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HUDSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RE:  
CAUCUS MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF  
OF THE :  
HUDSON COUNTY BOARD OF : PROCEEDINGS  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS :

- - - - -  
O P E N S E S S I O N  
Hudson County  
Administration Building,  
County Commissioners Chambers  
567 Pavonia Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey  
Tuesday, July 15, 2025  
4:30 p.m.

B E F O R E:  
  
ANTHONY ROMANO, Chairman  
YRAIDA APONTE-LIPSKI, Commissioner  
ROBERT BASELICE, Commissioner  
FANNY CEDEÑO, Commissioner  
ALBERT CIFELLI, Commissioner  
KENNETH KOPACZ, Commissioner  
WILLIAM O'DEA, Commissioner  
CARIDAD RODRIGUEZ, Commissioner  
JERRY WALKER, Commissioner

A L S O P R E S E N T:  
CARMEN E. MENDIOLA, ESQ., Board Counsel  
ALBERICO DEPIERRO, ESQ., Hudson County Counsel  
ABRAHAM ANTUN, County Administrator  
CAROL JEAN DOYLE, County Commissioner Clerk  
Reported By: Shari Cathey, CCR, RPR

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1 THE CLERK: Commissioner  
2 Aponte-Lipski.  
3 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Here.  
4 THE CLERK: Commissioner Baselice.  
5 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Here.  
6 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cedeño.  
7 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Here.  
8 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cifelli.  
9 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Here.  
10 THE CLERK: Commissioner Kopacz.  
11 Commissioner O'Dea.  
12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Here.  
13 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rodriguez.  
14 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Here.  
15 THE CLERK: Commissioner Walker.  
16 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Here.  
17 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.  
18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Here.  
19 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Are you hearing  
20 me?  
21 THE CLERK: Yes. Yes, we can hear  
22 you.  
23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Madam Clerk, before  
24 we start the meeting, in attendance today, I think  
25 that's important that the Commissioner Board, all my

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1 colleagues, all the Directors, know the two new  
2 additions to Hudson County Community College. Two  
3 gentlemen are in the background. If you'd like to  
4 come up so everybody can get to see you. The new  
5 Hudson County Community College representative is  
6 Mr. Yeurys Pujols. Are you related to the ball  
7 player, Albert Pujols?  
8 MR. PUJOLS: Every time I travel, I  
9 say yes.  
10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: And he's replacing  
11 the retiring Hudson County legend there, Nick  
12 Chiaravalloti, out there. And also we have --  
13 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Nick is way too  
14 young to retire.  
15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Nick -- I also have  
16 the new Athletic Director. That means that sports  
17 are coming back to the Community College.  
18 COMMISSIONER WALKER: That's awesome.  
19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Happy to hear that.  
20 Jerry Walker would like to put in a resume to coach.  
21 COMMISSIONER WALKER: That's right.  
22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Contrary to what  
23 you may think, recruit from St. Peter's, not from  
24 Seton Hall. He's our new Athletic Director.  
25 Jonathan Sisk. Jonathan, congratulations.

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1 MR. SISK: Thank you.  
2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Any Commissioners  
3 or any Directors have anything they'd like to say?  
4 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: To the Athletic  
5 Director, your first assignment should be bringing  
6 athletics back to the County Schools of Technology.  
7 That would be a beautiful thing to do. And we could  
8 have from the high school right to the Community  
9 College. So I think that we should all work on that  
10 because enough time has passed since they got rid of  
11 athletics at that school.  
12 I've been at some of the activities, like  
13 they have the Puff Football Bowl and you can't get  
14 inside that gymnasium. There's so many kids there  
15 and I run into students that go to play at different  
16 schools throughout Jersey City and Hudson County  
17 because they don't have athletics there. So I think  
18 we should, Mr. Chairman, now that we're bringing it  
19 to the college, I think we've got to bring it back  
20 to the Schools of Technology. So I hope that's your  
21 first assignment, sir.  
22 And as for the gentleman replacing Nick  
23 Chiaravalloti, I hope you have thick skin, sir.  
24 Don't take anything personal.  
25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Jerry, you wanted

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1 to say something?  
2 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Yeah. No, I  
3 want to echo obviously from my background, I'm a  
4 student-athlete, and whatever I can do to support  
5 you in terms of your efforts, I would be there to do  
6 that. But also, I would love to bring the sports  
7 back too because I was actually there some years ago  
8 because it was some of my students that was going to  
9 County Prep at the time when they took the sports  
10 away, and it was a sad day for me, sad day for them.  
11 So, and I don't know, I mean, obviously  
12 bring it back gradually in terms of dollars and  
13 cents, I don't know how that all play out. But we  
14 definitely should have some sort of sports in our  
15 high school and in our grammar school.  
16 MR. SISK: Yes.  
17 COMMISSIONER WALKER: So welcome  
18 aboard.  
19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: And would either of  
20 you two gentlemen like to say a few words? Go  
21 ahead.  
22 MR. PUJOLS: I just wanted to thank  
23 all of you for the opportunity for being here, and I  
24 look forward to working with all of you and  
25 supporting the work of this body.

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you.  
 2 Go ahead, sir.  
 3 MR. SISK: Yeah, I would like to  
 4 mirror that. I look forward to working with all of  
 5 you, especially the gentlemen who are expressing  
 6 such passion for athletics here in Hudson County.  
 7 I've been feeling that ever since I came up for my  
 8 interview. So I look forward to being involved in  
 9 anything that you have that you would like to be  
 10 involved with in the community. I'm looking forward  
 11 to any of those opportunities. Please feel free to  
 12 reach out, and I'll be in touch with some of you.  
 13 Thank you.  
 14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Good. And Nick,  
 15 since you're in whatever mode you're in, would you  
 16 like to say a goodbye?  
 17 MR. CHIARAVALLI: Transition,  
 18 always a transition though. Definitely not  
 19 retirement. Too many college tuitions. I just want  
 20 to Yeurys and Jonathan are great additions to the  
 21 college. Each of the Commissioners will get an  
 22 e-mail from them to follow up with any questions.  
 23 As always, I'll only be a phone call away.  
 24 But personally I do want to thank both the  
 25 County Executive and the Board of Commissioners for

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1 the tremendous amount of support, not only for me  
 2 individually, but for the work of the college.  
 3 We're very excited and progress continues to be made  
 4 at the college on the new Center for Student  
 5 Success, which will allow us to bring back  
 6 athletics. And we just really appreciate the  
 7 County's support. Thank you, sir.  
 8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you. Also, I  
 9 think it will be on the agenda. There's been two  
 10 major concerns for the Board of Commissioners and my  
 11 colleagues. One, in collaboration obviously with  
 12 the County Executive's office, the situation with  
 13 our dear friend John Braun has been addressed. It's  
 14 going to be thanks to Jonathan DeFilippo, the  
 15 Director, working with Craig and us. That's going  
 16 to be taken care of later on when it comes on.  
 17 You'll see. So that will be a unanimous Board as a  
 18 whole on that.  
 19 And the other concern in this area for  
 20 Billy and Yraida, you're on the committee. The  
 21 County Executive has also created a committee with  
 22 regards to the 595 situation. So that will also be  
 23 coming on. So thank you.  
 24 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Can I ask a  
 25 question?

