

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024
AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon, Commissioner James E. Baker, Jr, Commissioner Joseph C. Bodek, Commissioner Michèle S. Delisfort, Commissioner Sergio Granados, Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, and Commissioner Rebecca Williams were present.

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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board asked for a Moment of Silence to reflect and offer their sincere condolences to the family of fallen Plainfield Firefighter, 32-year-old Marques Hudson, during their time of sorrow.

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded asked for a moment of silence to honor fallen, Plainfield firefighter, Marques Hudson.

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded advised that the Communications would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Thursday, December 7, 2023 - Agenda Setting Session
2. Thursday, December 7, 2023 - Regular Meeting
3. Thursday, December 21, 2023 - Agenda Setting Session
4. Thursday, December 21, 2023 - Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded advised that the December Minutes would be approved later during the Regular Meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Joanne Rajoppi, County Clerk

Deputy Clerk Clara C. Fernandez represented the Office.

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Approving the 2024 Union County Clerk Five Year Spending Plan pursuant to New Jersey Laws of 2001, Chapter 370, for the use of the Document Trust Fund monies collected into the Union County Clerk's Trust Account. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
2. Amending Resolution 2023-1002, a contract with Royal Printing Services, West New York, NJ, to reflect a change in account numbers only. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
3. Amending Resolution 2023-1000, a contract with B & B Press Inc., Lebanon, New Jersey, to reflect a change in account numbers only. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
4. Amending Resolution 2023-1001, a contract with Full Service Mailers, Hackensack, NJ, to reflect a change in account numbers only. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Laura Scutari, Director

County Manager Edward T. Oatman represented the Department.

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Amending Resolution 2023-275, approval of dispersal of self-insured Claims & Healthcare Fees, to include account number change only. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Amy Crisp Wagner, Deputy County Manager/Director

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Amending Resolution 2023-133, a contract with Crown Castle for data communications network services for the period of June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2027, to reflect an increase in an amount not to exceed \$600.00 per month in a total amount not to exceed \$30,000 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$265,000.00. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Dell Computer Corporation, Round Rock, TX, awarded through State Contract 20-TELE-01510 for Barracuda Firewall Appliance, for a three (3) year period beginning February 1, 2024 through January 31, 2027, in the total amount not to exceed \$530,521.20. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Ricardo S. Matias, P.E., County Engineer

1. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract obtained through advertised public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to Premier Building & Construction Management, Inc. of Midland Park, New Jersey for the Union County Parks' various restroom facility upgrades in an amount not to exceed \$734,000.00. **(Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski)**
2. Amending Resolution 2017-221, a contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers of Secaucus, New Jersey, to provide additional Licensed Site Remediation Professional Services (LSRP) related to the remediation of the Zimmerman Park located in Union Township, New Jersey to reflect an increase in the amount of \$28,005.00 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$90,205.00. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**
3. Amending Resolution 2022-958, a contract with PS&S of Warren, New Jersey, to provide additional design and construction administrative services related to the expansion of the Union County Dispatch Center, Froehlich Building, Westfield, New Jersey, to reflect an increase in the amount of \$194,860.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$809,413.00. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**
4. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to CME Associates, Parlin, New Jersey to provide design, construction administration and inspection services for the Environmental Engineering Services at the Union County Boiler Replacement Project in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**
5. Concurring with the Borough of Garwood's Ordinance No. 24-01 dated January 18, 2024 reducing the speed limit on South Avenue (C.R. 610) from 35 MPH to 25 MPH between East Street and West Street. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**
6. Amending Resolution 2021-235, 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 Capital Paving and Construction, LLC, of Lebanon, New Jersey for the 2021

Road Resurfacing Project, (County Aid 2020), County of Union, New Jersey. This Final Change Order Number 1 will decrease the contract amount by \$1,693,579.17 for a final contract amount not to exceed \$6,034,734.43. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**

Commissioner Leon asked County Engineer Matias to elaborate on the cited decrease.

County Engineer Matias advised that the reduction in cost was due to asphalt price adjustments as well as changes to the roads being addressed.

