

**AGREEMENT**

**Between**

**THE COUNTY OF UNION**

**and**

**UNION COUNTY SUPERVISORS' ASSOCIATION**

**EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 1, 2018 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Prepared By:

Hatfield Schwartz Law Group  
240 Cedar Knolls Road, Suite 303  
Cedar Knolls, New Jersey 07927  
Tel. 973-737-8318  
Attorneys for the County of Union

Mets Schiro & McGovern, LLP  
555 U.S. Highway 1 South, Suite 320  
Iselin, New Jersey 08830  
Tel. 732-636-0040  
Fax. 732-636-5705  
Attorneys for the Union County  
Supervisor's Association

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## **AGREEMENT**

This AGREEMENT made this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020, by and between The COUNTY OF UNION, a body politic (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the “County” or “Employer”), and the UNION COUNTY SUPERVISORS’ ASSOCIATION (hereinafter referred to as the “Union” or “Association”).

## **PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The County of Union and the Union desire to establish, maintain and regulate all standards of hours of work, rates of pay, and all other terms and conditions of employment under which the employees covered by the terms of this Agreement shall work.

## **ARTICLE I**

### **RECOGNITION AND RESPONSIBILITY**

#### **Section 1.**

The County of Union hereby recognizes the Union as the exclusive representative for collective negotiations pursuant to a Certification of Representative of the State of New Jersey, Public Employment Relations Commission, dated June 3, 2019 (Docket No. RO-2019-054), which includes all regularly employed foremen and supervisors employed by the County of Union in the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Engineering, Public Works, and Facilities Management, including supervisory mechanics, park foremen, general trades foremen, general supervisor mosquito extermination, recreation park maintenance general foremen, General Supervisor Bridge Repair, Supervising Bridge Repairer, General Supervisor Roads, Road Repair Supervisor, Supervising Building Repairer, Supervising Building Service, Supervising Heat & Air Conditioning Mechanic, Supervising Maintenance Repairer, Supervising Plumber, Supervisor Compost Project, Supervisor Mosquito Exterminator, Supervisor Traffic Maintenance, Supervising

Painter, Tree Maintenance Supervisor, Supervising Mechanic, Supervising Welder, Maintenance Supervisor Grounds, Supervisor Trades, Yard Supervisor, Sewer Repairer Supervisor, Supervising Carpenter, Supervising Mason and Supervising Electrician.

Section 2.

Whenever the terms “employee” or “employees” are used in this Agreement, such words shall be deemed to apply only to the employees of the County who are included within the bargaining unit above described.

Section 3.

Whenever any bargaining unit member shall indicate in writing to the County Treasurer his desire to have deductions made from his compensation for the purpose of paying the employee’s dues to the Union, the County Treasurer shall make such deduction from the compensation of such employee and the Treasurer shall transmit the sum so deducted to the Union.

Section 4.

The Union will provide the necessary “check off” authorization form and deliver the signed forms to the appropriate officers. The Union shall indemnify, defend and hold the County harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits or other forms of liability that shall arise out of, or by reason of, action taken by the County pursuant to the above provisions concerning dues deductions.

Section 5.

A. The authorization shall remain in full force and effect during the full term of an employee’s employment, unless properly withdrawn. To withdraw from a dues authorization an employee must submit a written request to withdraw from the Association to the responsible payroll clerk for the Employer within ten (10) days following each anniversary date of his/her employment. Once the Employer’s payroll clerk received the request, it will notify

the Association within five (5) business days. The properly filed withdrawal will become effective on the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the employee's anniversary date of employment.

The requirements regarding the Representation Fee shall be applied consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court's June 27, 2018 decision in Janus v. AFSCME, Council 31 and the New Jersey Workplace Democracy Enhancement Act.

- B. An employee may elect to pay a representation fee to the Union. The representation shall be in an amount equal to no more than 85% of the regular Union membership dues, fees, and assessment as certified to the County by the Union. The Union may revise its certification of the amount of the representation fee upon sixty (60) days written notice to the County to reflect changes in regular Union membership dues, fees and assessment.
- C. Any public employee who pays a representation fee in lieu of dues shall have the right to demand and receive from the Union, under proceedings established and maintained by the Union, which shall be in accordance with appropriate statutory provisions and court decisions, a return of any part of that fee paid by the employee which represents the employee's additional pro rata share of expenditures by the Union that is either in aid of activities or causes of a partisan, political or ideological nature only incidentally related to the terms and conditions of employment or applied toward the cost of any other benefit available only to members of the majority represented. The pro rata share subject to refund shall not reflect, however, the cost of support of lobbying activities designed to foster policy goals in collective negotiations and contract administration or to secure for the employee represented advantages in wages, hours and other conditions of employment in addition to those secured through collective negotiations with the public employer.
- D. The Union shall indemnify, defend and save the County harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, awards, judgments, losses or expenses or any other form of liability that shall arise out of or by reason of the action taken or not taken by the County in reliance upon the representation fee information furnished by the Union or its representatives.

**ARTICLE II**

**NO STRIKE - NO LOCKOUT**

**Section 1.**

The Union agrees that during the life of this Agreement, neither it nor its officers, representatives, committeemen, stewards, nor its members or any of them will call, sanction, encourage or engage in any strike or work stoppage. This provision shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any and all rights the County of Union would have against the Union or its employees in the event of such activity.

**Section 2.**

The County Manager, on behalf of the County of Union, agrees that during the life of this Agreement, the County will not lock out any of the employees covered by the Agreement. This provision shall not be interpreted to prohibit the County of Union from exercising its management right to cause a total or partial cessation of the work due to lack of work other than economic reasons.

**ARTICLE III**

**MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

**Section 1.**

Whenever the term “Employer”, “Department Head”, or “Supervisor” shall be used throughout this Agreement, it shall mean and includes the County Manager and the Department Head to whom employees covered herein report to and/or their designees, except as otherwise designated in this contract, as specifically may be provided in the New Jersey Statutes in such case made and provided or the Administrative Code of the County of Union.

Section 2.

Except as lawfully limited by the within Agreement, the County Manager, the Department Head and/or their designees, herein retain and reserve unto themselves, without limitation, all powers, right, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred and vested in any of them by the laws of the State of New Jersey, the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and the Constitution of the United States of America, including but without limitation, the following rights, privileges and functions.

The executive management and administrative control of the County of Union, a body politic, and its properties and facilities and the activities of its employees related to their employment.

The right of the County Manager to hire all employees, subject to civil service rules and regulations, to determine their qualifications and the conditions of their continued employment, dismissal, or demotion, to discipline employees for just cause, and to promote and transfer all such employees, subject to the New Jersey Statutes and the Administrative Code of the County of Union.

The right by the Department Head to determine schedules of work and the duties, responsibilities and assignments of all employees with respect thereto.

Section 3.

The exercise of the foregoing powers, right, authority, duties and responsibilities by the Department Head, the County Manager or other designees, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in furtherance thereof and the use of judgment and discretion in connection thereto shall be limited only by the extent such specific and express terms are in conformance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the provisions of this contract.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Section 1.