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Big Al.  
 2 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Sorry to be  
 3 late with the question. Concerning the sports  
 4 program at the community college, and I apologize  
 5 for my ignorance. But how many -- is there an  
 6 athletic association among the New Jersey community  
 7 colleges?  
 8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Director, would you  
 9 answer that? Yes, there is, but you can give more  
 10 specifics.  
 11 MR. SISK: Hello again. Thank you  
 12 for your question. I believe that you're talking  
 13 about the National Junior College Athletics  
 14 Association, which is a member of an organization  
 15 that's national that we'll be a member of.  
 16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: The Hudson  
 17 County Community College, are they a member of that  
 18 association?  
 19 MR. SISK: We are in the process of  
 20 becoming a member. We are not currently a member.  
 21 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I got you.  
 22 Okay. So we are in the process of joining that  
 23 association, right?  
 24 MR. SISK: Yes, sir.  
 25 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: And assuming

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1 we get accepted to that association, our community  
 2 college would be able to have basketball teams  
 3 compete in that, and whatever other athletic teams  
 4 would compete in the context of that association; is  
 5 that correct?  
 6 MR. SISK: Yes, that's correct.  
 7 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Got you.  
 8 Okay. Thank you.  
 9 MR. SISK: Thank you.  
 10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Madam Clerk,  
 11 continue.  
 12 THE CLERK: Laudatory resolutions.  
 13 L-1. Resolution to congratulate and commend Cayden  
 14 Drumeler on receiving the 2025 NJAC Foundation  
 15 Investors/Citizens Bank Scholarship Award.  
 16 L-2. Resolution of congratulation and  
 17 commend Thiara Hyatt on receiving the 2025 NJAC  
 18 Foundation PSE&G Scholarship Award.  
 19 L-3. Resolution to congratulation and  
 20 commend Shady Besada on receiving the 2025 NJAC  
 21 Foundation AT&T Scholarship Award.  
 22 L-4. Resolution to congratulation and  
 23 commend Steven Chen on receiving the 2025 NJAC  
 24 Foundation SHI International Scholarship Award.  
 25 L-5. Resolution of congratulation and

