneous fees.



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.

**2023-1096 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Thornton Tomasetti, Newark, New Jersey to provide Architectural and Engineering Consulting Services for an Expert Opinion on the Ash Brook Golf Course Club House, Scotch Plains, New Jersey in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

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.

**2023-1097 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS:** Amending Reso. 2023-970 adjusting the amount to be paid by the County of Union to the plaintiff per the Settlement Agreement in the matter entitled Emmanuel Mervilus v. County of Union.

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

**2023-1098 COMMISSIONER ANGELA R. GARRETSON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Offering the Board's sincere condolences to the family of Gueringer "Gari" Jones 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.

**2023-1099 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Resolution congratulating Brian Cassidy and Robert Speth as they both celebrate their 50th year of service to the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad.

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.

**2023-1100 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing Kim Decker on her honor for her selfless dedication to the YMCA and the Scotch Plains/Fanwood community.

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.

**2023-1101 CHAIRMAN SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Acknowledging and commending the Union County Prosecutor's Office and the Union County Police

Department on their status as Law Enforcement Accredited Agencies by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP).

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.

Chairman Granados asked his Commissioner colleagues to join him for a special presentation.

Chairman Granados noted the evening's meeting as the last for Commissioner Garretson. He recognized her for the influential role she played in having the term Freeholder changed to Commissioner throughout the State of New Jersey. He thanked her for all her hard work over the last six years as a Union County Commissioner, noting her prior efforts in public service as the Mayor of Hillside. He wished her well on her future endeavors.

Commissioner Mirabella noted the efforts of Commissioner Garretson over the last six years as a Union County Commissioner. He thanked her for her passion and tenacity as a public servant and wished her well on her future endeavors.

Commissioner Williams spoke about Commissioner Garretson and her achievements over the last six years, recognizing her history-making efforts in having the word Freeholder changed to Commissioner throughout the State of NJ. She wished Commissioner Garretson well on her future endeavors, noting her as both a colleague and friend.

Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded noted Commissioner Garretson's tremendous work as a Union County Commissioner, recognizing her efforts in changing the word Freeholder to Commissioner. She thanked Commissioner Garretson for her advice and support over the last several years, noting that it was an honor to be able to serve with her. She wished Commissioner Garretson on her future endeavors.

Commissioner Kowalski noted Commissioner Garretson's journey as a public servant, noting her initial role as a Hillside Board of Education member in 2004. She thanked Commissioner Garretson for her dedication to public service, adding that she appreciated all of her efforts and service to the residents of Union County.

Commissioner Leon congratulated Commissioner Garretson on her six years as Commissioner of the Union County Commissioner Board, adding that it was an honor to work alongside her. She wished Commissioner Garretson well on her future endeavors.

Commissioner Bodek noted that it had been a pleasure to work with Commissioner Garretson and thanked her for the support and guidance she offered during his first year as a Union County Commissioner. He thanked her for her service and wished her well on her future endeavors.

Chairman Granados presented Commissioner Garretson with a gift from the Board.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. of the Alpha Omega Chapter congratulated Commissioner and Sorority Sister Angela Garretson on her historic, six-year term as a Union County

Commissioner. They thanked Commissioner Garretson for her commitment to public service, noting that AKA Sorority Inc was proud of all her efforts and proud to call her a sister.

Sorority President Latricia Young congratulated Commissioner Angela Garretson on her service as a Union County Commissioner. She noted that the sorority was proud of her tremendous efforts.

Phi Delta Kappa Inc. member congratulated Commissioner Angela Garretson on paving such a pathway to greatness. She recognized Commissioner Garretson, not only as a sister, but also as a friend. She noted Commissioner Garretson's integral role in education, recognizing her as a dedicated advocate.

Kevin Bueast, President of Pan-Hellenic Council, recognized Commissioner Garretson for her tremendous achievements and wide-reaching influence. He wished her well on her future endeavors, adding that the heights she could reach were limitless.

Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded asked her Commissioner colleagues to join her for a special presentation. She recognized Chairman Sergio Granados and congratulated him on a wonder and successful chairmanship in 2023. She thanked him for the guidance and support he provided her in her role as Vice-Chairwoman. She noted Chairman Granados' passion and unyielding dedication to the residents of Union County. On behalf of the Board and residents of Union County, she congratulated him on a wonderful year.

Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded presented Commissioner Garretson with a gift from the Board.

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

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Commissioner Kowalski congratulated Commissioner Garretson for her six years on the Board of Union County Commissioners. She also thanked Executive Director, John Donnadio, for joining them in tonight's meeting and for all his efforts at NJAC. She also congratulated the Union County Prosecutor's Office and the Union County Police for their earlier recognition by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police. Commissioner Kowalski also recognized Human Services Director Anderson and commended her for giving a wonderful presentation at the Homeless Task Force meeting in Trenton recently. She noted that the County's Fresh Start Program had inspired other counties to develop a similar resource. On another note, Commissioner Kowalski encouraged interested residents to enroll in the County's Environmental Stewards program, through the Rutgers Co-Op Extension. She noted that this volunteer training program would provide residents with the tools and knowledge to address local environmental changes. She advised that classes were open to residents 16 years of age and older and would start January 23<sup>rd</sup>, adding that the course included both online and in-person components. She noted that residents under 16 would require parental consent. She further advised that upon completion of the program, participants would receive certification as environmental stewards. She encouraged interested residents to visit the County's website for more information.

Commissioner Mirabella announced a significant milestone in Union County's ongoing efforts to support the community and those in need. He noted that the County held its 100<sup>th</sup> Emergency Food Distribution Drive since the inception of COVID-19 on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at Kean University. He added that the County had provided over 41 million meals to approximately 355,000 residents to help address food insecurity. He thanked Kean President Lamont Repollet for graciously hosting these events as well as Village Supermarket and Gargiulo Produce for their continued partnership in these efforts. He recognized County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner as well as Director Anderson and all the other Directors throughout the County for facilitating this resource and for their consistent participation in these events. Commissioner Mirabella also thanked NJAC Executive Director, John Donnadio, for taking the time to join them that evening and for confirming that the County's procedures, in his experience, were consistent with the procedures employed by other counties throughout the state of NJ. To close, Commissioner Mirabella commended Chairman Granados for his efforts as the Board's 2023 Chairman, adding that he was proud to serve under Chairman Granados' leadership. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Williams invited residents to view artist Michelle Harpster's collection of artwork on display in the Commissioners' Gallery outside the meeting room. She noted that Ms. Harpster, a NJ Native, was an AP Fine Arts teacher at Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, adding that her work would be on display through January 26<sup>th</sup>. She thanked the County's Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs for their efforts in coordinating these exhibits. Commissioner Williams recognized Human Services Director Anderson and commended her on the wonderful presentation she made in Trenton relative to the State's Homeless Task Force. She added that as a Plainfield resident, she was happy to see that the Plainfield Police Department also participated in the conference. Commissioner Williams also congratulated Commissioner Garretson on her historic two-terms as Union County Commissioner, noting her many successes. She commended Commissioner Garretson for her leadership and commitment to public service, adding that it was a pleasure to have served alongside her. To close, Commissioner Williams commended Chairman Granados for his tremendous efforts in 2023 as Chairman of the Board, noting his commitment to highlighting mental health in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. She wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Bodek announced a generous donation of over 300 fire extinguishers by Wonder to the County of Union, a committed partner in promoting public safety, adding that these extinguishers would be utilized by local municipalities and the fire academy to enhance the County's firefighting capabilities and emergency preparedness. On another note, he recognized Chairman Granados on his effective leadership and unyielding efforts in leading the Board in 2023. Commissioner Bodek thanked him for his support and guidance throughout his first year as Commissioner. He also thanked County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner, and his colleagues for their continued support. He closed by wishing everyone a Happy Holiday.

