

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Bergen County Board of Social Services
January 18, 2024**

PRESENT: William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson
Randi Duffie, Vice-Chairperson
Elaine K. Meyerson, Secretary Treasurer
Tracy S. Zur, B.C. Commissioner, Board Member (Arrived Late)
Diane DeCarlo, Esq., County Adjuster
Yris Encarnacion, Board Member
Alexandra Harwin, Esq., Board Member
Junior Hernandez, Ph.D., Board Member (Arrived Late)
John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel
Scott Modery, Director
Michele M. Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

ABSENT: Susan Silverstein, Assistant Secretary Treasurer
Thomas J. Sullivan, Bergen County Commissioner, Board Member

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was scheduled for January 9, 2024 but rescheduled and held on January 18, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in the 4th Floor Board Room of the Bergen County Board of Social Services, 218 Route 17 North, Rochelle Park, New Jersey.

PUBLIC SESSION:

John L. Schettino, Esq. called the meeting to order and read the notice required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting scheduled for January 18, 2024 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2024, including a notice of the scheduled time, scheduled date, and location of this meeting at the Bergen County Administrative Building, One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey.
2. The mailing of this notice of the time, date, and location of this meeting to "The Record", which was published on January 15, 2024 and to the Herald News, which was published on January 15, 2024.

3. By filing of the notice of the time, date, and location of this meeting with the Bergen County Clerk, said filing having taken place on January 9, 2024.

A quorum being achieved, the Board met in Public Session.

PUBLIC SESSION:

John L. Schettino, Esq. opened the meeting.

Flag Salute

John L. Schettino, Esq. led those present in a salute to the flag.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was taken for Open Session:

MEMBERS	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X	
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X	
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X	
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASSISTANT SECRETARY TREASURER		X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER		X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER		X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X	
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X	
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X	
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER		X

Reorganization/Election of Officers

John L. Schettino, Esq. asked for nominations for **Chairperson**. A motion to nominate William E. Connelly as Chairperson was offered by Randi Duffie, seconded by Elaine K. Meyerson. A motion to close nominations for Chairperson was offered by Elaine K. Meyerson, seconded by Yris Encarnacion. With no one opposed, a roll call was taken for Chairperson for the Bergen County Board of Social Services and the motion was approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER				X

John L. Schettino, Esq. turned over the gavel to Chairman William E. Connelly, at which time he chaired the meeting.

Chairman William E. Connelly asked for nominations for **Vice-Chairperson**. A motion to nominate Randi Duffie as Vice-Chairperson was offered by Chairman William E. Connelly, seconded by Yris Encarnacion. With no one opposed, a roll call was taken for Vice-Chairperson for the Bergen County Board of Social Services and the motion was approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER				X

For the record, Junior Hernandez arrived at this point.

Chairman William E. Connelly asked for nominations for **Secretary-Treasurer**. A motion to nominate Elaine K. Meyerson as Secretary-Treasurer was offered by William E. Connelly, seconded by Diane DeCarlo, Esq. With no one opposed, a roll call was taken for Secretary-Treasurer for the Bergen County Board of Social Services and the motion was approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Chairman William E. Connelly asked for nominations for **Assistant Secretary-Treasurer**. A motion to nominate Susan Silverstein as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer was offered by William E. Connelly, seconded by Randi Duffie. With no one opposed, a roll call was taken for Assistant Secretary-Treasurer for the Bergen County Board of Social Services and the motion was approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			

ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Open Public Comment Period

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to open the meeting for public comment. A motion to open the Open Public Comment Period, for a three-minute limit with the option of speaking again, was offered by Yris Encarnacion, seconded by Alexandra Harwin, Esq., and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

There being no comments from the public, Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to close the Open Public Comment Period of the Open Session. A motion to close the Open Public Comment Period was offered by Randi Duffie, seconded by Yris Encarnacion, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Committee Assignments

Michele Darmochwal read aloud the 2024 Committee Assignments into the record as follows:

Audit & Budget Committee:

Randi Duffie
Yris Encarnacion
Junior Hernandez

Building & Grounds Committee:

Commissioner Tracy S. Zur
County Adjuster Diane DeCarlo, Esq.
Alexandra Harwin, Esq.