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 commend Brandon Alegre on receiving the 2025 NJAC  2 Foundation Investors/Citizens Bank Scholarship  3 Award.  4 L-6. Resolution to congratulation and  5 commend Celita Salas Paucar on receiving the 2025  6 NJAC Foundation Amazon Scholarship Award.  7 Board Resolutions 1. Resolution accepting  8 the Annual Report of Audit for 2024.  9 2. 2025 Budget Amendment to New Jersey  10 Department of Law and Public Safety, Fiscal Year  11 2023 Victims of Crime Act Grant Program, \$547,416.  12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Oh yeah. We have  13 to stop.  14 THE CLERK: Oh, I'm sorry. I am so  15 sorry. I am so sorry.  16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: On the laudatories,  17 that's going to be Board as a Whole.  18 THE CLERK: That's Board as a Whole.  19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: On No. 1?  20 THE CLERK: No. 1 is resolution  21 accepting the budget report. Is that the Board?  22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Any problems with  23 that? Board as a whole? Board as a whole.  24 THE CLERK: All right.  25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: No. 2.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 authorize the acceptance and award of additional  2 Social Services for the Homeless funds for the New  3 Jersey Department of Human Services for the  4 provision of rental assistance and to allocate  5 Fiscal Year 2025 SSH funding for the provision of  6 motel assistance from January 1st, 2025 through  7 December 31st, 2025. \$70,220. Sponsor?  8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and  9 Rodriguez. Caridad. O'Dea and Rodriguez.  10 THE CLERK: 6. 2025 Budget Amendment  11 State of New Jersey Department of Human Services for  12 Social Services for the Homeless. \$70,220.  13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Lipski and  14 Rodriguez.  15 THE CLERK: 7. Resolution amending  16 Resolution No. 786-12-2024 to authorize the Office  17 of Culture and Heritage Affairs Tourism Development  18 to award funds appropriated by the County of Hudson  19 to guarantee organizations under the Fiscal Year  20 2025 Hudson County, New Jersey State Council on the  21 Arts of Local Arts Program, January 1st, 2025 to  22 December 31st, 2025.  23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez-Lipski.  24 And that's Grantee, correct? Or is it Guarantee?  25 Grantee, right? Go ahead. No 8.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 THE CLERK: That's the 2025 Budget  2 Amendment to New Jersey Department of Law and Public  3 Safety, Fiscal Year 2023 Victims of Crime Grant  4 Program, \$547,416.  5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Did you want that  6 Bobby? Baselice and Romano.  7 THE CLERK: 3. 2025 Budget Amendment  8 United States Department of Health and Human  9 Services Health Resources and Services  10 Administration for ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan  11 for America-Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs Parts A and  12 B, \$417,954. Sponsor?  13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Lipski and  14 Rodriguez.  15 THE CLERK: 4. Resolution  16 authorizing an application and acceptance of funds,  17 if awarded, through the New Jersey Department of  18 Transportation Fiscal Year 2026 Bikeway Grant  19 Program for shared use path along Passaic Avenue and  20 Kearny Riverbank Park, \$1,872,090 to the County.  21 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Sponsor.  22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Cifelli and  23 Baselice.  24 THE CLERK: 5. Resolution amending  25 Resolution Nos. 755-12 2024 and 810-12 2024 to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 THE CLERK: 8. Resolution amending  2 Resolution No. 785-12 2024 to authorize the Office  3 of Cultural and Heritage Affairs Tourism Development  4 to award funds appropriated by the County of Hudson  5 to grantee organization under the Fiscal Year 2025  6 Hudson County, New Jersey Historical Commission  7 History Partnership Grant, January 1st, 2025 to  8 December 31st, 2025. \$30,000.  9 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Romano-Lipski. 9.  10 THE CLERK: Resolution amending  11 Resolution No. 173-2025 to reallocate additional  12 funds to the contracts with the Waterfront Project  13 and Northeast New Jersey Legal Services under the  14 State of New Jersey Community Development Block  15 Grant COVID-2 Grant Program, January 1st, 2025 to  16 December 31st, 2025. \$339,559.87.  17 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Cifelli.  18 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Question.  19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Question.  20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So obviously is  21 this one of the programs we have listed when we  22 asked you to do an analysis, Mr. Administrator, of  23 the programs that the funding is going to go away  24 from?  25 MR. ANTUN: No, Commissioner.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 Because the CDBG. The funding for this came from  2 another source. It's not part of our ARC money.  3 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: But it's COVID-2  4 right?  5 MR. ANTUN: Yes. But I'm answering  6 your question. It was not part of the analysis  7 because we only focused on the ARC money. The CDBG  8 is a whole separate category.  9 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Shouldn't we  10 start to do that also?  11 MR. ANTUN: I don't disagree. I was  12 answering your question. It's not part of the ARC  13 money.  14 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Can I now ask  15 that you look at other non-ARC funding that was  16 clearly COVID funding related which by all  17 indications will not be funded anymore. We can  18 identify what those are, and again, rank them into  19 essential can be absorbed by some other funding  20 source.  21 MR. ANTUN: This is only the CDBG.  22 That's all it was because there were allocations  23 that came from the State CDBG and also directly to  24 the County. It's all under the umbrella of  25 Community Development.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 hospitals?  2 MR. ANTUN: To the hospitals in the  3 aggregate maybe \$50 million.  4 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: How much do they  5 pay to get them?  6 MR. ANTUN: They pay about \$30  7 million. \$31 million.  8 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So the \$50  9 million is in excess of the \$30, or is that \$20  10 million?  11 MR. ANTUN: No, that's net.  12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So they're  13 netting \$50 million?  14 MR. ANTUN: Yeah, correct.  15 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So did we ever  16 resolve the hospital that didn't pay us?  17 MR. ANTUN: Yeah. We entered into a  18 payment agreement where they're paying off the  19 arrears with interest over a three-year period, and  20 then they're making the current payments.  21 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The question I  22 have on that is at some point we were told that if  23 the payment wasn't made by a certain time, the State  24 or the feds wouldn't credit us the additional money.  25 Is that not the case because they did a payment plan</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Again, they were  2 given to us clearly from a separate COVID as opposed  3 to an annual CDBG allocation.  4 MR. ANTUN: Correct.  5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Which as we know  6 may be in jeopardy also, but I think it's certainty  7 that these will not be funded.  8 MR. ANTUN: That's correct.  9 THE CLERK: 10. Resolution awarding  10 professional services contract non-fair and open,  11 Eyman Partners, LLC "Legal Guidance of the County of  12 Hudson Pertinent to the Hospital Fee Ordinance"  13 \$137,000.  14 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Sponsor.  15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Second.  16 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Question.  17 THE CLERK: Sponsor?  18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Who was that?  19 Rodriguez and me.  20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: To go over  21 quickly again. The optional hospital fee generates  22 approximately how much money per year?  23 MR. ANTUN: To the County about a  24 couple of million dollars.  25 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: To the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 or not?  2 MR. ANTUN: I believe -- I believe  3 that will get resolved because we had to file -- the  4 State had to file a plan with the feds, and I don't  5 know if that plan has been filed. We don't file it,  6 they do. But it was held up because of this  7 decision.  8 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: We're paying  9 these guys a lot of money. Can we get some written  10 memorandum clarifying that?  11 MR. ANTUN: Sure. We can get that.  12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Because  13 obviously because they're making it paid over three  14 years, in the short term we're not getting the match  15 so to speak. Then that's a significant problem.  16 MR. ANTUN: They have not indicated  17 to me that that was going to be a problem but I will  18 get you a memo.  19 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Again, my  20 recollection, if they didn't do it by a certain time  21 because the state -- the match rather, is based on  22 the dollars you collect.  23 MR. ANTUN: That's correct.  24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: We would lose  25 that money.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 MR. ANTUN: That's correct.  2 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The question I  3 have is, is the match going to now be based on how  4 much of the arrears they pay? Or are we going to  5 get a credit for the three years of payments now and  6 then the match from the government is based on that.  7 Two significant numbers, right?  8 MR. ANTUN: I agree.  9 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So I think it's  10 important to know because it's going to affect other  11 hospitals at a point in time when they're going to  12 need every dollar they can get.  13 MR. ANTUN: I will provide you with a  14 memo clarifying that, but it's my understanding that  15 since we worked out this payment arrangement, the  16 hospital should be okay.  17 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I'll defer to  18 letting the lawyer give you a written --  19 MR. ANTUN: Yes, I will bring it to  20 you.  21 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: And if you're  22 wrong, I won't say anything.  23 MR. ANTUN: I don't know.  24 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Billy, never  25 say you will not say anything.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 hot issue.  2 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Can I just  3 chime in on one thing about that? I think Billy  4 raises an issue that I wanted to raise at the end of  5 the meeting, which is because of the -- what do they  6 call it? The Big Beautiful Bill? Is that what they  7 called it? There's going to be significant issues  8 that are going to flow down to the counties.  9 And I think it may be ten states in the  10 country and New Jersey is one of them that handles a  11 lot of this stuff through the counties, whether it's  12 SNAP or Medicaid or whatever. But it's going to be  13 a huge problem for us as a County in a couple of  14 months. And maybe it's a good idea that we can  15 convene maybe a special session and have our  16 consultants, whether they be from our lobbyists or  17 some of our people on staff, to come and give us as  18 a Board, a primer on what we can expect and what the  19 consequences of the Big Beautiful Bill mean to  20 people in Hudson County, mean to us as a County, and  21 meaning to our constituents.  22 Because these consequences are, I think,  23 are going to be drastic as hell. Billy, right? And  24 I think we need to have kind of an educational  25 session for us to show us how it affects Medicaid</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Only in this one  2 example. Because look, here's the reality, right?  3 If people don't realize this, I mean, it's reality.  4 There will be a crisis in our hospitals. Changes to  5 Medicaid are going to force people with no  6 alternative but to go to emergency rooms, and  7 emergency rooms are going to become the treatment of  8 first to many --  9 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: They're going  10 to be the first care.  11 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: First care and  12 that's going to put a huge burden on hospitals  13 throughout the country. But especially here where  14 we have a very large --  15 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Medicaid  16 population.  17 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: A very large  18 number of individuals that are not insured. As well  19 as other individuals that are going to get kicked  20 off of Medicaid for a variety of different reasons.  21 All those changes are going to drive those  22 individuals into hospitals. And we as a County,  23 each city that has a hospital needs to get on top of  24 that. As will my good friend Assemblyman Walker  25 when he goes down the Trenton. It's going to be a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 and the hospitals, how it affects SNAP. This is a  2 big problem, and we need to have some overview and  3 some grasp of what the situation is. We hear things  4 on TV, we read things in the newspapers, but we need  5 somebody to come in that can give us a kind of a  6 global explanation about what the consequences of  7 this legislation are to us. And it's here, it's not  8 going away.  9 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Hold on one  10 thing, because this is really critical. So issues  11 like SNAP, so SNAP's going to mean people have less  12 money to buy food at the same point in time. If you  13 look at the breakdown of things that were funded  14 under ARP, food banks were one of the major  15 significant programs that we've started and got  16 funded. That money's going away. But now you're  17 getting hit by both ends. More people will be lined  18 up in need of food from food banks because of SNAP.  19 Less resources for food banks.  20 These are the things we need to become  21 much more you know, we created the divisional  22 office, and I commend the County Exec for that, but  23 that office needs to get into kind of almost  24 emergency action mode. What are the things we can  25 do? Can we create a program to start reclaiming</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 food from all the restaurants that places like New  2 York City need them, and then get that food out?  3       COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: City Harvest,  4 yeah.  5       COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The Goyas, all  6 the supermarkets, even locally, how do we go and  7 start to gather food that they may be discarding?  8 We've got to figure out a way to be proactive  9 because it's happening, as Al said, and the lines  10 are long. When we give out food, lines are long and  11 around the block and you run out of food. And there  12 ain't people selling that food on the street corner  13 trying to hustle it. They're using that food.  14 You're going to get people at -- and some of those  15 people already snapped. What happens when they got  16 less money? And then what happens when there's less  17 food?  18       COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: The food,  19 Billy's right. The food banks we have in Hudson  20 County are strained as it is now. They are going to  21 be strained beyond capacity very shortly, and we  22 need to have a program. Well, what are we going to  23 do? I mean, we need to have another thing. Ryan  24 White. We get millions and millions of dollars for  25 grants for Ryan White. I don't know enough about</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 Commissioner's office. The State's in a quandary,  2 just as we're going to be, because you know,  3 typically, the program has always been funded by the  4 State at a certain percentage. Now, this bill that  5 was enacted reduces the federal participation.  6 There are some penalties involved on others, so it's  7 a little complicated right now.  8       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Carol  9 Jean.  10       THE CLERK: Resolution awarding a  11 non-fair and open contract Legal Publications for  12 various County Departments, Gann Law Books, July  13 1st, 2025 to June 30th, 2027, \$100,000. It's a  14 two-year total, \$50,000 each year.  15       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Al?  16       COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Sponsor.  17 Sponsor.  18       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: I'll second.  19       THE CLERK: 12. Resolution  20 authorizing payment for the annual contract with  21 NorthPointe, Inc., Equivant, to provide COMPAS  22 software program utilized by Division of Community  23 Reintegration, March 1st, 2025 to February 28th,  24 2026, \$15,436.00.  25       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Romano.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 the Big Beautiful Bill as to whether, if at all,  2 that affects Ryan White grants, but what do we do  3 about that? That money's going to dry up.  4       So I'm just pulling my hair out, what's  5 left of it, in order to figure out what this means  6 for our constituents because the red states, they're  7 going to have their own problems, but we have a very  8 large Medicaid and SNAP population, and we need to  9 be able to figure out what we're going to do for  10 them after this bill comes into effect.  11       Maybe it's a good idea if we have some  12 kind of an educational meeting, seminar, with our  13 people or lobbyists that can come and explain how it  14 means program by program, budget line by budget  15 line, to us budgetary-wise for next year or  16 whatever. We need to prepare for that.  17       COMMISSIONER O'DEA: What's NJAC --  18 NJAC should be putting together much of what this  19 impact's going to be. Obviously, we've got to get  20 it done.  21       MR. ANTUN: NJAC has put together  22 some information. They've been working with the  23 State Department of Human Services regarding the  24 Medicaid and the SNAP. I believe that information  25 was shared with the Board. That came from the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 13.  2       THE CLERK: 13. Resolution  3 authorizing payment to Air Systems Maintenance,  4 Inc., pursuant to a declaration of emergency  5 \$23,980.  6       COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Sponsor.  7       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez.  8       COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Second.  9       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Lipski.  10       THE CLERK: No. 14 is a replacement.  11       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Which emergency was  12 that? Which emergency? Go ahead. Continue.  13       THE CLERK: No. 14 is a replacement.  14 It's approve Purchasing Agent's award, purchases  15 made under the State contracts.  16       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez. Second?  17 Where's Jerry?  18       COMMISSIONER WALKER: Sponsor, you  19 hear me?  20       CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez and  21 Walker.  22       COMMISSIONER WALKER: Yes, second.  23       THE CLERK: 15. Purchases made under  24 the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey  25 Pricing System, formerly known as the Middlesex</p>