A grievance is hereby jointly defined to be any complaint concerning the interpretation or application of any provision of this Agreement. Should any such grievance as defined arise between an employee(s) and the Employer, the following procedure shall be followed:

Step 1. An employee with a grievance shall first discuss it with his immediate supervisor, either directly or with the designated representative(s) of the Union for the purpose of resolving the matter informally.

A grievance must be presented at Step 1 within seven (7) working days from the date the employee knew or should have known of the facts which give rise to the grievance. If it is not presented within the aforementioned time period, it shall be deemed waived and shall not thereafter be considered a grievance under this Agreement.

Step 2. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the disposition of his or her grievance at Step 1, or if no decision has been rendered within three (3) working days after presentation of that grievance at Step 1, he or she may file a grievance in writing with the Department Head or his designated representative. A meeting concerning the grievance shall be held between the Department Head or his designated representative(s) and the aggrieved party, and the Union's designated representative, not later than ten (10) working days from the date of the filing of the grievance in writing with the Department Head. The Department Head will render a final decision in writing within five (5) working days after the date of the meeting.

Step 3. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the disposition of his or her grievance at Step 2, or if no decision has been rendered within five (5) working days after the meeting at Step 2, the aggrieved party may file a grievance with the County Manager or his or her designee. At the request of the County Manager, a meeting concerning the grievance may be held within ten (10) working days after the grievance has been filed with the County Manager. Any such meeting shall be between the grievant, the Union's designated representative(s) and the County Manager or designee of the County Manager. The County Manager or designee will render a written answer to the grievance within ten (10) working days after the aforesaid meeting or within ten (10) working days from the date the grievance was filed with the County Manager if no such meeting is held.

Step 4. If the grievance is not resolved at Step 3, or if no written decision has been rendered within ten (10) working days as provided in Step 3, the Union shall within ten (10) working days make a written demand for arbitration to the New Jersey Public Employment Relations Commission, with a copy of the demand being delivered to the County Manager and Director of Personnel for the County of Union. The written demand for arbitration shall set forth the specific nature of the dispute and specific provisions of the Agreement claimed to be violated. The selection of an arbitrator as well as the conduct of the arbitration hearing shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the New Jersey State Board of Mediation then in effect.

The arbitrator so selected shall hear the dispute at a mutually agreeable date, time and place. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the Employer, the Union and the employee(s) and shall be in writing setting forth findings of fact, reasons and conclusions on the issues submitted.

No one arbitrator shall have more than one grievance submitted to him, and under consideration by him, at any one time unless the parties otherwise agree in writing. A grievance shall be deemed under the consideration by an arbitrator until he has rendered his written decision which shall be done within thirty (30) days from the close of the hearing.

In the event of the submission of any matter for arbitration as herein provided, the arbitrator shall have no right or power to alter or modify the terms of this Agreement or to impose upon the employer any obligation or liability not expressly assumed by the employer under the provisions of this Agreement; nor may the arbitrator deprive the employer of any right reserved, expressed or implied, by it for its benefit hereunder.

The cost of the arbitrator's fee shall be borne equally by the parties. Each party shall be responsible for its own costs incurred in arbitration.

#### Section 2.

The time limits specified in the foregoing grievance procedure shall be construed as maximum. However, these may be extended upon mutual agreement in writing between the parties.

#### Section 3.

Any employee may be represented in all stages of the grievance procedure by himself or a member of the Union, or at his or her option at Step 4 by an outside representative selected or approved by the Union. When an employee is not represented by the union, the union shall be notified and shall have the right to be present and state its views at all stages of the grievance procedure.

## ARTICLE V

### HOLIDAYS

#### Section 1.

The Employer has designated the following days as holidays:

New Year's Day  
Martin Luther King's Birthday  
Lincoln's Birthday  
Washington's Birthday  
Good Friday  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Columbus Day  
Election Day  
Veteran's Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Day After Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day

#### Section 2.

A holiday falling on a Saturday will be celebrated the preceding Friday. A holiday falling on a Sunday will be celebrated the following Monday.

#### Section 3.

All employees shall receive eight (8) hours of holiday pay at their regular base rate for such holidays even though no work shall be required of them and provided further that:

- A. New hires have satisfactorily completed their probationary period preceding the holiday involved; and
- B. Such employee works the scheduled work day immediately preceding and the schedule work day immediately following the holiday involved except if he fails to

work the day preceding or following the holiday because of one of the following conditions:

- i. The employee is unable to work due to an illness in which event the Department Head may require proof of illness hereunder in such form as the Department Head may, in his discretion, deem necessary to verify an employee's illness, or
- ii. The employee is on vacation.

#### Section 4.

Recognizing that the Departments work every day of the year and that it is not possible for all employees to be off on the same day, the County Manager or designee, on behalf of the County of Union, shall have the sole discretionary right to require any employee to work on any of the holidays specified herein. In the event an employee is required to work on any of the aforesaid legal holidays, he may receive an additional day off with holiday pay within thirty (30) days of the holiday or he may receive his holiday pay and the applicable rate of pay for working such holiday. If an employee is scheduled or otherwise required to work overtime on a holiday as provided herein, he shall be entitled to at least four (4) hours' pay at the overtime rate regardless of the number of hours actually worked on such holiday, in addition to holiday pay.

#### Section 5.

A holiday falling during an employee's vacation shall be treated as a holiday and not charged against the employee's vacation time.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**VACATIONS**

**Section 1.**

Anything herein stated to the contrary notwithstanding, the schedule hereinafter set forth for vacation entitlement shall be effective as of January 1, 1980. All employees covered by the within Agreement hereby waive any claims for a vacation entitlement for any year prior to January 1, 1980 in which said employees did not utilize his/her vacation entitlement, and the following schedule shall be applicable to all employees on and after January 1, 1980 with respect to vacation entitlement.

All such employees shall commence the vacation year as of January 1, 1980 with no accumulated vacation claimed or owed.

**Section 2.**

Vacation eligibility shall be as follows:

A. During the first calendar year of employment, employees shall earn one (1) vacation day for each month of service during the calendar year following the date of employment.

B. Employees with one to eight completed years of service shall be entitled to fourteen (14) working days' vacation each year.

C. Employees with eight completed years to ten years of service will be entitled to fifteen (15) working days' vacation each year.

D. Employees with ten completed years to fifteen years of service will be entitled to eighteen (18) working days' vacation each year.

E. Employees with fifteen completed years to twenty years of service will be entitled to twenty (20) working days' vacation each year.

F. Employees with twenty completed years to twenty-five years of service will be entitled to twenty-two (22) working days' vacation each year.

G. Employees with twenty-five to thirty or more completed years of service will be entitled to the following number of working days' vacation each year:

twenty-five years	-	twenty-eight (28) days
twenty-six years	-	twenty-nine (29) days
twenty-seven years	-	thirty (30) days
twenty-eight years	-	thirty-one (31) days
twenty-nine or more years	-	thirty-two (32) days

Section 3.

Part-time employee shall receive vacation credit allowance on a prorated basis in accordance with Section 1 above.

Section 4.

An employee who is entitled to vacation herein shall make written request to the Department Head at least two (2) weeks prior to the time during which such vacation is to be taken. Vacation requests made less than two (2) weeks in advance shall not be unreasonably denied. No employee shall be entitled to take any part of his vacation at any time other than as authorized by the Department Head. While the Department Head shall not unreasonably withhold permission to grant a vacation as requested, if a conflict exists between two or more employees requesting the same date, or the work schedule is such that the employee's vacation request interferes with the orderly carrying out the same, the Department Head's decision as to whom shall be permitted the vacation period requested, if at all, shall be final.

