

**Minutes of the Meeting  
of the  
Bergen County Board of Social Services  
January 14, 2025**

**PRESENT:** William E. Connelly, Jr., Chairperson  
Randi Duffie, Vice-Chairperson  
Elaine K. Meyerson, Secretary Treasurer  
Susan Silverstein, Assistant Secretary Treasurer  
Thomas J. Sullivan, B.C. Commissioner, Board Member  
Diane DeCarlo, Esq., County Adjuster  
Yris Encarnacion, Board Member  
Alexandra Harwin, Esq., Board Member  
Junior Hernandez, Ph.D., Board Member  
John L. Schettino, Esq., General Counsel  
Scott A. Modery, Director  
Michele M. Darmochwal, Administrative Secretary

**ABSENT:** Tracy S. Zur, B.C. Commissioner, Board Member

A regular meeting of the Bergen County Board of Social Services was scheduled for January 14, 2025 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 14, 2025 has been provided in the following manner:

1. By a prominent posting of the schedule of meetings for 2025, 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 December 9, 2024 and to the Herald News, which was published on December 9, 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 December 4, 2024.

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

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

**Flag Salute**

Chairman William E. Connelly 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	

**Oath of Office**

John L. Schettino, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan prior to the meeting this afternoon.

**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 Yris Encarnacion. A motion to close nominations for Chairperson was offered by Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan, seconded by Randi Duffie. With no one opposed, and no further nominations, 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 Alexandra Harwin. With no one opposed, and no further nominations, 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			

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 Randi Duffie. With no one opposed, and no further nominations, 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, and no further nominations, 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			

Chairman William E. Connelly reported that the 2025 Committee Assignments will remain the same as last year. At the Chairman's request, Michele Darmochwal will forward a copy of the assignments to the full Board.

**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 Alexandra Harwin, Esq., seconded by Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan, 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			

**Christine Murphy - President of CWA Local 1089**

Ms. Murphy addressed the resolution approving the second-step grievance. She read through the information that the Board will be voting on this afternoon. She expressed that she appreciates the Board listening at a very heart wrenching time for her to be able to do something like this when the former CWA President's funeral had not yet happened at that particular point in time. She also expressed her appreciation in seeing CWA's portion regarding the outcome of the grievance hearing decision. She would like the Board to think very clearly about these policies going forward and how they relate to the individuals. She indicated that there are a lot of times when people are clocked in but because of lateness they do use their time and go straight back to work. She indicated that it is not taken into consideration that they came in late and are taking time for that. Going forward, as the Board reviews policies she asked that the members be very cognizant of that idea that if we are allowing people to take time when they are late, which is in both the agreement and in their

contract, that we are making sure that people aren't getting straight to work at that particular point in time and that they are not working unpaid at that particular point in time. She thanked the Board and expressed that she is looking forward to working together with the Board in 2025. She hopes to have a very good working relationship with all of the Board.

There being no further 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 Elaine K. Meyerson, seconded by Susan Silverstein, 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			

**Adoption of Minutes:**

**(a) Open Session Minutes of December 3, 2024**

Elaine K. Meyerson requested a motion to adopt the Open Session minutes. A motion to adopt the Open Session minutes of December 3, 2024 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			

Geraldine Nestrowitz, Supervising Accountant, was present. She reported on the Bill's List and Schedule of Vouchers.

**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 Junior Hernandez, Ph.D., seconded by Susan Silverstein, 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 2024 was 274 and October 2024 was 295 and compared to one year ago it went down 77 cases. SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) caseload for November 2024 was 24,811 and October 2024 was 24,886 and compared to one year ago it went up by 1,433 cases. The GA (General Assistance) caseload for November 2024 was 536 and October 2024 was 551 and compared to one year ago it went up by 45 cases. In regard to Medicaid, there were 43,385 individuals in November and 43,022 individuals in October 2024 and compared to one year ago there is a decrease of 7,038 individuals.

Burial stats are as follows: 31 inquires, 33 approved, and 0 denials. The agency paid out \$70,623.

In November 2024, the agency received 1,585 applications for cash and SNAP applications and 2,171 Medicaid applications for a total of 3,756. In October 2024, the agency received 1,874 applications for cash and SNAP applications and 2,182 Medicaid applications for a total of 4,056.