7. Amending resolution 2022-885, a contract with T & M Associates, Middletown, New Jersey to provide additional services for LSRP Environmental Services for Meisel Park, Township of Springfield in an additional amount of \$27,725.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$113,975.00. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**
8. Amending Resolution 2022-337, 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 Smith Soudy Asphalt Construction Company, of Wallington, New Jersey, approving Change Order Number 1 for the 2022 Road Resurfacing Project, County of Union, New Jersey. This change order will increase the original contract amount by \$1,264,816.14 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$10,797,024.12. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

1. Authorizing the County Manager to approve the 2024 Coordinated Community Care Contract Spending Plan and enter into agreements with various agencies to deliver services to Union County residents 60 years of age or older and/or their caregivers under the 2022-2024 Coordinated Community Care contract for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, representing contract year three (3) of a three (3) year cycle in the total not to exceed amount of \$100,000.00; further authorizing the transfer of funds among the agencies during the contract period should service needs change. **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into contract with Geneva Worldwide Interpretation Service, New York, NY to provide interpretation services for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded asked Director Anderson to elaborate on the increase.

Director Anderson advised that this resource would allow the Department to assist non-English speaking residents in securing social service benefits. She noted that the Department was actively working on 6,000-7,000 calls monthly. She added that this contract included a \$10,000 increase from last year to accommodate an influx of new Americans.

3. Amending Resolution 2023-1093, a contract with the United Way of Greater Union County, Elizabeth, NJ for the provision of a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program for low-income individuals and families of Union County for the

period of December 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024, to reflect a change in appropriation account number only. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

Commissioner Granados asked Director Anderson to elaborate on this item.

Director Anderson advised that this related to a new, tax-processing service pilot program being offered to low-income Union County residents to assist them with their income-tax preparation.

4. Amending Resolution 2023-928, a contract with Synergex International Corporation, Gold River, CA for software license and software maintenance for the Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, to reflect a change the appropriation account number only. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Victoria Durbin-Drake, Director

1. Authorizing County Manager to execute a License Agreement with Roman E and G Corp., Newark, NJ to store equipment at Zimmerman Park for the duration of a project conducted for PSE&G. **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**

Commissioner Baker asked Director Durbin-Drake to elaborate on this item.

Director Durbin-Drake advised that this license agreement would allow PSE&G to store equipment on-site for an ongoing-project. She added that she anticipated the project to last approximately two months.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Dennis Burke, Acting Director

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to accept and expend \$11,400.00 from the NJ Department of Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General under the FY 2023 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP) for the Subaward period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
2. Authorizing the County Manager to award a contract to Lehrer-Gibilisco Funeral Home, Inc., Rahway, NJ, to provide livery services for the Union County Medical Examiner's Office for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$225,000.00. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
3. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into contracts with two (2) per diem pathologists to be available in the absence of the County Medical Examiner for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
4. Authorizing the County Manger to apply, accept, and expend the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety Drug Recognition Expert Callout Grant Program

to assist Law Enforcement Agencies in reducing drug-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities, for the grant period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$70,200.00. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**

5. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Michael Baker International, Hamilton, NJ, for the purpose of updating the County's Hazard Pre-Mitigation Plan Update 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

Bruce H. Bergen, County Counsel

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Taylor Law Group, LLC, New Providence, NJ, as Litigation Counsel for Lt. Gaetano Bracciale in the matter of Figueroa v. Union County et al. in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**
2. Appointing Weiner Law Group LLP, Parsippany, NJ, to represent the County of Union in the matter entitled County of Union re 921 Elizabeth Avenue, LLC cell tower Qual. T01 Lease in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

COMMISSIONER SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS

2024 Board of County Commissioners

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

James Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Appointing Daniela Murillo-Cifuentes to the Senior Citizen Disabled Resident Advisory Board for a term of January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2027; and re-appointing Kevin Illing for a term of January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2025; and re-appointing the following members for a term of January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2027: Robert Edward, Paula King, Dr. Vera P. Roquemore, and Ellen Steinberg. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
2. Adopting the Local Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse's (LACADA) By Laws with amendments. **(Commissioner James Baker Jr)**
3. Appointing the following Commissioners to the Voter Accessibility Advisory Board for a one-year term commencing on January 1, 2024 and expiring on December 31, 2024: Clara Harelik (Commissioner); James Foerst (Commissioner); Richard Fortunato (Commissioner); Dennis Kobitz (Commissioner); Raymond Szpond (Commissioner); Debra Varnerin (Commissioner); Robert Polidore (Public Member with Disability); John Powers (UCBOE Polling Place Coordinator/ADA Trained); Manuel Ramirez (Public Member/ADA Trained); James Baker Jr. (Governing Body Representative); and Nicole DiRado (County Manager Representative). **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek)**