Section 5.

An employee who has resigned or has otherwise separated from employment shall be entitled to the vacation allowance for the current year prorated upon the number of months worked in a

calendar year in which the separation becomes effective, in addition to any unused vacation due for the previous year.

Section 6.

An employee who is retiring on pension based on length of service shall be entitled to the full vacation for the calendar year in which he retires.

Section 7.

Whenever an employee dies having to his credit any annual vacation leave, there shall be calculated and paid to his estate, a sum of money equal to the compensation figured on his salary rate at the time of his death.

Section 8.

If a holiday occurs during the vacation or sick leave, it is not counted as a day of vacation or sick leave.

Section 9.

Employees serving on a leave of absence without pay do not accrue vacation benefits.

Section 10.

If an employee leaves the County's employ for any reason, except as set forth in Section 5 of this Article, before the end of the calendar year after having taken a vacation allowance for the year, he will be charged with the unearned part of his vacation. This now will be deducted from his final paycheck.

Section 11.

Vacations must be taken during the current calendar year unless the supervisor determined that it cannot be taken because of pressure of work, in which case, unused vacations may be carried forward into the next succeeding year only.

Section 12.

In accordance with present policy, an employee may receive vacation pay in advance of taking his vacation provided that he makes timely written request on the form provided for that purpose and in the manner provided.

**ARTICLE VII**

**SALARIES AND WAGES**

Section 1.

The wage increase is in accordance with the Salary Guide attached hereto as Exhibit A and is retroactive to January 1st of each year.

The base salaries set forth in Exhibit A also include the following: the \$250.00 shoe and jacket allowance and \$100.00 in lieu of temporary disability benefits. This amount will remain in base salary for future years. The County will make every effort to hire and/or promote individuals at the established minimum salary level. If there is a reason why this cannot be accomplished by the County, such as the market forces for hiring within a particular classification, notification of this fact will be provided to the Union within a reasonable time prior to appointment of the new employee at a salary above the minimum salary level.

Section 2.

Effective and retroactive to January 1, 2020, the employer shall pay additional compensation, to be added to the base annual rate, to bargaining unit employees that maintain the following certifications and / or licenses:

Certified Pesticide Applicators License	\$1,000.00
Certified Herbicide Applicators License	\$1,000.00
Certified Pool Operator	\$1,000.00
Certified Traffic Control Supervisor	\$1,000.00
CFC License	\$1,000.00
Diesel Equipment Certification	\$1,000.00
CDL-A	\$2,100.00
CDL-B	\$1,200.00

Section 3.

A. Movement on the Salary Guide shall be as follows:

- (a) Employees hired or who have been promoted and have less than one (1) year of service in the position shall receive their salary increment effective the date of the beginning pay period of the month in which the employee has completed one (1) year of service in the title hired for or promoted into.
- (b) Employees who have more than one (1) year of service in their classification who possess an anniversary date of employment or promotion between January 1, and June 30th shall receive their salary increment as of January 1.
- (c) Employees who have more than one (1) year of service in their classification who possess an anniversary date of employment or promotion between July 1 and December 31st shall receive their salary increment as of July 1.

B. For employees who are members of the unit prior to December 31, 2017, all increment dates will reflect a January 1 date. Effective September 1, 2020, all unit members shall advance on the salary guide on January 1 of each year.

Section 4.

The night shift differential shall continue to be \$2.24 per shift.

Section 5.

Effective January 1, 2016, employees shall be paid bi-monthly on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup> of each month. When the pay day occurs on a holiday, paychecks or direct deposits will be issued on the day prior to the holiday.

Section 6.

The following criteria entitle employees to retroactive pay:

- Bargaining unit employees who retire after the expiration of the prior CNA;
- Those employees who are on the active payroll at the time contract is settled;
- Employees who are on leaves of absence without pay who subsequently return to active service with the County are entitled to retroactive pay and benefits negotiated for that contract, exclusive of the period of leave without pay.

Bargaining Unit employees whose employment is terminated for any reason other than retirement under a State retirement system prior to the date this Agreement is ratified and approved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders shall not be entitled to retroactive negotiated pay increases.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**HOURS OF WORK, PREMIUM PAY AND COMPENSATORY TIME OFF**

Section 1.

The work week for all bargaining unit employees shall consist of five (5) consecutive days of eight (8) hours each as scheduled by the Department Head during any seven (7) day period. A work day shall consist of eight (8) hours of work which are to be continuous except for such unpaid lunch period as may be scheduled by the Department Head.

Effective January 1, 2015, employees shall be entitled to two (2) ten minute breaks in addition to an unpaid lunch. Employees may combine these two breaks into one (1) twenty (20) minute break.

Section 2.

Employees shall be entitled to two (2) consecutive days off during each seven (7) day period, provided however, that the Department Head shall have the right to require employees to work on such days.

Section 3.

For purposes of this Article, “straight-time hourly rate” shall be defined as the hourly rate of pay as calculated by dividing the employee’s annual salary, inclusive of any stipends or other compensation, by two thousand eighty (2,080).

Section 4.

Any employee who is scheduled to work and who actually does work in excess of forty (40) hours in any work week shall receive additional compensation for each such hour worked at time and one-half (1-1/2 times) the employee’s straight-time hourly rate.

Section 5.

An employee shall not be entitled to receive overtime compensation unless such overtime has been scheduled and authorized by the employee’s immediate supervisor, or Department Director / Division Director, prior to such overtime being worked.

Section 6.

The Department Director / Division Director shall make all reasonable efforts to distribute overtime on an equitable basis provided, however, that the bargaining unit employee to whom such overtime shall be assigned is able to perform such work to the satisfaction of the County.

### Section 7.

If an employee shall be recalled for work at any time outside of his regular working hours or on any day when he would normally be off duty he shall receive at least four (4) hours' pay at their overtime rate of pay. One hour travel time shall be paid at the straight time rate, for all emergency call-ins if the actual work performed exceeds four (4) hours.

### Section 8.

Employees may choose compensatory time in lieu of overtime providing that accumulated compensatory time does not exceed forty (40) hours per year and is utilized within one (1) year following the time when it is earned, and is approved by the employee's Supervisor. Compensatory time may be replenished and banked providing that it does not exceed forty (40) hours at any time.

### Section 9 – Use of Time After Storms

Effective January 1, 2015, employees may use sick, vacation or personal time without notice following at least 24 hours of consecutive work due to a storm as long as the emergency conditions have subsided and their Division/Department Head has been notified. The use of sick, vacation or personal time for this purpose will not count towards discipline or be used in determining eligibility for the sick leave incentive program.