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1 Regional Educational Service Commission.  
 2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez-Walker.  
 3 THE CLERK: 16. Purchasing made  
 4 under Burton County Cooperative Pricing System.  
 5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Jerry?  
 6 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Second.  
 7 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez-Walker.  
 8 THE CLERK: 17. Purchasing made  
 9 under the Union County Cooperative Pricing System.  
 10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez-Walker.  
 11 THE CLERK: 18. Approve Purchasing  
 12 Agent's awards.  
 13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez. Jerry?  
 14 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Second.  
 15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez-Walker.  
 16 Question, Billy.  
 17 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Can you put on  
 18 the record why the bid for the two areas at Lincoln  
 19 Park was denied?  
 20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: C, correct, Bill?  
 21 18C, Jonathan.  
 22 MR. ANTUN: The bid came over the  
 23 budget.  
 24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: How much?  
 25 DIRECTOR DEFILIPPO: We lost two.

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1 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: How much? I'm  
 2 sorry, Jonathan. I can't hear you.  
 3 DIRECTOR DEFILIPPO: Three-eight.  
 4 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The budget was  
 5 1.9 million, you said?  
 6 DIRECTOR DEFILIPPO: Right. Yeah,  
 7 and it came in at three-eight.  
 8 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: What's the North  
 9 and South? What's your answer?  
 10 MR. ANTUN: We have to go out to bid.  
 11 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: How do you do  
 12 it? What are you going to do? It's not like it was  
 13 20-percent over. It's double.  
 14 MR. ANTUN: There's only two vendors.  
 15 There's only two contractors that can submit a bid.  
 16 The other one did not or was not responsive. I  
 17 don't remember.  
 18 DIRECTOR DEFILIPPO: They couldn't  
 19 get that question to ask for some material.  
 20 MR. ANTUN: We have to go out to bid  
 21 again. If there is no bid, the second time, if it  
 22 comes over the budget, then we have to negotiate.  
 23 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Only one person  
 24 submitted a bid this time?  
 25 MR. ANTUN: No, two people. Only

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1 one. There's only two that qualify because it's  
 2 historic. But only one submitted it because the  
 3 other one didn't submit any. So we have to go out  
 4 again.  
 5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: We're going to  
 6 have a gun in our head.  
 7 MR. ANTUN: I'm sorry?  
 8 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: We're going to  
 9 have a gun in our head. One person bids, they know  
 10 they can get away with bloody murder.  
 11 MR. ANTUN: We have to qualify them.  
 12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I understand  
 13 that. I'm just saying. Is there a way to try to  
 14 qualify? Can you give me all the information to try  
 15 to prequalify? I want to see if there's any other  
 16 way to qualify them.  
 17 DIRECTOR DEFILIPPO: We would have to  
 18 do the process all over. There was a bid to qualify  
 19 bidders. It's historic.  
 20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: If the other  
 21 bidder doesn't bid again, the first bidder is going  
 22 to lower their bid by \$200,000.  
 23 MR. ANTUN: We'll just do the process  
 24 all over again.  
 25 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Can't we

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1 reject it and do the process all over again?  
 2 MR. ANTUN: Yeah.  
 3 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: As  
 4 inconvenient as it may be.  
 5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I'd still like  
 6 to see what the qualifications are to see if there's  
 7 other people out there. If not, the threat of it  
 8 may get competition. There's no way things should  
 9 be that much money.  
 10 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Just to  
 11 clarify Billy's question. So if only one bidder  
 12 throws in his bid at that point, we're not -- Billy  
 13 used the analogy of putting a gun to our head. We  
 14 have an option to reject them and redo the process  
 15 again. But, as Billy said, we may have to  
 16 restructure the regs and allow more potential  
 17 bidders to come in, right? We don't have to take  
 18 that.  
 19 MR. ANTUN: Commissioner, you can't  
 20 restructure the regs. All we can do is do the  
 21 process over again to pre-qualify. Hopefully, you  
 22 get a bigger pool of contractors that are qualified  
 23 to do historic work.  
 24 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: My point is  
 25 we're not compelled to take the only remaining

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1 person.

2 MR. ANTUN: No. No. No. No. What

3 I said before was the other bidder that was

4 qualified didn't submit a proposal. So we'll go out

5 to bid again and see if the second company submits a

6 proposal. We can also negotiate. If the

7 negotiations don't provide any fruitful outcome,

8 then we just start the process all over again.

9 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: But, Abe, that

10 negotiation alternative, do we have the latitude to,

11 in good faith, negotiate whatever price or do we

12 have a ceiling and a floor?

13 MR. ANTUN: No. There is no ceiling

14 or floor.

15 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So as long as

16 it's good faith and we want to accept it, and it

17 comports to reasonableness, we can take that bid?

18 MR. ANTUN: Exactly. All right. If

19 you don't like it, then we start all over again.

20 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: All right.

21 THE CLERK: Resolution amending

22 Resolution No. 806-12-2024 to add funds to the

23 Special Services Contract Fair and Open for Legal

24 Services DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole and Gibblin,

25 LLP, \$75,000; and Cleary Jacobbe Alfieri Jacobs,

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1 LLC, \$75,000; \$150,000.

2 Do I have a sponsor? No sponsor?

3 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Next.

4 THE CLERK: Do we have a sponsor on

5 second? 19. 19. Bill, are you sponsoring that?

6 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: No. Go to the

7 next item.

8 THE CLERK: Chairman, do we have a

9 sponsor on this?

10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Any sponsor for No.

11 19? Ladies on the end.

12 THE CLERK: No sponsors.

13 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Go to the next

14 item. Go ahead.

15 MR. DEPIERRO: These are the two

16 firms that were awarded the contract last year by

17 this Board. They handle outside investigations and

18 it is very necessary that these contracts are

19 amended so that they continue to do the work for the

20 next five months. They do a vast majority of legal

21 outside investigations. It is amending the current

22 contract.

23 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Can I ask you

24 a question?

25 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The item is not

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1 on the agenda yet.

2 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I'll get it on

3 the agenda. I'll move to get it on the agenda.

4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Do we need a

5 second? I'll second.

6 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Is it your

7 recommendation that because these two firms are, A,

8 already in the process of doing certain

9 investigations; and B, it is an essential function;

10 and C, you are satisfied with the work they have

11 produced so far under the existing contract?

12 MR. DEPIERRO: Yes, utterly

13 satisfied. They have been doing it for quite some

14 time as well. They need the funding in order to be

15 able to --

16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I'll move it.

17 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: My thought on it

18 is absence getting really briefed on what they have

19 been doing, how much they are billing us per case,

20 how many pending cases there are, et cetera. I am

21 not comfortable giving them more money.

22 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I think that

23 is a fair comment.

24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Here, just spend

25 another \$75 or whatever it is, and then who is to

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1 say three months from now you are not coming back

2 for another \$75? I have no idea.

3 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: That is a fair

4 question. Maybe Alberico, for Thursday's meeting,

5 maybe you could give us a little brief review.

6 MR. DEPIERRO: I will give a review.

7 Remember these are outside council attorney-client

8 privileged communications. I, as County Counsel,

9 just like a question Commissioner O'Dea asked a

10 couple of meetings ago about making sure that the

11 bills are reviewed, just like any other outside

12 counsel bill, I get not only the monthly bills, I

13 get quarterly reports on any open investigations as

14 well as personnel because we have to oversee the

15 process and they are directly working with us

16 because these are assigned by the Law Department.

17 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: We are the

18 client, aren't we?

19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Aren't we

20 streamlining?

21 MR. DEPIERRO: We can provide a memo

22 that provides the information that has been

23 requested by Commissioner O'Dea.

24 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead. Next.

