



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Note and File

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 6, 2025 - Agenda Setting Session
2. February 6, 2025 - Regular Meeting
3. February 27, 2025 - Agenda Setting Session
4. February 27, 2025 - Regular Meeting

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

856-2025 **AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND ADOPT AN ASSESSMENT ON CERTAIN SERVICES FURNISHED BY HOSPITALS LOCATED WITHIN UNION COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE PROVISION OF NECESSARY SERVICES BY SUCH HOSPITALS TO LOW-INCOME CITIZENS AND PROVIDE NEW FISCAL RESOURCES TO THE COUNTY.**

FIRST READING STATEMENT

Vice Chairman Joseph Bodek, Policy and Administrative Code Committee Chairman, will move Ordinance Number 856-2025 for First Reading and authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise same in accordance with the law. The Public Hearing and Final Reading will be held on April 17, 2025.

PRESENTATION BY THE BOARD

A video presentation will be made relative to the Introduction of the 2025 County Budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

The meeting is open 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.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

The following resolutions are being offered for adoption:

- 2025-285 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT:** Authorizing the Township of Berkeley Heights to hang a banner on Springfield Avenue to promote the Kimberly Ann Wilson Foundation 5k from August 21, 2025 to September 21, 2025.
- 2025-286 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT:** Authorizing the Borough of Kenilworth to close the Boulevard from 24th Street to 14th Street on May 18, 2025 from 7:00am to 7:00pm for the Kenilworth Street Fair.
- 2025-287 COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT:** Authorizing the Township of Scotch Plains to close a portion of Park Avenue, from East 2nd Street to Front Street, on Monday, May 26, 2025 from 8:00am to 12:00pm for a Memorial Day Ceremony; on Monday, October 13, 2025 from 8:00am to 12:00pm for a Columbus Day Event; and on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 from 10:30am to 12:00pm for a Veteran's Day Ceremony.
- 2025-288 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI:** Authorizing the County Manager to execute a License Agreement with the Township of Berkeley Heights, allowing them to plant trees at the Watchung Reservation.
- 2025-289 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Spec Rescue International, Virginia Beach, Virginia, to provide exercise support and training to members of the Metro Urban Search and Rescue (MUSAR) Task Force from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Region, utilizing 2023 and 2024 UASI grants, from April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$229,495.00. (No cost to County of Union)
- 2025-290 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing application for the subdivision of property owned by the County of Union, known as Block 338, Lot 1, within the City of Elizabeth, Union County, New Jersey.
- 2025-291 COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA:** Authorizing the County Manager to advertise for and consider bids to ascertain the interest in possible purchase of property owned by the County of Union known as 15 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ, no longer needed for public use, at public auction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 et seq.
- 2025-292 COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUDED:** Adopting the By-Laws of the Union County Behavioral Health Advisory Board.

- 2025-293 **COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with RWJBH – Trinitas Regional Medical Center (TRMC), Elizabeth, NJ to continue the nationally recognized Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) model in Union County for the period of April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$299,028.00.
- 2025-294 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Amending the 2025 Temporary Budget Ch. 96 P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20).
- 2025-295 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Approving transfer of Current Fund Appropriations.
- 2025-296 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Exceeding the County tax levy limit and to establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14).
- 2025-297 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the Office of the County Surrogate to exceed the County Entity Budget CAP (P.L. 2015, c.249)
- 2025-298 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Authorizing the Office of the County Board of Taxation to exceed the County Entity Budget CAP (P.L. 2015, c.249).
- 2025-299 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Introducing and Approving the Annual Budget of the County of Union for the Fiscal Year 2025.
- 2025-300 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS:** Requesting permission to apply for a Dedication by Rider for Electronic Receipt Fees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39
- 2025-301 **COMMISSIONER REBECCA LYNNE WILLIAMS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Sponsoring the Union County Fatherhood Initiative Coalition in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 in support of their "13th Annual Fatherhood Conference - The Fatherhood Resource Hub" to be held on April 5, 2025.
- 2025-302 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to accept a grant and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the NJ Department of State, Division of Elections for a Mail-In-Voter Education Program for the period of February 29, 2024 through March 31, 2026 in the amount of \$309,090.00.
- 2025-303 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to enter into a contract with Cellebrite Inc., Vienna, VA to renew a license for extracting critical digital evidence for the contract period of March 1, 2025 through June 13, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$53,302.20.
- 2025-304 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Affirming the County of Union's compliance with the Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964."

- 2025-305 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to sign any and all documents necessary to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the PBA73-County Police Officers, effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2027.
- 2025-306 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2024-488 to clarify and specify that the increase of \$120,000.00 of CDBG funding for the Linden Home Improvement Program (utilizing City of Linden Program Income funds) in a total amount not exceed \$263,000.00.
- 2025-307 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2023-472 approving the 2023-2024 Consolidated Action Plan, to increase the Consolidated Annual Action Plan budget for 2023-2024 by an amount not to exceed \$120,000.00, for a new total project amount not to exceed \$263,000.00.
- 2025-308 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Authorizing the County Manager to award funding for the 2025 Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 to the twenty-one (21) municipalities in the County of Union.
- 2025-309 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** 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, (BA#20-2025) to Johnston Communications, Springfield, NJ, for a period of twenty-four (24) months with an option to renew for 24 months to provide electronic network equipment, security and cabling to various County Departments in an amount not to exceed \$671,600.00.
- 2025-310 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2024-874, a contract with Hatfield Schwartz Law Group, LLC, Cedar Knolls, NJ, to represent the County of Union in the matter entitled Andrea Simmons v. County of Union et als, to reflect an increase for an additional amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 for a new contract total amount not to exceed \$55,000.00.
- 2025-311 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON:** Amending Resolution 2024-622, a contract with Hatfield Schwartz, LLC, Cedar Knolls, NJ, in the matter entitled Meghan Tomlinson v. County of Union, et al, to reflect an increase to the contract amount not to exceed \$15,000.00, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$55,000.00.
- 2025-312 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Supporting New Jersey Senate Bill No. S3736 and Assembly Bill A5035, requiring the State Treasurer to reimburse county treasurers for defense costs and administrative expenses incurred by counties in defending certain lawsuits during supersedure of a county prosecutor by the Attorney General.