Our Emergency Assistance Unit assisted homeless individuals and families. Currently, we have 6 individuals/families in motels. We have 16 families in the HEARTS Program, 9 in the Emergency Shelter, and 7 in TANF/Bridge side. We have 11 families placed at the Center for Hope and Safety (DV shelter). We had 40 Emergency Assistance applications and 101 clients on Temporary Rental Assistance. We had 29 placements as referrals from 211. We have 234 active DDD cases. The Adult Protective Service (APS) Unit received 112 referrals and currently has 34 open cases.

**(b) Memoranda to the Board**

Scott Modery reported that Adopt-a-Family was a tremendous success. We adopted a total of 34 families either at or previously at the HEARTS family shelter. While individual donors adopted families, we were able to provide toys to additional children through the PBA toy drive out of the Closter Fire House. This project requires countless hours of work and the below is just a short list of those who continued to perform their job while adding in extra efforts to make Adopt-a-Family work: Michele Darmochwal, Maryann Moyer, Alex Guzman-Hurtado, Melissa Hussey, and (Board Member) Susan Silverstein and husband John.

Our ability to replace skimmed SNAP benefits ended December 20, 2024. The Division of Family Development (DFD) has notified us that there has been no further clarification from the USDA-FNS. We will continue to track and report incidences to DFD so they are apprised of these statistics. This will also allow us to replace benefits in the future should there be a retroactive authorization in the future.

All 21 counties have reported increasing difficulties attracting and retaining new employees. Bergen has had similar difficulties, though not to the degree that some other counties have reported. To that point, the article contained in this link: [Understaffed and Underfunded: Barriers to Effective Anti-Poverty Assistance](#) published by a nonpartisan think tank called the *New Jersey Policy Perspective* captures some of the issues facing the 21 New Jersey County Social Service Agencies today.

In a morale building event, Ritzy Moralez-Diaz organized an “Ugly Sweater Day” on December 23, 2024. Many participated in judging for “ugliest” and “most creative”. Others were content to wear an “ugly” sweater.

On January 13, 2025 Geraldine Nestrowitz and Scott Modery met with the Audit & Budget Committee to discuss our 2025 budget proposal to the County.

**Chairman’s Report**

Chairman William E. Connelly thanked everyone for their confidence in having him as the Chairman. In addition, he reported that the 2025 Request for Qualifications for the provision of General Counsel, Labor Counsel, Insurance Consultant, and Auditor were advertised. All submittals for 2025 were opened on January 8, 2025. The recommendations were to appoint John L. Schettino, Esq. for Labor Counsel, Eric M. Bernstein, Esq. for Labor Counsel, Acrisure for Insurance Consultant, and Wielkotz & Company for Auditor. The professionals will all be approved by way of resolution this afternoon.

**Committee Reports:**

**(a) Welfare, Fraud, and Abuse Committee**

Alexandra Harwin, Esq. reported from December 1 to December 31, 2024 the agency received Medicaid recoveries in the amount of \$5,757.93 and the year-to-date 2024 is \$63,478.95. No fraud referrals sent to the Prosecutor’s office during the month of December.

**(b) Audit & Budget Committee**

Randi Duffie reported that yesterday the Audit & Budget Committee met with Mr. Modery and Ms. Nestrowitz by way of Webex and they discussed the 2025 Budget. She reported that they discussed the numbers for 2025 and the most devastating number is the increase to the health benefits this year. Yris Encarnacion added that the increase is approximately 15%. Ms. Duffie mentioned that when you look at all the numbers you have to look at the whole picture. In general, when you do, this entire agency is running so practically and efficiently that the numbers almost speak for themselves in many portions of the preparation to the budget.

Yris Encarnacion added that the committee was shown that the agency receives funding from the Federal government from the State of New Jersey according to the amount of errors and percentages and our agency has a 0% error rate. That does not mean that this agency is going to get extra funds. The percentage in error rates is very high, approximately 35%, in the grid that Mr. Modery circulated from FY2024 for the State of New Jersey. Ms. Encarnacion indicated that is how the State quantifies how good the agencies are doing.

**(c) Building & Grounds Committee**

A discussion will be held in Closed Session.