25 THE CLERK: 20. Resolution awarding

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 Professional Services Contract Fair and Open to  2 French and Parrello Associates Professional  3 Engineering Services to perform a Multi-way Stop  4 Control Warrant Analysis at Union Turnpike and  5 Charles Court in North Bergen, New Jersey \$4,240.  6 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Baselice and  7 Rodriguez.  8 THE CLERK: 21. Resolution awarding  9 Professional Services Contract Fair and Open to  10 French and Parrello Associates Professional  11 Engineering Services for the design of Duncan Avenue  12 Bicycle Lanes Connectivity across New Jersey Route 1  13 and 9 in Jersey City, \$47,183.  14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Cifelli.  15 DIRECTOR D'ALESSANDRO: This is the  16 State portion. We already did our portion down  17 Duncan to the end. This is only the State, we're  18 looking for them, the State portion, that's going  19 connect, you know what?  20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I understand  21 that at the end of the day, if we don't involve the  22 groups that are most impacted by it, I don't know  23 what the results of the design's going be. Are you  24 going all the way to the end of Duncan, are you then  25 going on the trail, the walkway kind of a trail, I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 in Kearny, New Jersey, Neglia Engineering -  2 \$191,050.  3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Cifelli and Walker.  4 THE CLERK: 23. Resolution awarding  5 professional services contract fair and open  6 Services to the French and Parrello Associates  7 professional engineering services for the design and  8 construction management of a Paterson Plank Road  9 Safety Improvements in Union City, Jersey City and  10 Hoboken, New Jersey, \$145,652.  11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Cedeño and Romano.  12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Question. All  13 things when we went out for proposals, we want  14 everyone --  15 MR. ANTUN: We gave you the  16 information.  17 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I know.  18 MR. ANTUN: In this particular case  19 there were four responses and actually they -- they  20 were the second. The one that was first, there was  21 an issue. They didn't -- they didn't -- they  22 weren't responsive to the RFP. I'll defer to the  23 engineer.  24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So you know I  25 just got a text. Is that the wrong file?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 don't know. But all I know is that if you design it  2 the wrong way, if you're on the highway doing it and  3 the lane that you create isn't protected, you're  4 going have trouble. Right, so I just wanna make  5 sure that in that process, those groups are involved  6 and prior to any final design being submitted to  7 anyone, that there's a community view where those  8 individuals are notified and give their input.  9 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: They won't.  10 They won't appear.  11 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: But we may have  12 spent \$147,000 to design something --  13 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: And then they  14 don't like it.  15 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: And then they  16 don't like it and we gotta make another \$147,000.  17 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: No, no, no,  18 you're right.  19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you.  20 THE CLERK: 22 is a replacement.  21 It's a resolution awarding Professional Services  22 Contract Fair and Open Professional Engineering  23 Services for the design and construction management  24 of the widening of Passaic Avenue and installation  25 of dual left turn lanes and right thru shared lane</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 MR. ANTUN: No, it's at the Brennan.  2 Yeah. You know what that is? The NL.  3 THE CLERK: Should I continue?  4 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Yes, please.  5 THE CLERK: 24. Resolution approving  6 Change Order No. 8 and Final Flanagan Contracting  7 Group, Inc., "Improvements to John F. Kennedy  8 Boulevard Communipaw to Sip Avenue, City of Jersey  9 City," reduction of \$184,305.93.  10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Lipski.  11 THE CLERK: 25. It's a resolution --  12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: When did this  13 project start? You can let me know on Thursday.  14 THE CLERK: 25 is a resolution  15 amending Resolution No. 362-2-2023 to add funds to  16 the Fair and Open Contract with West Publishing  17 Corporation for Westlaw Edge for Various County  18 Departments and Clear, A Fugitive Witness Locator  19 Service, July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2025, \$10,000.  20 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Sponsor.  21 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Second.  22 THE CLERK: 26. It's a resolution  23 authorizing Grant Extensions for 12 Open Space Trust  24 Fund Grantees, July 17th, 2025 through July 17th,  25 2026, \$3,896,540.80.</p>

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Board as a whole.  
 2 THE CLERK: 27. Resolution amending  
 3 Resolution No. 197-4-2025 which authorized a Shared  
 4 Services Agreement with the County of Essex to house  
 5 Hudson County Juveniles in the Essex County Juvenile  
 6 Detention Center, May 1st, 2025 through April 30,  
 7 2026, \$3,396,253.  
 8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Romano-Walker. I'm  
 9 sorry. Baselice-Walker.  
 10 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: What are the  
 11 shared services that we've got here? We don't have  
 12 any plans. This is just to pay them to house our  
 13 juveniles?  
 14 MR. ANTUN: Yeah.  
 15 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I'll vote like I  
 16 voted last time.  
 17 THE CLERK: 28. A Resolution  
 18 authorizing Memorandum of Agreement between the  
 19 Hudson County and Local 1697, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, July  
 20 1st, 2024 through June 30th, 2029.  
 21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Board as a whole.  
 22 THE CLERK: 29. A Resolution  
 23 authorizing a Shared Services Agreement between the  
 24 City of Union City and the County of Hudson for the  
 25 maintenance of the City-owned traffic signals July

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1 1st, 2025 to June 30th, 2027, at \$100,000.  
 2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Cedeño and  
 3 Rodriguez.  
 4 THE CLERK: 30. Resolution amending  
 5 Resolution No. 143-3-2016 which authorized a Shared  
 6 Services Agreement between the County of Hudson and  
 7 the Hudson County Schools of Technology for the  
 8 shared use of retired school buses in order to  
 9 modify existing contract language and add current  
 10 fees. Sponsor and second?  
 11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Baselice and  
 12 Lipski.  
 13 THE CLERK: 31. Resolution  
 14 authorizing use of Competitive Contracting for the  
 15 procurement of social service programs to support  
 16 the treatment of opioid use disorders or any other  
 17 co-occurring substance use disorders or mental  
 18 health challenges for the Department of Health and  
 19 Human Services.  
 20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Rodriguez and  
 21 Lipski.  
 22 THE CLERK: 32. Resolution  
 23 authorizing the use of competitive contracting for  
 24 the procurement of web site management consulting  
 25 services for various County departments.

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sponsor. Second,  
 2 Lipski.  
 3 THE CLERK: Lipski. 33. Resolution  
 4 authorizing an increase to the bid threshold under  
 5 the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law pursuant  
 6 to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3, \$53,000.  
 7 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Baselice and  
 8 Lipski. Question. Go Bobby. Yes. Guys and girls  
 9 please if you can, closer to the mic. We're having  
 10 a hard time hearing. Go ahead.  
 11 THE CLERK: 34. Resolution  
 12 qualifying professional environmental engineering  
 13 consulting firms open-ended for the provision of  
 14 on-call environmental engineering services.  
 15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea-Romano.  
 16 THE CLERK: 35. Resolution to adopt  
 17 the results and recommendation of the Hudson County  
 18 Disparity Study dated December 31st, 2024.  
 19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Lipski and Walker.  
 20 Board as a whole. Do Board as a whole.  
 21 THE CLERK: 36. Resolution authorize  
 22 the contribution to Comite Internacional Pro-Ayuda  
 23 Al Desarrollo Del Municipio De Boca Chica, \$250.00.  
 24 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Comite  
 25 Internacional Pro-Ayuda Al Desarrollo Del Municipio

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1 De Boca Chica.  
 2 THE CLERK: Thank you. Boca Chica.  
 3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Board as a whole.  
 4 Okay. I have one thing I got to go over to this.  
 5 Hold on. One thing before you continue. Also,  
 6 again, another thing that was a concern to a lot of  
 7 Commissioners, but a collaborative effort between  
 8 the County Executive's office, Congressman Menendez,  
 9 the Commissioners, and Mayor Doyle of Kearny to try  
 10 to come to a solution and demand the answers from  
 11 the FAA with regards to the serious question of the  
 12 helicopter.  
 13 THE CLERK: 37. This is not on your  
 14 printed agenda, but it's on your table. Amending  
 15 Resolution 592-10-2024 for the County of Hudson  
 16 acting as physical agent of the Hudson County JC  
 17 Workforce Development Board, to accept at no cost  
 18 extension to the Work First New Jersey program to  
 19 September 30th, 2021.  
 20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Baselice and  
 21 Lipski.  
 22 THE CLERK: I can turn this over to  
 23 the Administration. Abe, do you want to take it?  
 24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: You want to do  
 25 the entire agenda?