LAUDATORY RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCES

- 2025-313 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Head Coach Ben Candelino, Assistant Coach John LaRocca, Assistant Coach Randy Westrol, Alteric Hines, Lawrence Thomas, Allan Richardson, Malik Jackson, Donald Stewart, Kaseem Patterson, Arthur Negron, Robert Coen, Laquan Harris, Alcides Catanho, Lamont Pleasant, Luther Wright, Isaac Morgan, Tyrone Brown, Stefano Calella, and Michael Brennan of the 1990 Elizabeth High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team upon being honored by The Elizabeth Athletic Hall of Fame Association at March Madness for their remarkable achievements, including winning the Union County Tournament, Group 4 State Championship, and the Tournament of Champions on Friday March 21, 2025.
- 2025-314 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUEDED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing the month of April 2025 as Autism Acceptance Month; encouraging the continued awareness of Autism and promoting a greater understanding, respect and acceptance of those with Autism.
- 2025-315 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Dr. Frank DePinho as the 2025 Grand Marshal and Henrique Mano as the 2025 Honorary Marshal, and recognizing Rosa Tavares Pinho as the 2025 Posthumous Marshal of the Elizabeth Portugal Day Committee on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.
- 2025-316 COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, COMMISSIONER ALEXANDER MIRABELLA, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Sister Percylee Hart on an exceptional career as an educator and a principal, which was highlighted by her four decades as principal of Union Catholic High School.
- 2025-317 COMMISSIONER BETTE JANE KOWALSKI, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Wishing Ruth E. Positan a Happy 100th Birthday and recognizing all that she has accomplished in her life on Friday, March 21, 2025.
- 2025-318 VICE-CHAIRMAN JOSEPH C BODEK, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing Giovanni Lavorato for his years of service in Linden and Union County.
- 2025-319 VICE-CHAIRMAN JOSEPH C BODEK, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Extending the Board's deepest condolences to the family of Patricia A. La Placa during this time of sorrow.
- 2025-320 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER MICHÈLE S. DELISFORT, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Commissioner Kimberly Palmieri-Mouuded, Jo-Ann Horton Givens, Beverly Harris, Jannet Revollar, Christal Blue, Kareema Vauters, and Angie Perez upon being honored as Woman of the Year at Ola Edwards Community School on Friday, March 21, 2025.
- 2025-321 CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Union County Healthcare Associates upon their Grand Opening Celebration on Friday, March 21, 2025.

- 2025-322 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating the Fire and Rescue Department of Kenilworth upon hosting their first Beefsteak Fundraiser on Friday, March 21, 2025.
- 2025-323 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week from April 13-19, 2025, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our citizens safe; and further acknowledging four telecommunicators for their outstanding service: Andrew Foster, Thomas Gesior, Anthony Longo, and James Kaiser.
- 2025-324 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Ritesh Shah, CEO/Managing Partner of Legacy Pharmacy Group and founder of Ritesh Shah Charitable Pharmacy, a charitable pharmacy whose mission is to increase access to medications, immunizations, health education, and pharmacy services for uninsured and underserved patients to reduce clinical and social health inequities in our community, on the celebration of Charitable Pharmacy's provision of medical and pharmaceutical health services to Union County residents; saving patients nearly \$230,000 within the last year alone.
- 2025-325 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Congratulating Union County Commissioner Sergio Granados, Stanley J. Neron, Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe, Assemblywoman Linda S. Carter, New Beginnings Kingdom, Wells Fargo, and Moms Helping Moms Foundation upon being honored at the United Way of Greater Union County Circle of Hope Gala on March 20, 2025.
- 2025-326 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER SERGIO GRANADOS, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing the month of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) throughout the County of Union.
- 2025-327 **CHAIRWOMAN LOURDES M. LEON, COMMISSIONER KIMBERLY PALMIERI-MOUED, & THE ENTIRE BOARD:** Recognizing the month of April 2025 as Alcohol Awareness Month (AAM) throughout the County of Union.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

REORGANIZATION MEETING - MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Union County Courthouse- 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth

AGENDA SETTING SESSION

Thursday, January 13, 2025*
Thursday, January 23, 2025
Thursday, February 6, 2025
Thursday, February 27, 2025
Thursday, March 13, 2025
Thursday, March 27, 2025
Thursday, April 17, 2025
Thursday, May 15, 2025
Thursday, June 12, 2025
Thursday, July 24, 2025
Thursday, August 21, 2025
Thursday, September 4, 2025
Thursday, September 18, 2025
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Thursday, November 13, 2025
Thursday, December 4, 2025
Thursday, December 18, 2025

REGULAR MEETINGS

Thursday, January 13, 2025*
Thursday, January 23, 2025
Thursday, February 6, 2025
Thursday, February 27, 2025
Thursday, March 13, 2025
Thursday, March 27, 2025
Thursday, April 17, 2025
Thursday, May 15, 2025
Thursday, June 12, 2025
Thursday, July 24, 2025
Thursday, August 21, 2025
Thursday, September 4, 2025
Thursday, September 18, 2025
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Thursday, November 13, 2025
Thursday, December 4, 2025
Thursday, December 18, 2025

Special Meeting*

Please note that the County Commissioners' meetings are to be regularly held on Thursday 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.