**(d) Personnel Committee**

The Personnel Committee met this month; however, Elaine K. Meyerson could not attend. She reported that the committee will start the process to evaluate the Director and his evaluation should be completed by the March meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Next Board Meeting Date**

The next Board Meeting is scheduled to be held in person on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Action Items:**

**Resolutions:**

- (a) 2025.1.14 (1) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One External Part-Time Clerk 1 Bilingual in Spanish
- (b) 2025.1.14 (2) – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of One External Full-Time Records Support Technician 1
- (c) 2025.1.14 (3) – Resolution Authorizing a Promotion for One Internal Full-Time Human Services Aide



- (d) 2025.1.14 (4) – Resolution Authorizing a Promotion for One Full-Time Human Services Aide
- (e) 2025.1.14 (5) – Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement and Offer of Employment for Three External Full-Time Clerks 1 (Bilingual in Spanish/English preferred)
- (f) 2025.1.14 (6) – Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement and Offer of Employment for Two Internal or External Full-Time Human Services Aides (Bilingual in Korean/Russian Variant preferred)
- (g) 2025.1.14 (7) – Resolution Authorizing an Offer of Employment for Three Internal Full-Time Human Services Specialists 1
- (h) 2025.1.14 (8) – Resolution Approving Fourth Year Option to Renew with AEGIS Security
- (i) 2025.1.14 (9) – Resolution Approving Calendar Year 2025 Meeting Dates
- (j) 2025.1.14 (10) – Resolution Approving Second Step Grievance Hearing
- (k) 2025.1.14 (11) – Resolution Appointing General Counsel
- (l) 2025.1.14 (12) – Resolution Appointing Labor Counsel
- (m) 2025.1.14 (13) – Resolution Appointing Insurance Consultant
- (n) 2025.1.14 (14) – Resolution Appointing Auditor
- (o) 2025.1.14 (15) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with General Counsel
- (p) 2025.1.14 (16) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with Labor Counsel
- (q) 2025.1.14 (17) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with Insurance Consultant
- (r) 2025.1.14 (18) – Resolution Approving Professional Services Agreement with Auditor
- (s) 2025.1.14 (19) – Resolution Approving Memorandum of Understanding with State of N.J. Department of Human Services
- (t) 2025.1.14 (20) – 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 remove Resolution (j) from the consent agenda was offered by Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan, 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			

A motion to approve Resolutions (a) through (s), excluding (j) and (t) on the agenda was offered by Susan Silverstein, 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 (j) on the agenda was offered by Elaine K. Meyerson, 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			

A motion to discuss and approve Resolution (t) 2025.1.14 (20) 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 Elaine K. Meyerson, 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			

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:05 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board went into Closed Session to discuss personnel, contracts, building issues, litigation, and 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.

Chairman William E. Connelly left during Closed Session and was no longer present.

Vice Chairwoman Randi Duffie chaired the remainder of the meeting.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

Vice Chairwoman Randi Duffie requested a motion to adopt both sets of the Closed Session minutes of December 3, 2024. A motion to approve both sets of Closed Session minutes of December 3, 2024 was offered by Randi Duffie, seconded by Diane DeCarlo, Esq., and approved as follows:

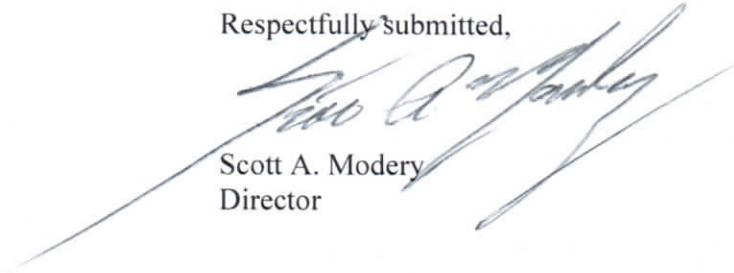
MEMBERS	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM E. CONNELLY	CHAIRPERSON				X
RANDI DUFFIE	VICE CHAIRPERSON	X			
ELAINE K. MEYERSON	SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
SUSAN SILVERSTEIN	ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER	X			
TRACY S. ZUR	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER				X
THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	BERGEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER	X			
DIANE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

Vice Chairwoman Randi Duffie requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. With no further business to conclude, a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:32 p.m. was offered by Elaine K. Meyerson, 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			

Respectfully submitted,



Scott A. Modery  
Director