Commissioner Leon thanked the residents of Union County for their generous donations for the County's Holiday Toy Drive, noting that hundreds of toys had been collected for children in need. She thanked the staff involved for coordinating

the collection and distribution. She recognized Commissioner Garretson and wished her well on her future endeavors, noting that it was a pleasure to work alongside her on the Board. She congratulated Chairman Granados on his many successes as 2023 Chairman of the Board. She wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Counsel Bergen congratulated Commissioner Garretson on her last meeting, noting that it was an honor to serve with her on the Board. He wished her well on her future endeavors. He also congratulated Chairman Granados on a successful year as Chairman.

County Manager Oatman congratulated Commissioner Garretson for six successful years as Union County Commissioner and wished her all the best in the future. He also congratulated Chairman Granados on a successful year as Chairman.

Commissioner Garretson encouraged residents to receive their updated COVID-19 vaccine dose. She also recognized NJAC Executive Director, John Donnadio, and the work they did together over the last four years in her role as NJAC Delegate for the Union County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Garretson also addressed her Commissioner colleagues and the residents of Union County during her last meeting as U.C. Commissioner. She thanked her family, friends, colleagues, and the residents of Union County for their support and for giving her an opportunity to serve two terms as Union County Commissioner. She thanked former Democratic Chairman Jerry Green for his legacy of service as well as NJ Senate President Nicholas Scutari for his continued support. She noted her commitment to serving as a voice for those that could not exercise their own. She noted strong leaders like the late Senator Ron Rice and Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver for their fighting spirit and for teaching her how to advocate unapologetically to evoke change. She noted these and other leaders in inspiring her journey, including Democratic Chairman LeRoy Jones and his wife Jackie. She thanked Governor Murphy for his support and for swearing her in as Union County Commissioner for both of her terms. She noted that although this chapter was ending, she would continue working toward making tangible impacts in the community. She once again thanked the residents of Union County for their vote of confidence and allowing her to serve on the Union County Board of Commissioners. She thanked County Manager Oatman, Clerk James Pellettiere, and the other Union County Directors for their efforts and support. She also thanked Clerk of the Board Personnel Liaison Rosa Russo for her efforts.

Vice-Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded congratulated Commissioner Garretson on her two-terms on the Board of County Commissioners, adding that her speech truly encapsulated her many contributions to Union County and the Township of Hillside. She thanked her Commissioner colleague for her dedication to public service, adding that Commissioner Garretson's service would leave a lasting impact. She recognized Commissioner Garretson's mother in the audience, noting that her own mother had had the privilege of administering Commissioner Garretson's first COVID-19 vaccine. On another note, she spoke relative to the recent Homeless Task Force meeting in Trenton and thanked Human Services Director Anderson as well as the Plainfield Police Department for representing Union County. She also recognized the Plainfield Police Department for their efforts relative to the Point In Time count and for taking an active interest in the lives of these individuals. Vice-Chairwoman

Palmieri-Mouded also congratulated the Union County Prosecutor's Office and County Police for being recognized by New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Program. She also encouraged residents to vote for their favorite UC STEP community initiative. To close, she recognized Chairman Granados for his successful chairmanship in 2023, noting that he had made a lasting impact on the residents of Union County.

Chairman Granados announced a new state-of-the-art LED lighting system for the Union County Courthouse as part of his 2023 Chairman Initiative "Union County Shines. He advised that these lights would be used to mark significant occasions, holidays, organization themes and showcasing community accomplishments. He thanked County Manager Oatman, Deputy County Manager Wagner as well as all the Directors and employees of Union County for their continued efforts and support. He also thanked his Commissioner colleagues for their support and confidence in 2023. He closed by wishing everyone a Happy Holiday.

#### **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 Commissioner Williams, roll call showed seven members of the Board voted in the affirmative, with Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Garretson absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 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



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.