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1 THE CLERK: I didn't do the  
2 ordinances.  
3 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: You didn't do  
4 the ordinances.  
5 THE CLERK: I mean, and then go back  
6 to you?  
7 MR. ANTUN: Yes. Go ahead.  
8 THE CLERK: I have one ordinance for  
9 introduction. It's the ordinance to establish an  
10 authorized salary increases for certain County  
11 offices positions, including the staff of the  
12 Commissioners in accordance with the provision of  
13 New Jersey Law and the Hudson County Administrative  
14 Code.  
15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Board as a whole.  
16 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I voted against  
17 the last one. Once you get it on, I'll comment my  
18 concern.  
19 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Sponsor.  
20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Lipski and  
21 Rodriguez.  
22 THE CLERK: I have five ordinances.  
23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead.  
24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So my concern on  
25 the last ordinance was simply this. For as long as

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1 I've been here, every year, we vote on this. Every  
2 year, every year, every year. We don't vote on it  
3 until after the budget's adopted. And generally  
4 even though, I don't take the increases, I vote for  
5 them. I voted against it this year because suddenly  
6 someone tries to go from just voting every year to  
7 voting for the next three. That doesn't seem to be  
8 in line what's always been our -- our practice and  
9 precedent, and if anyone -- I don't know if anybody  
10 else was here, I know Cifelli, he was here.  
11 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: A child when I  
12 was there.  
13 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I know.  
14 Exactly. We both were. But -- but you know, I  
15 found out a few years on this board and the infamous  
16 Bob Januszewski and wanted passed something that  
17 every year these increases were given without us  
18 ever voting on it, and we stopped that to the credit  
19 of the former County Executive Tom DeGise and the  
20 former County Council Don Battista, and then from  
21 that moment on every year and there were years we  
22 didn't, there were a couple of years that we  
23 determined based on how much the County taxes went  
24 up that we actually didn't vote on -- on increases.  
25 But generally they gave them, but every year was

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1 voted on.  
2 This year for whatever reason we've gone  
3 back to not necessarily the past practice of  
4 perpetually doing it, but we've gone to doing it for  
5 multi years which I think is wrong. I say every  
6 year we've done -- we've done it right. We've done  
7 it the right way. You passed it for three years,  
8 now adding another one, another one, 1.25,  
9 1.25-market-rate adjustment onto it is -- is just  
10 wrong. I mean if you're going to do it, just do one  
11 percent. Do the one percent for this year and then  
12 come back and do your market adjustments for each of  
13 the -- each of the other two years.  
14 I know it's not a significant amount,  
15 but -- but the perception of it is we want to do  
16 this now. We'll do it this year because none of us  
17 are running, but next year the Commissioners run  
18 again the following year the County Exec runs again.  
19 So in either of those years, is anybody going to  
20 have to worry about there being an ordinance related  
21 to it. And to be honest with you, generally these  
22 ordinances come in July anyway so they usually have  
23 to -- they're usually after we adopt the budget.  
24 But I don't understand and no one has  
25 given me a reasonable explanation. They said, Well,

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1 but the contract is settled, and the contract goes  
2 for a couple more years. All right. Contracts were  
3 settled in the past, but despite those contracts  
4 being settled we voted year, year, year, adopt a  
5 budget. After the budget's adopted vote on -- vote  
6 on an ordinance for that given year giving whatever  
7 those cost-of-living increases were which equals --  
8 you know, equals what the non-uniform unions were  
9 given.  
10 So I voted against this before. I'm going  
11 to vote against it now, and I honestly urge that you  
12 amend this and only make it for the one percent for  
13 the one year, and then come back next year with the  
14 other 1.25 percent.  
15 THE CLERK: Chairman, I have five  
16 ordinances to adopt, and I'm going to use the  
17 sponsors.  
18 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Can I ask a  
19 question?  
20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead.  
21 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So this has to  
22 do with specifically what -- what employment  
23 positions?  
24 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: All of us,  
25 department directors. Everyone that's generally not

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 governed by a --  2 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Okay. I got  3 it. Thank you.  4 THE CLERK: I have five ordinances  5 that are up for adoption. I'm going to use the  6 sponsors from the introduction, and I turn it over  7 to the Administration.  8 MR. ANTUN: Chairman, I have several  9 resolutions for the Board's consideration.  10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: This is 37,  11 correct?  12 MR. ANTUN: Yes.  13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: This is the  14 WorkFirst New Jersey.  15 MR. ANTUN: Amending resolution  16 592-10-2024 authorizing the County of Hudson as  17 fiscal agent to the -- to the Hudson County  18 Workforce Development Board to accept a no-cost  19 extension for the Workforce New Jersey program of  20 Program Year '24, from July 1, 2024 to September 30,  21 2025.  22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Baselice.  23 THE CLERK: The next one is accepting  24 the Workforce Development Board Resolution 2025-7,  25 and amending Resolution 594-10-2024 for a no-cost</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 is accepting from the Workforce Development Board  2 and the New Jersey Department of Workforce  3 Development, \$4,255,614.  4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Romano.  5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Can I ask a  6 question how that amount compares to last year's  7 amount?  8 DIRECTOR MAZZA: Commissioner, I  9 think it's the same amount as last year.  10 MR. ANTUN: And this is No. 39. The  11 next one is the budget amendment for the amount that  12 we're accepting for \$1,255,614.  13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea-Baselice. Go  14 ahead. It's 41?  15 MR. ANTUN: Yeah.  16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: For youth program,  17 correct?  18 MR. ANTUN: Yeah. Now we're -- now  19 we're accepting funds for the youth program  20 \$1,767,344.  21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and  22 Rodriguez.  23 MR. ANTUN: And then the budget  24 amendment which is \$1,767,344.  25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: That's not the next</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 time extension to the Hudson County Department of  2 Family Services and Reintegration and the awarded  3 vendor contracts for the Workforce New Jersey  4 allotment funding for temporary assistance for needy  5 families, TANF and General Assistance, Supplemental  6 Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, for Fiscal Year  7 2025, Program Year 2024, for the Hudson County Local  8 Workforce Development Board, July 1st, 2025 to  9 September 30th, 2025.  10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Lipski and  11 Rodriguez. I mean, that's 38 Abe?  12 MR. ANTUN: Yes.  13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: And which one was  14 that's titled to?  15 MR. ANTUN: They're somewhat similar,  16 Mr. Chairman.  17 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: This is the one  18 that New Jersey vendor contracts?  19 MR. ANTUN: This is just extending  20 the no-cost extension that was approved by the  21 Workforce Development Board, and now we have to also  22 extend it to our vendors.  23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: I got the right  24 one. Go ahead.  25 MR. ANTUN: The next one that I have</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 one.  2 MR. ANTUN: That's 41. They just did  3 that.  4 THE CLERK: Sponsor and a second on  5 that one.  6 MR. ANTUN: No. The one that I just  7 said would be 42.  8 THE CLERK: 42.  9 MR. ANTUN: The budget amendment.  10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Well, for 42 should  11 be 12,970.  12 MR. ANTUN: I didn't get that one  13 yet.  14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Well, that's 42 to  15 have --  16 THE CLERK: No. That's 43.  17 MR. ANTUN: No, I didn't get to that.  18 THE CLERK: I don't know but we  19 get --  20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: So which is it?  21 THE CLERK: Okay.  22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: So that number is  23 now -- this one was just what?  24 MR. ANTUN: The one that I just did  25 was for \$1,767,344.</p>

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1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Right. What number  
 2 was that?  
 3 THE CLERK: 42.  
 4 MR. ANTUN: That would be 42.  
 5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Okay. So what was  
 6 41 then?  
 7 MR. ANTUN: 41 was accepting it.  
 8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Okay.  
 9 MR. ANTUN: We have to accept it, and  
 10 then do the amendment. That's why they look  
 11 similar.  
 12 THE CLERK: On 42, I need a sponsor  
 13 and a second.  
 14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and  
 15 Rodriguez.  
 16 MR. ANTUN: Okay. Now, we're  
 17 accepting the data reporting and analysis for  
 18 \$12,971.  
 19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: That's 43 and 44.  
 20 MR. ANTUN: Well, that will be 43.  
 21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Lipski.  
 22 MR. ANTUN: Now we're doing the  
 23 budget amendment for the data analysis reporting for  
 24 \$12,971. That would be 44.  
 25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and