Personnel Committee:

Elaine K. Meyerson
Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan
Susan Silverstein

Negotiations Committee:

Elaine K. Meyerson
Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan
Junior Hernandez

Welfare, Fraud, & Abuse Committee:

Randi Duffie
Yris Encarnacion
Alexandra Harwin, Esq.

Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Open Session Minutes of December 5, 2023

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to adopt the Open Session minutes. A motion to adopt the Open Session minutes of December 5, 2023 was offered by Yris Encarnacion, seconded by Diane DeCarlo, Esq., and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

For the record, Commissioner Tracy S. Zur arrived at approximately 4:37 p.m.

Oath of Office

John L. Schettino, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Tracy S. Zur.

Geraldine Nestrowitz, Supervising Accountant, was present. She reported on the Bill’s List and Schedule of Vouchers. She called attention to the cost of \$43,968.58 on the list, which was used to purchase a Chevy Traverse using ARPA funds for the Adult Protective Services Unit. The agency did not purchase an electrical vehicle because there is no where to charge it and we cannot install a charging station because we do not own the building.

Treasurer’s Report:

(a) Bills List and Schedule of Vouchers:

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to approve the Bill’s List and Schedule of Vouchers. A motion to approve the Bill’s List and Schedule of Vouchers was offered by Randi Duffie, seconded by Junior Hernandez, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Administration Report:

(a) Monthly Reports – Statistical & Financial:

A snapshot of caseload and expenditures was included in each of the Board Member’s packets.

Scott Modery reported that the TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) caseload for November 2023 was 351 and October 2023 was 361 cases, and compared to one year ago it went down 14 cases. SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) caseload for November 2023 was 23,378 and October 2023 was 23,423 and compared to one year ago it went up by 1,239 cases. GA (General Assistance) caseload for November 2023 was 491 and October 2023 was 467 cases and compared to one year ago it went up by 90 cases. In regard to Medicaid, there were 50,423 individuals in November 2023 and in October 2023 there were 52,011 individuals a decrease of 1,588 individuals.

Burial stats are as follows: 33 inquires, 25 approved, and 1 denial. The agency paid out \$109,401.00 and recovered \$23.81.

In November 2023, the agency received 1,580 applications for cash and SNAP applications and 2,146 Medicaid applications for a total of 3,726. In October 2023, the agency received 1,980 applications for cash and SNAP applications and 1,829 Medicaid applications for a total of 3,809.

Our Emergency Assistance Unit assisted homeless individuals and families. Currently, we have 3 individuals/families in motels. We have 25 families in the HEARTS Program, 14 in the Emergency Shelter, and 11 in TANF/Bridge side. We have 11 families placed at the Center for Hope and Safety (DV shelter). We had 52 Emergency Assistance applications and 85 clients on Temporary Rental Assistance. We had 60 placements as referrals from 211. We have 243 active DDD cases. The Adult Protective Service (APS) Unit received 111 referrals and currently have 31 open cases.