Effective July 1, 2020, an employee that actually works sixteen (16) consecutive hours shall receive a compensatory day. Said compensatory day may be used in the same manner as any other compensatory day, pursuant to policy.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **SICK LEAVE**

#### **Section 1.**

Sick leave may be used by employees who are unable to work because of: (1) personal illness or injuries; (2) exposure to contagious disease; (3) care, for a reasonable period of time, of a seriously ill member of the employee's immediate family (spouse, child, legal ward, grandchild, foster child, father, mother, legal guardian, grandfather, grandmother, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, and any other relatives residing in the employee's household); (4) death in the employee's immediate family, for a reasonable period of time. Up to five days may be permitted when such absence is caused by the death and attendance at the funeral of a spouse or a child and up to three days will be permitted during the absence from duty of employees when such absence is caused by the death and attendance at the funeral of any other member of the employee's immediate family as defined herein. Sick leave may also be used by a handicapped employee for absences related to the acquisition or use of an aid for the handicap when the aid is necessary to function on the job. In such cases, reasonable proof may be required by the County. Sick leave may be taken in ¼ day increments.

#### **Section 2.**

If an employee is absent for reasons that entitle him to sick leave, his supervisor shall be notified promptly. Failure to notify the supervisor may be cause for disciplinary action. Absence without notice for five (5) consecutive days shall constitute a resignation.

#### **Section 3.**

Sick leave is earned in the following manner:

- A. New employees shall only receive one working day for the initial month of employment if they began work on the first through eighth day of the calendar month, and one-half working day if they began on the ninth through the twenty-third day of the month.
- B. After the initial month of employment and up to the end of the first calendar year, employees shall be credited with one working day for each month of service. Thereafter, at the beginning of each calendar year in anticipation of continued employment, employees shall be credited with 15 working days.
- C. Part-time employees shall be entitled to a proportionate amount of paid sick leave.
- D. Paid sick days shall not accrue during a leave of absence without pay or suspension.
- E. Sick leave credits shall not accrue after an employee has resigned or retired although his/her name is being retained on the payroll until exhaustion of vacation or other compensatory leave.
- F. Unused sick leave shall accumulate from year to year without limit.

Section 4.

Any employee who is absent on sick leave for five (5) or more consecutive working days shall be required to submit a physician's certificate as evidence substantiating the illness. The employer may require an employee who has been absent because of personal illness, as a condition of his return to work, to be examined by a physician at the expense of the employer.

Section 5.

- A. An employee who has been absent on sick leave for periods totaling more than fifteen (15) days in one (1) calendar year consisting of periods of less than five (5) days shall have his or her sick leave record reviewed by the respective appointing

authority and thereafter may be required to submit acceptable medical evidence for any additional sick leave in that year. In cases where an illness is of a chronic recurring nature causing recurring absences of one (1) day or less, only one (1) submission of such proof shall be necessary for a period of six (6) months.

- B. The appointing authority may require proof of illness of an employee on sick leave, whenever such requirement appears reasonable. Abuse of sick leave shall be cause for disciplinary action.
  - i. In case of leave of absence due to exposure to contagious disease, a certification from the Department of Health shall be required.
  - ii. The appointing authority may require an employee who has been absent because of personal illness, as a condition of his return to duty, to be examined, at the expense of the agency, by a physician designated by the appointing authority. Such examination shall establish whether the employee is capable of performing his normal duties and that his return will not jeopardize the health of other employees.

#### Section 6.

The County agrees to continue its program of payment for unused sick leave upon retirement in accordance with the following requirements:

- A. The lump sum supplemental compensation provided herein for accumulated sick days shall in no way affect, increase or decrease any pension or retirement benefits to such retired employee under any other statute.

- B. No employee who elects a deferred retirement benefits shall be eligible. An employee may defer his request for lump sum payment but it must be submitted within one (1) year of the effective date of any retirement.
- C. To be eligible for payment under this program, an employee must be fifty-five (55) years of age, and retire with at least twenty-five (25) years of service solely with the County of Union and must have at least 100 accumulated sick days to his or her credit upon the effective date of retirement.
- D. In the event of an employee's death within one (1) year after the effective date of retirement but before payment of the lump sum is made, the payment of the lump sum shall be made to the employee's estate. It should be noted that retirement is contingent upon the employee surviving thirty (30) days after the effective date of retirement.
- E. County employees who retire as a result of an accidental or ordinary disability retirement, and who meet all of their applicable regulations would be considered eligible for a lump sum sick leave reimbursement upon retirement for unused sick leave. If such employees receive lump sum payment and subsequently reenter county employment, they will not be eligible to have their unused sick leave reinstated to their record. Employees reentering County service subsequent to an accidental or ordinary disability retirement will begin earning sick leave in a manner similar to a newly hired employee.
- F. Any employee who has or shall retire on age and service and who subsequently reenters County employment will be considered to have incurred a break in service.

- G. In determining an individual's eligibility, leave without pay shall not be counted towards the requirement of twenty-five (25) years of service with the County. Prior service with other governmental entities shall also not be counted towards the requirement of twenty-five (25) years of service with the County.
- H. Sick leave credit shall be computed from the date of employment; or if a break in service has occurred, only from the date of return to employment following the break in service except that an employee who has or shall incur a break in service as a result of separation due to lay-off shall be credited with sick leave accrued before separation and after return to employment.
- I. Payment for unused accumulated sick leave shall be according to the following schedule:
  - 100-200 accumulated sick days – 50% of the daily rate, maximum of \$10,000
  - 201-300 accumulated sick days – 60% of the daily rate, maximum of \$12,500
  - 301-400 accumulated sick days – 70% of the daily rate, maximum of \$15,000
  - over 401 accumulated sick days – 80% of the daily rate, maximum of \$18,000
- J. In computing the total amount of unused accumulated sick leave pay due, periods of leaves of absence without pay shall be excluded in the computation.
- K. The lump sum supplemental compensation payment shall be made within sixty (60) days after the date of retirement, if possible.
- L. A retiree must be officially off the County's payroll at the time of payment.
- M. An employee who is about to retire should follow the regular procedures concerning retirement. When an employee receives a copy of the official notice of retirement approval issued by the pension board or authority, the employee may file a request with the County Personnel Office requesting the supplemental lump sum payment.

- N. The eligibility of an employee will be determined by such class title held at any time during the employee's employment with the County of Union. Eligibility of class title will not be approved unless the following standards and guidelines have been adhered to:
- i. Sick leave days were earned by all employees within that class title on the basis of one (1) working day per month during the remainder of the first calendar year of employment after initial appointment and fifteen (15) working days per calendar year thereafter.
  - ii. Proof of need of sick leave usage was required when sick leave exceeded at least five (5) consecutive days or a total of fifteen (15) days within one (1) calendar year.
  - iii. Sick leave was not advanced against anticipated sick leave to be earned in the next or future calendar years.
  - iv. Sick leave or some other earned leave was charged for all compensable days when the employee was not working.
  - v. All sick leave was reportable and reported accordingly.
  - vi. The time-keeping procedure required certification of the accuracy of the employee's pay time.
  - vii. Sick leave records for each employee were maintained from the original date of appointment at one or more central points under the jurisdiction of the appointing authority with proper security and verification for use and accrual.
  - viii. All records are available for inspection.

- ix. Where other types of leave with pay or holidays or days off with pay were granted which were in excess of leave provided to classified employees, a detailed explanation of the character and extent of such practices shall be provided.

Section 6.

Effective January 1, 2015, a Sick Leave Incentive Program shall be implemented. If an employee does not use any sick time during each quarter, he/she will be entitled to either \$250 or one (1) compensatory day.