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1 Rodriguez.  
 2 MR. ANTUN: And now this one awards  
 3 the \$12,971 to Future Work System.  
 4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Baselice.  
 5 MR. ANTUN: This is 45. The next one  
 6 is authorizing and acceptance to file an application  
 7 with the New Jersey Historic Trust Capital  
 8 Preservation for \$1.5 million; \$750,000 would be the  
 9 match, and the State would be \$750,000. And this  
 10 would be for the HVAC project at the Brennan.  
 11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Romano and Lipski.  
 12 MR. ANTUN: That is No. 46.  
 13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Right.  
 14 MR. ANTUN: And then the last one  
 15 that I have --  
 16 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So the HVAC at  
 17 Brennan. Explain what that is. Is that the  
 18 building we're knocking down?  
 19 MR. ANTUN: No. No, no, no.  
 20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Oh Brennan. I'm  
 21 sorry. Right. Is that the one where we -- we had  
 22 an issue that we may empty, we may move people from  
 23 Brennan into 595?  
 24 MR. ANTUN: Yes.  
 25 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Now we're not

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1 going to do that anymore.  
 2 MR. ANTUN: That's correct.  
 3 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: And I sent a  
 4 text message to you and Dave Drumeler asking which  
 5 option or how they were going to address it.  
 6 Neither of you responded.  
 7 MR. ANTUN: I'm not in a position to  
 8 respond. We need to engage the State, the  
 9 Administrative Office of the Courts. I can't answer  
 10 that.  
 11 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: But there are  
 12 two options. Mr. Drumeler said he's familiar with  
 13 it.  
 14 MR. ANTUN: Okay. He hasn't been  
 15 recently.  
 16 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: He's had -- he's  
 17 spoken to people outside of here about what it is.  
 18 But now that we're not going to move people from the  
 19 court from Brennan temporarily to 595, and you have  
 20 that old powerhouse across the street. What's going  
 21 to happen? I think the question is something that  
 22 would be moved outside, stay inside. I'll find the  
 23 text.  
 24 MR. ANTUN: Oh, no. The powerhouse  
 25 is going to remain, because we're going to have to

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1 house the equipment there.  
 2 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Uh, the  
 3 powerhouse was also envisioned as part of the park  
 4 to have like a bathroom for the public and all this  
 5 stuff. How is that going to be impacted?  
 6 MR. ANTUN: Can't answer that. But I  
 7 don't know if they -- I don't know if they can.  
 8 MR. DRUMELER: I don't know if we can  
 9 answer that at this juncture, but there's nothing --  
 10 you know, there's nothing that's going to expand the  
 11 area that's inside that's around in the powerhouse  
 12 area. Obviously, the gen is settle. That stays  
 13 there, and the powerhouse will stay there, but we're  
 14 trying to minimize the effect of what equipment  
 15 we're going to need to have inside the building.  
 16 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: We're going to  
 17 try to minimize how much you need in the buildings.  
 18 Because obviously that park's going to need  
 19 bathroom.  
 20 MR. DRUMELER: Right. One of the  
 21 requests was made to see if, you know, we could put  
 22 any of the -- put everything in the Brennan  
 23 Courthouse, which a long, long time ago, we found  
 24 that the floors wouldn't support it. But the  
 25 request was made to try to minimize any equipment

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1 we'd need to keep inside the old powerhouse. And  
2 that's what we're attempting to do.  
3 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So -- so the  
4 powerhouse, I mean, Brennan Courthouse has been  
5 designated as a historical structure, correct?  
6 MR. ANTUN: Yes. Correct.  
7 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So we're under  
8 very strict parameters about what we can do and how  
9 we treat that building. So the powerhouse is not  
10 part of the footprint of the historic designation,  
11 correct?  
12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes, it is.  
13 MR. ANTUN: Yes. Oh, yes.  
14 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Well -- well  
15 then -- well then, yeah. I think then Bill or  
16 excuse me, Commissioner O'Dea's comment is  
17 pertinent. How -- again, I'm missing this, but how  
18 are we -- how are we dealing with changes to the --  
19 to the power station, powerhouse, with respect to  
20 the overall project of eventually demolishing 595?  
21 MR. ANTUN: The powerhouse is not, is  
22 not -- the exterior and the building itself is not  
23 being affected. It's what, it's what's going inside  
24 the building.  
25 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So the

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1 powerhouse has a structure, the parameters of it are  
2 going to stay?  
3 MR. ANTUN: That's correct. Correct.  
4 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Because that's  
5 required by the historic designation.  
6 MR. ANTUN: That's correct.  
7 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: All right.  
8 And so just -- just as an aside, I shouldn't say  
9 this, but back when they built the Brennan  
10 Courthouse, which I think was 1909, they didn't have  
11 air conditioning, right?  
12 MR. ANTUN: Correct.  
13 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: And when I was  
14 a law clerk back in the '70s, the Superior Court was  
15 closed essentially for July and August because there  
16 was no air conditioning. But now we're, we're into  
17 the 21st century. So now we're going 12 months. So  
18 we have to have air conditioning in -- the air  
19 conditioning system in Brennan is essentially  
20 non-existent.  
21 MR. ANTUN: No, it exists, but it's  
22 not very --  
23 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: It's not up to  
24 the State standards.  
25 MR. ANTUN: Yes.

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1 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Okay. And now,  
2 but so if we're going to move people into, at least  
3 temporarily, into 595, the Administration building.  
4 No one can ever convince me that the HVAC system in  
5 that building meets any standards.  
6 MR. ANTUN: Well -- well, we're not  
7 looking to move anyone into 595. That's the point  
8 that commissioner O'Dea wanted to raise too. And  
9 that's why I said we need to meet with the  
10 Administrative Office of the Court.  
11 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: That's a good  
12 idea because I'm a little confused. Yeah. So  
13 there's an existing judicial functions going on at  
14 595, correct?  
15 MR. ANTUN: Yeah. At the moment.  
16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: All right.  
17 And -- and then the idea was, as Bill had said the  
18 idea was originally to move some judicial functions  
19 from Brennan into 595, but that's been canceled.  
20 MR. ANTUN: We're not pursuing that  
21 because of the issues and concerns that were raised  
22 by the community about you know, addressing 595 once  
23 the courts and the Prosecutor and the Sheriff  
24 vacated and are -- and are in the Guarini complex.  
25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Abe, I have a

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1 question for you. Just wouldn't it be simpler and  
2 quicker for everybody concerned to empty the Brennan  
3 and do one shot and do everything?  
4 MR. ANTUN: That's what we're looking  
5 to do.  
6 MR. DRUMELER: Yeah. That would be  
7 the quickest. Yeah. And the benefit for the park  
8 people too.  
9 MR. ANTUN: But we need the  
10 cooperation of the courts through the --  
11 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yeah, because  
12 you can't move the courts. You don't have the  
13 unilateral authority to move the superior courts  
14 that exist in, in Brennan.  
15 MR. ANTUN: That's correct.  
16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Until you get  
17 permission from the court, from the Supreme Court.  
18 MR. ANTUN: That's why we're looking  
19 to have a meeting, which is why I could not.  
20 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Good. Okay.  
21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead. Next.  
22 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: At the end of  
23 the day, the County has made it clear that they are  
24 not going to move Brennan into 595.  
25 MR. ANTUN: That is the goal, yes.