(b) Memoranda to the Board

Scott Modery reported as a reminder, both employee unions have contracts which ended on 12/31/2023. Union negotiations have been ongoing with CWA 1089 since 8/2/2023. We had our first negotiation session with CWA 1031 and a second session is scheduled for 1/29/2024. As a reminder, Mr. Modery respectfully requested that all Board Members take a minute and respond to meeting notifications to increase the efficiency of the meeting process and ensure that no Board Member travels to the agency only to determine that a quorum is not met. On 11/26/2023 Union County visited for a demonstration on how our lobby queuing system operates with the goal of structuring their systems to work the same way. Adopt-a-Family was a success! 47 donors adopted 33 families. We also connected with the Closter Police toy drive to fill the agency SUV with toys, which allowed for an additional 39 children from 14 families to receive gifts. A special thanks to Board Members Alexandra Harwin and Yris Encarnacion, as well as, employees Glenda Boccher, Anne Marie Erngren, Anthony D'Amico, and Katty Ubillus who all volunteered to adopt a family, which a donor backed out of at the very last minute. Thank you also to Mary Ann Moyer and Michele Darmochwal for their countless hours organizing and connecting donors to families. We will be sending a thank you letter to the Closter Police Department for including us in their toy drive event which makes the holiday memorable for so many children who might otherwise not have the opportunity. In a morale building event, and to commemorate the holiday, Ritzy Moralez-Diaz organized an ugly sweater day for all employees. The Finance Department has been working on an ongoing project for years to reduce storage of outdated paper records. It is a monumental project which involves reviewing records in every storage box. The project has resulted in the destruction of 8,419 boxes of records. This not only positions the agency for a more efficient future, but has saved tens of thousands of dollars in storage costs, as well as, future storage costs. We will be sending representation to the Bergen County Housing, Health and Human Services Center in Hackensack for Project Homeless Connect. This annual event enhances awareness of the problems that homeless and at-risk residents are facing and seeks to improve their access to resources. CWA 1089 has indicated that they will be sponsoring a Jeans Day to raise funds for donation. The agency will also be running a fundraising event and will raffle a Personal Day for 2024.

Alexandra Harwin, Esq. mentioned that her office is working on a logging project, and she would love to hear about the agency's system for reducing storage of paper records. Mr. Modery will forward Alexandra the employee who is in charge of logging and reducing the agency's paper storage to discuss further.

Chairman's Report

Chairman William E. Connelly thanked all the members for volunteering on this Board. He also thanked all the employees for the work they do.

Committee Reports:

(a) Welfare, Fraud, and Abuse Committee

Alexandra Harwin, Esq. reported from December 1 to December 31, 2023 the agency received Medicaid recoveries in the amount of \$6,481.09 and the year-to-date 2023 is \$62,172.04. No new cases were referred to the Prosecutor's office during the month of December.

Commissioner Tracy S. Zur mentioned that it has been a really long time since we have had a referral sent to the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office.

Scott Modery indicated that the agency was told that there is a \$75,000 claims threshold and if we don't meet that threshold then we don't refer any cases unless it meets the criteria.

Commissioner Tracy S. Zur asked Scott Modery to look into the current \$75,000 claims threshold. The Board discussed the threshold and perhaps it is an opportunity to revisit this amount at this juncture. She requested that Mr. Modery confirm that it is the Prosecutor's Office threshold and not a Federal Prosecutor's Office/US Attorney's Office.

The Board expressed interest in having the supervisor of the Claims Department provide an overview of his processes at the February Board Meeting.

(b) Audit & Budget Committee

No report.

(c) Building & Grounds Committee

The Board discussed the cold temperature in the Board Room. There are ongoing issues with the HVAC units in the building. Scott Modery indicated that the Building Engineer is a great partner to the agency and very helpful. The Chairman suggested that Mr. Modery discuss this matter with John Schettino, Esq. so that he can send a letter about the cold temperature to the landlord, if necessary.

(d) Personnel Committee

Elaine K. Meyerson reported that two out of three probationary evaluations for the Senior Personnel Technician have been done. There are 30-60-90-day evaluations that need to be done once she becomes permanent. Further discussion concerning the next steps will take place in

Closed Session. The Personnel Committee is starting the process for the Director's evaluation next.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

(a) Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board Meeting is scheduled to be held in person on **Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.**

Action Items:

Resolutions

- (a) 2024.1.18 (1) – Resolution Appointing General Counsel
- (b) 2024.1.18 (2) – Resolution Appointing Labor Counsel
- (c) 2024.1.18 (3) – Resolution Appointing Insurance Consultant
- (d) 2024.1.18 (4) – Resolution Appointing Auditor
- (e) 2024.1.18 (5) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with General Counsel
- (f) 2024.1.18 (6) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with Labor Counsel
- (g) 2024.1.18 (7) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with Insurance Consultant
- (h) 2024.1.18 (8) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with Auditor
- (i) 2024.1.18 (9) – Resolution Approving Calendar Year 2024 Meeting Dates
- (j) 2024.1.18 (10) – Resolution Approving Employee's Assistance Program Agreement with the County of Bergen
- (k) 2024.1.18 (11) – Resolution Approving Extending Affiliation Agreement with Hackensack Meridian Health Care
- (l) 2024.1.18 (12) – Resolution Approving Additions, Elimination, and/or Changes to Positions within the Bergen County Board of Social Services
- (m) 2024.1.18 (13) – Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of Employment for Multiple Openings
- (n) 2024.1.18 (14) – Resolution Authorizing a Change in Employment for Two Internal Part Time Human Services Aides, Full-Time Clerks 1, Full-Time Records Support Technicians 1, Full-Time Mail Clerks, Full-Time Data Entry Operators or Full-Time Keyboarding Clerks 1 to Two Full-Time Human Services Aides
- (o) 2024.1.18 (15) – Resolution Authorizing a Change in Hours for One Internal Part-Time Records Support Technician 1 to Full-Time Records Support Technician 1

- (p) 2024.1.18 (16) – Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement and Offer of Employment for One Internal Provisional Full-Time Senior Account Clerk
- (q) 2024.1.18 (17) – Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.

A motion to approve Resolutions (a) - (p) excluding (k) on the agenda was offered by Yris Encarnacion, seconded by Randi Duffie, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to approve Resolution (k) on the agenda was offered by Elaine K. Meyerson, seconded by Commissioner Tracy S. Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER			X	
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (q) 2024.1.18 (17) Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A 10:4-12 and to go into Closed Session was offered by Alexandra Harwin, Esq., seconded by Commissioner Tracy S. Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			

YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 5:15 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board went into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters and the Closed Session minutes. The minutes from the Closed Session will be available to the public once the items have been resolved or no longer require the minutes to be held and not distributed to the public. The Board will be in Closed Session for approximately 15 minutes at which time the Board will reopen the meeting and may take further public action in matters dealing with the Bergen County Board of Social Services. The public will be able to access the meeting remotely once the meeting reopens in Open Session.

OPEN SESSION:

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes:

A motion to approve the Closed Session minutes of December 5, 2023 was offered by Yris Encarnacion, seconded by Commissioner Tracy S. Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

A motion to give two (2) 2% salary increases to an employee's salary per year for 2023 and 2024 was offered by Yris Encarnacion, seconded by Commissioner Tracy S. Zur, and approved as follows:

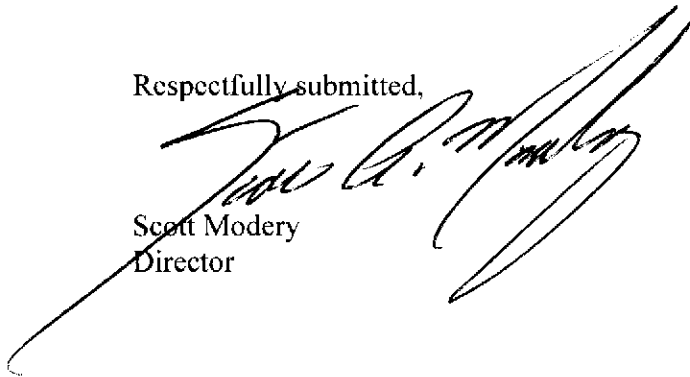
MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			

YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Chairman William E. Connelly requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. With no further business to conclude, a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:31 p.m. was offered by Randi Duffie, seconded by Commissioner Tracy S. Zur, and approved as follows:

MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON	X			
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER				X
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
DIANE DECARLO, ESQ.	COUNTY ADJUSTER	X			
YRIS ENCARNACION	BOARD MEMBER	X			
ALEXANDRA HARWIN, ESQ.	BOARD MEMBER	X			
JUNIOR HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.	BOARD MEMBER	X			

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Modery
Director