**ARTICLE X**

**JURY DUTY**

When a bargaining unit employee is involuntarily summoned for jury service, he shall promptly notify his immediate supervisor and the Personnel Director and shall be excused from work for those days on which he receives pay for jury service. The County Manager may request that the employee be excused or exempted from such duty. For each day on which he otherwise would have worked, he shall be paid the difference between his regular rate and the payment he receives for jury service. The employee shall furnish official proof of such service and of the amount of pay received therefor.

**ARTICLE XI**

**DEATH IN FAMILY**

Section 1.

Wages up to five (5) days will be paid during the absence from duty of employees when such absence is caused by the death and attendance at funeral of spouse or child, and up to three (3) days will be paid during the absence from duty of employees when such absences are caused by the death

and attendance at funeral of mother, father, sister, brother, grandparents, grandchildren, mother-in-law, father-in-law, or other relative residing at employee's household.

Section 2.

In the case of death in the immediate family, reasonable proof shall be required.

**ARTICLE XII**

**PRIOR PRACTICES**

Except as otherwise specifically provided to the contrary in this Agreement, all rights, privileges and benefits which employees of the Employer have heretofore enjoyed and are presently enjoying, shall be maintained and continued by the Employer during the term of this Agreement, including but not limited to, any rights, benefits and privileges bestowed upon Employees of the Employer by the laws of the United States or the laws of the State of New Jersey.

**ARTICLE XIII**

**LONGEVITY**

During the life of this Agreement, all employees covered by this Agreement shall be entitled to and paid longevity payments and adjustments in accordance with the longevity program adopted by Freeholder Resolution No. 163 in the year 1967 and amendments and supplements thereto; provided, however, that any person commencing full-time continuous employment subsequent to January 1, 1973 shall not participate in nor be entitled to the benefits of the present longevity program.

**ARTICLE XIV**

**SEVERABILITY**

In the event of any Federal or State law conflicts with any provision of this Agreement, the provision or provisions so affected shall no longer be operative or binding upon the parties but the remaining portion of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

**ARTICLE XV**

**UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Section 1.**

Any bargaining unit employee may apply for a leave of absence without pay or other remuneration provided the employee shall make application in writing for such leave to his immediate supervisor and the Personnel Director at least two (2) weeks prior to the date such leave is requested.

**Section 2.**

The County Manager may, in his sole discretion, grant the employee a leave of absence without pay or other remuneration subject to the following conditions and exceptions:

- A. An employee who takes employment elsewhere during an approved leave of absence shall be considered as having voluntarily resigned.
- B. If an employee fails to report for work within one (1) working day of the expiration of an authorized leave of absence and does not give a satisfactory explanation for not returning, he shall be considered as having voluntarily resigned.
- C. An employee who shall be required to attend military encampment or who shall be called for National Guard duty shall be entitled to a leave of absence in accordance with applicable law.

- D. Whenever a bargaining unit employee shall become pregnant, she shall furnish the County Manager with a certificate from her physician and a physician designated by the County Manager within at least six (6) months from the date of her pregnancy. Maternity leave will be granted for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days prior to her date of delivery and thirty (30) days after her delivery. In the event the employee's physician and the physician designated by the County Manager disagree as to the physical or mental capacity of such employee to continue working, both physicians shall designate a third physician to make a final determination as to such employee's capacity to work.

### Section 3.

In the event an unusual emergency arises which might prevent the employee from making written request for leave of absence or which might prevent an employee on leave from returning at the end of a leave of absence, such employee may apply for a leave of absence or an extension to a leave of absence, which leave may be granted in the sole discretion of the County Manager.

### Section 4.

Pursuant to federal law, an eligible employee will be entitled to Federal Family and Medical Leave pursuant to the Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") for one or more of the following reasons:

- a. The birth of a child to an employee and in order to care for such child;
- b. The placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care;
- c. To care for the child, parent or spouse of an employee who has a serious health condition; or

- d. The inability of an employee to perform the functions of his/her job due to a serious health condition.

Any employee employed by the County for a minimum of 12 months and for not less than 1,000 base hours prior to the request for family or medical leave will be eligible for leave under the FMLA. Eligible employees will be entitled to 12 weeks of leave in any 12 month period. A request of leave based upon a serious health condition must be supported by appropriate medical certification. The leave shall be unpaid, but health insurance benefits will be continued during the leave. An employee returning from FMLA leave will be reinstated to the same or equivalent position upon his or her return to work.

Eligible employees are also entitled to take leave pursuant to the New Jersey Family Leave Act (“FLA”). Employees must specify, prior to taking the leave, which leave they are taking FMLA or FLA leave. Among the important differences between the FLA and the FMLA are:

1. The FLA does not provide for unpaid leave for an employee’s own illness, while the FMLA does provide for such leave.
2. The FLA provides for 12 weeks of leave in any 24 month period, while the FMLA provides for 12 weeks of leave in any 12 month period.
3. Under the FLA, an employee is entitled to utilize either the Federal FMLA or the State FLA, and to obtain the greater benefits available in one policy or the other.
4. The Employee may elect to use paid sick leave and vacation leave during FMLA and FLA leave but shall not be compelled to do so.
5. Employees should consult with the Division of Personnel Management and Labor Relations about differences between the FLA and FMLA and specific provisions of both Acts.

**ARTICLE XVI**

**INSURANCE**

**Section 1.**

- A. All employees covered under the terms of this Agreement shall be covered, as shall be the members of their immediate family, for medical and hospital expenses through an insurance program carried by the County of Union in accordance with the benefits currently in effect. The County shall continue to provide Major Medical insurance coverage currently in effect through an insurance program. The County reserves the right to change or modify medical and hospitalization plans at any time so long as the modified plan provides substantially similar coverage to that in effect for members of the bargaining unit. The Employer will give 30 days' prior notice to the Union of its intention to change any such coverage and will meet with representatives of the Union if requested.
- B. All existing cost containment and co-pay provisions applicable to the hospitalization insurance program shall be maintained, except as follows:
- C. The Horizon PPO and Horizon Traditional Plans will be maintained for employees choosing said plan with their cost being the difference between the PPO or Traditional Plan premium, whichever is applicable, and the Direct Access premium in any given year.
- D. Effective June 28, 2011, P.L. 2011, Chapter 78, governs the amount of employee contributions. If any of the applicable premium sharing provisions of Chapter 78, P.L. 2011 are repealed, modified or overturned by a court of competent jurisdiction or by the legislature, the parties agree to meet to negotiate the impact of any such

repeal, modification, or court decision. In addition, the premium upon which employee's Chapter 78 contribution shall be frozen at the 2019 levels. An employee's contribution amount shall not change if the premium increases or if an employee's salary increase moves him/her into a new range. An employee's contribution amount may change if the employee changes health plans or changes categories of coverage, i.e., moves from family to single or single to family, etc.