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 That's what we're pushing for.  2 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: And we were told  3 that was a fatal complaint, not a goal.  4 MR. ANTUN: Yes.  5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Okay. Okay.  6 MR. ANTUN: No.  7 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So just to  8 fill in the gap. So Bill, so in lieu of that, the  9 remaining personnel in Brennan are going to be moved  10 temporarily to the new courthouse?  11 MR. ANTUN: No.  12 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Right. No,  13 we're going to go.  14 MR. ANTUN: That's what the subject  15 of the discussion is.  16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I don't know  17 where they're going to go. I mean, you got -- all  18 right.  19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: All right. Go  20 ahead.  21 THE CLERK: Chairman, the  22 Administration has to move 47. I know I said he has  23 to move 47.  24 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead.  25 MR. ANTUN: All right. The last one</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 here? No.  2 THE CLERK: Yes, you do.  3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: No, we don't.  4 THE CLERK: Yes, you do. There's a  5 correction on that one. And that one is No. 48.  6 That's the corrected one. I need a sponsor.  7 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I sponsored it,  8 but I believe Kean is a university.  9 THE CLERK: It has Kean University,  10 with Kean University.  11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yeah, we only have  12 47.  13 THE CLERK: That's 48.  14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you.  15 THE CLERK: I need a second on that.  16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: I want to make the  17 whole Board a second on that.  18 THE CLERK: You want to do that?  19 Okay. I have Resolution 49. It's a resolution in  20 support of funding the Affordable Housing Trust  21 Fund.  22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: I don't have that  23 yet either.  24 THE CLERK: Carrie, sponsor?  25 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I sponsored. 49</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 that I have is a resolution to dedicate the  2 scoreboard at the Washington Park Little League  3 Field to John Brunn.  4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Board as a whole.  5 And our sincere thanks from all the Commissioners to  6 the collaborative effort with the County Exec and  7 his office and to -- I know Patty McCarthy was  8 involved and Director of Parks, Jonathan DeFilippo.  9 Thank you. This is a man that has done so much for  10 baseball and girls' softball, and he's really part  11 of the history of Jersey City Heights. For those of  12 you who don't know, he's very seriously ill at this  13 time. So thank you.  14 THE CLERK: Chairman, I have two more  15 resolutions.  16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, keep them  17 coming.  18 THE CLERK: 48 is a resolution in  19 support of an Act concerning employees of public  20 institutions of higher education and supplementing  21 P.L.2021, c.282 and establishing employee  22 protections for certain employees of New Jersey City  23 University in the event of a merger with Kean  24 College.  25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: We have that up</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 is mine. I still have two I asked for.  2 THE CLERK: O'Dea and Carrie can  3 second that, Commissioner? Can we second that? You  4 want the board as a whole, Commissioner?  5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: It took \$125  6 million away from us.  7 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: We're trying to see  8 what it is. We don't have it.  9 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Smaller projects  10 to create affordable housing and all those projects  11 are in jeopardy of not being funded. Affordable  12 housing not being created.  13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Is it just me or  14 none of the Commissioners have this one?  15 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: No, we  16 don't have 49.  17 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: All right. 49,  18 none of us have it.  19 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Here. There's  20 the Affordable Housing Trust Fund? You want to make  21 copies of this? It's in the packet you gave us.  22 THE CLERK: It's in the packet.  23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: I don't have it.  24 THE CLERK: You have it, right,  25 Commissioner?</p>

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1 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I have it.  
 2 THE CLERK: I put it in the packet.  
 3 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: You gave us the  
 4 second thing that starts with replaces 14.  
 5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: No, I don't have  
 6 it.  
 7 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: You got  
 8 something that says replaces 22.  
 9 THE CLERK: It should be right  
 10 underneath that.  
 11 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: It's under that.  
 12 It's under that. The last thing they gave us.  
 13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you. Is this  
 14 it, Chan? I have one that you gave it to me.  
 15 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: So that was  
 16 sponsored.  
 17 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: So go ahead. What  
 18 are we doing here? Now go ahead. Is that the one?  
 19 THE CLERK: That was sponsored --  
 20 that was sponsored by Commissioner O'Dea. He  
 21 requested it, but he's saying that the whole Board  
 22 can have it.  
 23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Board as a whole.  
 24 Board as a whole. Board as a whole.  
 25 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, that's the

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1 end of mine.  
 2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Okay. Alberico, no  
 3 comments on my jersey? We have something for  
 4 Alberico here. This is from the Board, the  
 5 resolution that last meeting. Also Fannie wants to  
 6 wish somebody congrats, a birthday, go ahead.  
 7 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Carmen's  
 8 birthday today. So we just wanted to wish her a  
 9 happy birthday.  
 10 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Happy birthday,  
 11 Carmen.  
 12 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: And happy  
 13 birthday to our Chairman in advance. I believe it's  
 14 next week.  
 15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: You're going to  
 16 take me for a birthday drink? There you go. Lunch.  
 17 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: There's cake in  
 18 the back.  
 19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Anything else?  
 20 Yes.  
 21 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: One comment at  
 22 the end. I'm sorry. Just to reiterate my comments  
 23 before about I think it's extremely important to us  
 24 as a Board to convene a special meeting or even if  
 25 it's not, I don't know if it's an open public

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1 meeting, we're not taking any action, but just an  
 2 educational meeting about what the consequences of  
 3 the Big Beautiful Bill are going to be to us as a  
 4 County Board and as to our constituents. Because I  
 5 think that we are overlooking -- this is just the  
 6 tip of the iceberg. We're overlooking I think some  
 7 radical, radical budgetary changes that we as a  
 8 County have to be prepared for. So it would be nice  
 9 if our lobbyists can come and give us a little  
 10 seminar for an hour or two on what all this means to  
 11 us and how we need to plan for it.  
 12 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Well, I think  
 13 the lobbyists need to meet with the people that  
 14 implement everything. And then from that, each of  
 15 those directors should be prepared to come to that  
 16 session and present -- give us something in writing  
 17 ahead of time, or present department by department  
 18 what the impacts are.  
 19 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I don't  
 20 disagree with the methodology of it, I just --  
 21 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I agree, you  
 22 have to have it.  
 23 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: We need to get  
 24 together and be educated. This is a significant,  
 25 drastic program that's going to impact the County

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1 for ten years or more.  
 2 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Well, let's hope  
 3 things change in four or three and a half.  
 4 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Don't count on  
 5 it.  
 6 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: No, I know.  
 7 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: But yeah, all  
 8 right.  
 9 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: It could be ten  
 10 or more, it could be twelve.  
 11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Any Commissioners,  
 12 any comments?  
 13 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: You'll be  
 14 retired by then?  
 15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Jerry.  
 16 COMMISSIONER WALKER: With the  
 17 Affordable House Trust Fund resolution, what was the  
 18 number to that, how much was it?  
 19 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The amount of  
 20 dollars or the resolution number?  
 21 COMMISSIONER WALKER: The dollars.  
 22 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: \$125 million.  
 23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: \$125 million.  
 24 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Now, that was a  
 25 cut from the state, right?

1 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Correct. It was  
 2 done as part of the budget.  
 3 COMMISSIONER WALKER: That's crazy.  
 4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Call Assemblyman  
 5 Walker.  
 6 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Think that's  
 7 crazy? Just wait.  
 8 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Well, that was  
 9 us. That was the State.  
 10 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: No, I'm not  
 11 saying that. I'm saying, if you think that's a  
 12 crazy cut, wait until the impact of the Big  
 13 Beautiful Bill on cuts.  
 14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Alberico, anything?  
 15 MR. DEPIERRO: No, nothing.  
 16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Okay. Abe?  
 17 MR. ANTUN: No, I'm good.  
 18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: All good. All the  
 19 Commissioners? Carol Jean?  
 20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Motion to close.  
 21 (Whereupon the proceeding is then  
 22 concluded at 5:55 p.m.)  
 23  
 24  
 25

1 CERTIFICATION  
 2  
 3 I, SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR, License No.  
 4 30XI00234700, and Notary Public of the State of New  
 5 Jersey, hereby certify that the proceedings herein  
 6 are from the notes taken by me of a Caucus Meeting  
 7 of the Hudson County Board of County Commissioners,  
 8 held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025; and that this is a  
 9 correct transcript of the same.  
 10  
 11  
 12   
 13 SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR  
 14 A NOTARY PUBLIC of the  
 15 State of New Jersey  
 16 I.D. No. 2283786  
 17 Commission Expires 2/4/27  
 18  
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