4. Re-appointing Anthony Cameli (Youth-At-Risk); Laurie Cicero (Health Services); and Woody Philippe (Community-At-Large) to the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) for a three-year term beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026; appointing the following new members to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026; Malika Cook (Families in Crisis); Sandra Lynch (Community-At-Large); Jeanne McLaughlin Polasky (Community-At-Large); and Teresa Soto Vega (Target Pop-His); and appointing Katia Theodore (Child Care Services) to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2024. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**
5. Re-appointing the following members to the Shade Tree Advisory Board; Steve Falco for a term of January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2024; James Nichnadowicz for a term of January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2024; and Nick Polanin for a term of January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026. **(Vice-Chairwoman Lourdes M. Leon)**
6. Appointing the following members to the Union County Commission on the Status of Women: Jennifer Blumenstock, Judy Jenkins-Gaudino, Ayana Josephs, Dr. Beverly Lynn, Hillary Sermeno and Jacinth Clayton, for an initial term of 1 year; Diane Barbosa, Joanna Miles, Marissa Ruggiero Esq., Sally Samuels Esq., Lolita Slater, for an initial term of 2 years; and Lisa Bonanno, Jennifer Erdos, Laura Giacobbe, Kellianne Granados, Shery Heidary, Amelia Mapp for an initial term of 3 years. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded)**

OFFICE OF OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

Victoria Durbin-Drake, Administrator

There was no question or comments by the Board.

1. Authorizing the County Manager to extend the contract with Groundwork Elizabeth, Elizabeth, NJ, pursuant to Resolution 2023-148, for the administration and implementation of two programs encompassed under the grant program entitled: "Union County Plant A Seed Grant Program" for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 in the total amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 with two (2) additional one-year options to extend. **(Commissioner Sergio Granados)**

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS & RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE

1. Offering this Board's deepest sympathies to the family of Angelina Mack Wohlrab, mother of former Union County Freeholder John Wohlrab, during their time of sorrow. **(Commissioner Joseph C Bodek, & The Entire Board)**
2. Offering this Board's most sincere condolences to the family of fallen Plainfield Firefighter, 32-year-old Marques Hudson, during their time of sorrow. **(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, Commissioner Alexander Mirabella, & The Entire Board)**

Commissioner Williams thanked her Commissioner colleagues for their support relative to the loss of Plainfield Firefighter Marques Hudson

3. Proclaiming the month of February as Black History Month throughout the County of Union. This board further recognizes the prominence and importance of this

county's African American community and further encourages residents and municipalities to celebrate and participate in Black History events countywide.
(Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded, & The Entire Board)

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Palmieri-Mouded asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made by Commissioner Mirabella and seconded by Commissioner Williams roll call showed nine members of the Board voted in the affirmative.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 P.M.

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2024 MEETING SCHEDULE**

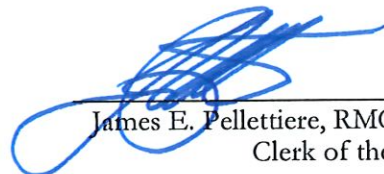
**REORGANIZATION MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street. Elizabeth**

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

Thursday, January 25, 2024
 Wednesday, February 7, 2024
 Wednesday, February 21, 2024
 Wednesday, March 13, 2024
 Wednesday, March 27, 2024
 Wednesday, April 10, 2024
 Wednesday, April 24, 2024
 Wednesday, May 8, 2024
 Wednesday, May 22, 2024
 Wednesday, June 5, 2024
 Wednesday, June 19, 2024
 Wednesday, July 17, 2024
 Wednesday, August 14, 2024
 Wednesday, September 11, 2024
 Wednesday, September 25, 2024
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024
 Wednesday, October 23, 2024
 Wednesday, November 13, 2024
 Wednesday, December 4, 2024
 Wednesday, December 18, 2024

REGULAR MEETINGS

Thursday, January 25, 2024
 Wednesday, February 7, 2024
 Wednesday, February 21, 2024
 Wednesday, March 13, 2024
 Wednesday, March 27, 2024
 Wednesday, April 10, 2024
 Wednesday, April 24, 2024
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 Wednesday, June 19, 2024
 Wednesday, July 17, 2024
 Wednesday, August 14, 2024
 Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024
 Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024
 Wednesday, October 23, 2024
 Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024
 Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024
 Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024



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

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings, with the exception of the January 25, 2024 meetings, are to be regularly held on Wednesday evenings. These meetings 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, 6th floor located at 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth New Jersey, 07207. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 908-527-4140.