- E. Effective July 1, 2013, out-of-network benefits shall be \$500.00 Single/ \$1,000.00 all others. The out-of-network reimbursement benefit shall be 150% of CMS (Medicare).
- F. The emergency room co-pays shall be \$25.00 per visit (to be waived if admitted).
- G. The Third Party Administrator (TPA) is eliminated and the County will no longer reimburse employees for any out-of-network charges.
- H. Effective July 1, 2015, the County implemented two (2) additional plans – a high deductible plan with a health savings account (HSA) and an exclusive provider organization (EPO) plan. Employees hired on or after June 30, 2016, shall be required to choose one of these two plans during the first two (2) years of employment. Following the completion of two (2) years of employment, the employee may select any of the County's other plans. All current employees may voluntarily select one of these plans during open enrollment. With regard to the HSA, the County agrees that it will contribute \$1,000.00 towards the deductible for single coverage and \$2,000.00 towards the deductible for family coverage for both current and new employees who elect the HSA.

Section 2.

The County of Union will continue to provide a Basic Dental Plan at a cost not to exceed the sum of Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars on an annual basis for each bargaining unit employee. The Plan shall only provide coverage for only bargaining unit employees. Effective January 1, 2007 the annual cap on the employee only basic dental plan shall be increased to \$2,000. If employees wish to obtain enhanced dental coverage (80%/20% per covered individual as opposed to the current 50%/50% coverage), they may do so only by paying the full cost for this enhanced coverage. Alternatively, employees may opt for dental coverage under the County's current dental HMO plan.

Section 3.

The drug prescription benefits shall include.

	<b>Co-Pay</b>
Retail Generic (30 day supply)	\$5.00
Retail Preferred Brand (30 day supply)	\$25.00
Retail Non-Preferred (30 day supply)	\$50.00
Mail Order Generic (90 day supply)	\$5.00
Mail Order Preferred Brand (90 day supply)	\$30.00
Mail Order Non-Preferred (90 day supply)	\$60.00

The restriction on flow through of prescription co-payments to the Major Medical portion of the health insurance coverage shall be continued.

**Drug Plan Utilization Modifications:**

- Enhanced Concurrent Drug Utilization Review (Refill too soon/stockpiling).
- Preferred Drug Step Therapy (Generic or Preferred Name Brand first)  
Limited to PPI, SSRI and Intranaseal steroid drugs.

- Clinical Intervention (Statement of medical necessity from MD) Limited to Anti- Narcoleptic Agents, Weight Loss and Antineoplastic Agents.

Effective January 1, 2007, the Drug Prescription Plan shall be modified as follows:

- Retail pharmacy purchases shall be limited to thirty (30) day increments.
- Dispense As Written (“DAW”) Procedure – Physicians prescribing name brand drugs, when the generic equivalent is available must justify the DAW to the pharmacy.
- All current co-pays shall be maintained and mail-order shall remain a ninety (90) day supply.

#### Section 4.

Effective January 1, 2007 the VSP – Vision Plan shall be implemented for employees only, and the premium will be paid 100% by the Employer.

#### Section 5.

In the case of any change in the marital or family status of the employee pertinent to the benefits or kind of coverage of the hospitalization, surgical or major medical coverage, or other such insurance, the employee shall immediately furnish the County of Union, Department of Finance, Division of Personnel Management and Labor Relations, or other designee, the complete detailed information regarding the same.

#### Section 6.

All insurance referred to in the within this Article shall become effective on the first of the month following the sixtieth (60) day of the first day of the month in which the employee was hired, provided he was hired between the first of the month and the fifth of the month. Anyone hired after

the fifth of the month shall receive the aforesaid insurance coverage on the first of the month following the ninetieth (90) day from the first day of the month in which the employee was hired.

Section 7.

All such insurance shall be subject to the particular terms, conditions and provisions of the applicable contracts and policies of insurance. There shall be no responsibility or obligation whatsoever of the County of Union in connection with such contracts or policies of insurance excepting only the undertaking to pay such premiums or charges for such coverage as provided in this Agreement.

Section 8.

The obligation of the County of Union to pay such premiums for the purpose of maintaining the benefits provided but said contracts shall be subject at all times to the following terms and conditions:

Section 9.

The employees shall make written application to the County, on forms provided to them by the County of Union, or other designee, at the time of employment and the employees shall be obligated to deliver to the County of Union, Department of Administrative Services, Division of Personnel Management and Labor Relations, or other designee, such completed applications, duly executed, and shall furnish to the County of Union, Department of Administrative Services, Division of Personnel Management and Labor Relations, or other designee, in writing, all such detailed information as may be required.

**ARTICLE XVI-A**

**HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR RETIREES**

**(Employees hired prior to October 9, 2009)**

Effective October 9, 2009, there shall be a health insurance plan for employees covered by the recognition clause of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, subject to the following terms and conditions:

**Section 1.**

**Eligibility:**

Employees must have been actively employed with the County of Union as of October 8, 2009, and must retire on either a disability pension, or retire having reached the age of 55 and having 25 years or more of service with the County, or reach the age of 62 years or older with 15 years of service with the County. Employees who otherwise qualify for coverage but who retire before age 55 shall be entitled to receive coverage under this plan upon reaching age 55. This benefit will only be provided to those retirees meeting the eligibility requirements who do not have or are not eligible for health benefits from another source. Eligible retirees shall cooperate in good faith with the County to verify that no other source of insurance coverage is provided for them. Dependents of employees eligible for benefits hereunder shall also be provided with coverage pursuant to the benefit insurance plan's rules.

**Section 2.**

**Description:**

This benefit shall consist of coverage under the CIGNA Open Access Plus Health Insurance Plan with the prescription component provided by MEDCO at 0-Co-pay Mail and 30% Co-pay Retail. Subject to the vested material rights of employees covered hereunder, the County reserves

the right to change or modify the plan at any time so long as the modified plan provides substantially equivalent or better coverage to that in effect for the eligible members of the bargaining unit at the time of their retirement provided such coverage remains generally available in the insurance market at commercially reasonable rates. This benefit shall cover the retiree's spouse and/or eligible dependent(s) at the time of retirement and in the event of the retiree predeceasing said spouse and/or eligible dependent(s); coverage shall continue for the surviving spouse and/or eligible dependent(s).

### Section 3.

#### Future Employees:

Employees hired after October 8, 2009, shall only be eligible for the health benefit subsidy as set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

### Section 4.

#### Cessation of Subsidy:

Upon implementation of retiree health benefits provided in Section 1 and Section 2 above the County shall be obliged to pay the full cost of health insurance premiums for qualifying retirees hereunder. Those qualifying retirees shall not be eligible for or receive the subsidy provided in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Section 5.

Health Benefit Buyout Option:

Any retiree eligible to receive benefits or then receiving benefits as described above, with either Family or Husband/Wife coverage in any of the available health benefits plans, may voluntarily opt out of that plan providing their spouse has either Family or Husband/Wife coverage either through the County or through another employer. In return for opting out, the County shall pay to the eligible retiree the sum of \$5,000.00 annually, to be paid in 26 installments over the next year. The \$5,000.00 sum shall be reduced to \$2,500.00 per annum upon the eligible retiree's reaching Medicare eligibility. The payments will be prorated if less than one year of the benefit is available. Eligible retirees opting out shall retain the right to re-enter the County's health benefit plan on a monthly basis. Upon re-entering the plan, payments for opting out shall cease. This benefit shall be discontinued if the County becomes self-insured.

**ARTICLE XVI-B**

**HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR RETIREES**

**(Employees hired on or after October 9, 2009)**

There shall be a health insurance subsidy plan for employees, covered by the recognition clause of the collective bargaining agreement, subject to the following terms and conditions:

Section 1.

Eligibility:

Employees must have been actively employed for the County of Union on or after October 9, 2009; and must retire on either a disability pension or after having reached the age of fifty-five (55) years and having twenty-five (25) years or more of service with the County, or retire and reach the

age of sixty-two (62) years or older with at least fifteen (15) years of service where the retirement has been shown to the satisfaction of the employer to have been necessitated by medical illness or disability of the employee. Employees who otherwise qualify for coverage but who retire before age fifty-five (55), shall be entitled to receive coverage under this plan upon reaching age fifty-five (55). This benefit will only be provided to those retirees meeting the eligibility requirements who do not have hospitalization insurance coverage from another source, and eligible retirees shall cooperate in good faith with the County to verify that no other source of insurance coverage is provided for them.

Section 2.

Description:

This benefit shall be applied to the Hospital Insurance Plan which is provided to members of the bargaining unit. The County reserves the right to change or modify plans at any time so long as the modified plan provides substantially similar coverage to that in effect at the time of this award. This benefit shall cover the retiree’s spouse and/or eligible dependent(s) at the time of retirement and in the event of the retiree predeceasing said spouse and/or eligible dependent(s); coverage shall continue for the surviving spouse and/or eligible dependent(s).

Section 3.

Subsidy:

Upon implementation of this benefit, the County shall be obligated to subsidize the cost of health insurance premiums for qualifying retirees, as follows:

Category	County’s Subsidy
Single, Under 65	\$189.67 per month
Single, Over 65	\$138.39 per month
H/W Under 65 P/C Retiree Family Under 65	\$540.58 per month

H/W Over 65	\$276.77 per month
H/W Retiree Over 65	\$276.77 per month
H/W Spouse Over 65	
Family Over 65	\$442.88 per month
Family Retiree Over 65	\$477.85 per month
Family Spouse Over 65	
P/C Retiree Over 65 .....	\$338.69 per month

The remaining costs of the County’s Hospital Insurance Plan shall be borne by the retiree.

Section 4.

Modification:

In the event that the amount of the County’s contribution is subsequently reduced or even eliminated, the change in practice shall apply to those persons already retired. Similarly, in the event that the Hospital Insurance Plan is changed or modified in any way, the new plan shall apply to the retirees.

Section 5.

Effective January 1, 1988, employees who retire on pension may elect to continue existing coverage for the Drug Prescription Plan provided for in this Agreement at the sole cost and expense of the employee.

**ARTICLE XVII**

**UNION BUSINESS**

Section 1.

The Union shall advise the County Manager or his designee in writing of the names of its representatives.

Section 2.

The Union shall neither solicit members, nor conduct any business on County property during County assigned working schedules involved except for time spent conferring with management on specific grievances as specified in the Grievance Procedure.

Section 3.

When an authorized representative is excused from his assigned duties, he shall:

- (a) Arrange with his supervisor to leave his work.
- (b) Notify the supervisor of any County facility visited on arrival.
- (c) Notify his supervisor upon return to the job.
- (d) Record his time out and time in with his supervisor upon leaving and returning to his job.

**ARTICLE XVIII**

**EYE GLASSES**

The County shall reimburse an employee for the reasonable cost of repair and replacement of prescriptive eyeglasses which are broken or damaged during the normal performance of the employee's duties and where the repair or replacement of such eyeglasses are not otherwise covered by warranty. The maximum liability of the County under this provision shall be One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars per employee per incident. An employee claiming reimbursement under this clause shall present the eyeglasses which need repair or replacement to the County for examination and shall submit proof that the item was damaged or destroyed during the normal performance of the employee's duty in form satisfactory to the County. Upon repair or replacement of the broken or damaged eyeglasses, the employee shall submit proof of payment and the County shall reimburse the employee for the reasonable cost thereof as provided herein.

**ARTICLE XIX**  
**CLOTHING AND EDUCATION**

**Section 1.**

The County of Union shall provide such rain protective clothing and safety gear as the County of Union deems necessary. The care and security of such protective clothing and/or safety gear shall be the responsibility of the employee to whom such rain protective clothing and/or safety gear is issued.

**Section 2.**

Each employee will receive a shoe and jacket allowance of \$250.00 per year which will be added to employees' base pay.

Each employee will receive an annual allowance of \$100.00 for a second pair of boots, which allowance shall be added to employees' base pay.

**Section 3.**

The County will provide each employee with 4 polo shirts, 1 tri-season jacket and, if requested, 1 set of coveralls. In addition, the County shall provide a clothing allowance of \$875. The clothing allowance shall be paid in a separate check in the first week of December of each year. The County will also continue to provide work gloves which shall be replaced on an as needed basis.

**Section 4.**

The County of Union agrees that it shall pay any fees required by a governmental authority for the licensing of an employee pursuant to law requiring the same in order for an employee to carry out his duties. It is the policy of the County that every supervisory employee endeavor to elevate their respective areas of expertise by participation in such educational opportunities as may be

available. To encourage such participation the County agrees to pay an education allowance to those employees who have been employed in a supervisory capacity for the entire year during which the education allowance is to be paid, to be used by such employees for the purpose of participating in job-related education opportunities. The aforesaid employee shall be obligated to attend such seminars or studies directed by the Department Head and the costs thereof shall be paid and satisfied out of the education allowance advanced by the County of Union.

## **ARTICLE XX**

### **PERSONAL BUSINESS AND RELIGIOUS LEAVE**

#### **Section 1.**

Employees who are employed less than one (1) year may be granted up to three (3) days of leave, without deduction of pay therefor, for personal business as hereinafter defined or for religious reasons in accordance with the schedule hereinafter set forth; employees who have been employed for more than one (1) year shall be granted three (3) days per year without reference to any schedule.

Requests for personal leave shall be directed to the Bureau Chief and/or Division Head and shall not be unreasonably denied.

The following schedule shall only apply to employees with less than one (1) year of employment:

- (a) One (1) day after four (4) months of employment.
- (b) One (1) additional day after eight (8) months of employment.
- (c) The third (3rd) day may be granted between the tenth (10th) and twelfth (12th) months of employment.

Section 2.

No personal leave shall be applied for, approved or granted immediately before or after any vacation period, holiday period or weekend, except under extraordinary circumstances.

Section 3.

Leave days, as provided herein, must be used in a one (1) year period and shall not be accumulated from year to year.

**ARTICLE XXI**

**ON THE JOB INJURY**

Section 1.

If an employee is injured or becomes ill arising out of and during the course of his employment the following procedure shall be applicable:

- A. The employee shall notify the Department Head and the Personnel Office of the work related injury or illness.
- B. If the County's Workmen's Compensation Insurance carrier does not dispute the causal relationship between the employment and the injury or illness the employee shall receive his full pay for up to the first one hundred eighty (180) calendar days if there was a injury which has been deliberately inflicted on the employee by any person or persons arising out of the employee's employment or for up to the first ninety (90) calendar days if the injury or illness arises out of the employee's employment when said injury is not one that has been inflicted by a third party. In either case no charge shall be made to the employee's sick leave accumulation provided, however, it is understood and agreed that when an employee receives a compensation check for temporary disability benefits, he or she shall turn over to the

County any checks received from the County's Workmen's Compensation Insurance carrier.

- C. After the first one hundred eighty (180) or ninety (90) calendar days from the date of the injury, or illness, as hereinabove defined, the employee shall have the option to retain his temporary disability Workmen's Compensation check and not receive any additional monies from the County and not have any charge made to his sick leave accumulation, or if the employee wishes to receive full pay and charge his sick leave accumulation he shall be permitted to do the same provided he turns over to the County any temporary disability check or checks received from the County's Workmen's Compensation Insurance carrier.
- D. Failure to turn over temporary disability checks shall cause employee's sick leave to be charged and shall further result in the County taking such disciplinary action as it deems appropriate to recover said monies.
- E. If any employee is absent from work for seven (7) days or less, arising out of an injury or illness, attributable to his employment so that the said employee is not entitled to receive temporary disability benefits the said employee shall not have any charge made against his sick leave accumulation so long as the employee substantially proves that his illness or injury arose out of his employment.

If an employee is required to go to the County's insurance company's doctor or medical center for treatment of a compensable injury during his regular scheduled shift, the attendance at the doctor's office or medical center during his regular scheduled shift shall not be charged to sick time provided that upon completion of the doctor's visit, the employee returns to work if there is still time remaining on the shift.

**ARTICLE XXII**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1.**

Effective July 1, 2020, bargaining unit employees shall be entitled to receive a meal allowance of \$13.50 provided they (a) worked three (3) hours overtime after their regular scheduled work day or (b) worked five (5) consecutive hours on a non-regular scheduled work day or (c) worked five (5) consecutive hours when called in for overtime and every five (5) hours thereafter.

Meal time for “scheduled” overtime shall also be provided. Scheduled overtime shall mean overtime for which an employee receives at least seven (7) days notice.

**Section 2.**

Discipline shall be for “Just Cause.” Records of discipline will not be used for purposes of further discipline after three (3) years of a clean record on the same issue. The County agrees that no employee shall be suspended for more than five (5) days prior to a departmental hearing unless the suspension is authorized by N.J.A.C. 4A:2-2.5.

**Section 3.**

Upon completion of fifteen (15) years of service with the County of Union, the Residency requirement shall be waived.

**Section 4.**

Supervisors shall be permitted the use of a County vehicle for portal-to-portal use only. Supervisors may take County Vehicles home. The County’s current policies regarding portal-to-portal vehicles shall apply at all times.

**ARTICLE XXIII**

**DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

Section 1.

This Agreement shall be in effect from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020.

Section 2.

The provisions of this aforementioned Agreement shall be conclusive for its duration as to all bargainable matters or issues unless the County Manager and the Union mutually agree to alter, amend, supplement, enlarge or modify any of its provisions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused the same to be executed by its  
respective officers or agents on this 19 day of October, 2021

WITNESSETH:

COUNTY OF UNION



Laura Scutari  
Director, Administrative Services

By: 

Edward Oatman  
County Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Kathryn V. Hatfield, Esq  
County Attorney

By: 

James Pelletiere  
Clerk of the Board

UNION COUNTY  
SUPERVISORS' ASSOCIATION:

By: 

David Falk  
President

By: 

Will Borders  
Vice President

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**  
**SALARY GUIDE**

Steps		1/1/2017	1/1/2018 (2.0%)	1/1/2019 (2.0%)	1/1/2020 (2.0%)
1		\$ 60,594.00	<del>\$ 61,805.88</del>	<del>\$ 63,042.00</del>	<del>\$ 64,302.84</del>
2		\$ 62,157.00	<del>\$ 63,400.14</del>	<del>\$ 64,668.14</del>	<del>\$ 65,961.51</del>
3		\$ 67,157.00	<del>\$ 68,500.14</del>	<del>\$ 69,870.14</del>	<del>\$ 71,267.55</del>
4	1	\$ 72,300.00	\$ 73,746.00	\$ 75,220.92	\$ 76,725.34
5	2	\$ 74,800.00	\$ 76,296.00	\$ 77,821.92	\$ 79,378.36
6	3	\$ 77,300.00	\$ 78,846.00	\$ 80,422.92	\$ 82,031.38
7	4	\$ 78,846.00	\$ 80,422.92	\$ 82,031.38	\$ 83,672.01
8	5	\$ 80,422.92	\$ 82,031.38	\$ 83,672.01	\$ 85,345.45
Foremen					
		\$ 86,454.64	\$ 88,183.73	\$ 89,947.41	\$ 91,746.35

1. Effective and retroactive to January 1, 2018: Salaries shall be increased by 2.0% across the board. Those employees on Steps 1 through 3 shall advance to Step 4. Those employees on Step 4 shall advance to Step 5. Those employees on Step 5 shall advance to Step 6. Those employees on Step 6 (current top step) shall advance to the new Step 7. The guide shall be reworked to make Step 4 the new Step 1 and Step 8 the new Step 5.
2. Effective and retroactive to January 1, 2019: Salaries shall be increased by 2.0% across the board; all employees shall advance one Step.
3. Effective and retroactive to January 1, 2020: Salaries shall be increased by 2.0% across the board; all employees shall advance one Step.
4. Effective September 1, 2020, employees shall advance on the salary guide on January 1 of each year.
5. No employee shall suffer a loss of pay by transferring to the new guide.

6. General Foremen shall receive a 2.0% increase effective and retroactive to January 1, 2018; January 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020.

7. The above guide does not include stipends or other additions except for the boot allowance set forth in Article XIX, Section 1.

8. Employees shall receive the remaining unpaid \$275 for clothing allowance for 2019.

9. For employees in the unit on or prior to 12/31/17, all increment dates will be amended to reflect a 1/1 date.

**EXHIBIT B**  
**INDIVIDUAL AGREEMENT**

**AGREEMENT**

**THIS AGREEMENT** made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009, by and between the **County of Union** (herein the “**County**”) and \_\_\_\_\_, (herein the “**Employee**”), with the approval and consent of **Union County Supervisor’s Association** (hereinafter the “**Union**”)

Insert Name of Individual Employee

**WHEREAS**, the County and Union are parties to a collective bargaining agreement (“CBA”) covering the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the Employee is a member of the Union County Supervisor’s Association bargaining unit covered by the CBA; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to obtain the agreement to enter into the CBA, the Union agreed to a zero percent increase to base pay for calendar years 2008 and 2010 and other agreements as more particularly set forth in the Memorandum of Agreement dated October 8, 2009, attached hereto as Appendix A (herein the “Memorandum”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Union and Employee only agreed to said zero percent increases based upon the assurances from the County and the Union that the retiree health insurance benefits set forth in the Memorandum were fully vested and would not be subsequently eliminated, modified or otherwise limited, except in accordance with the terms of said Memorandum; and

**WHEREAS**, all parties hereto acknowledge that the Employee has relied to his or her detriment upon the aforesaid assurances and that the elimination, modification or other limitation upon the bargained-for retiree health insurance benefits, except in accordance with the terms and

conditions of the Memorandum, would constitute immediate, irreparable and substantial harm to the Employee and his/her dependents; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and Union agree that the development of the guarantees set forth in this Agreement were bargained for in good faith within the meaning of the New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act, N.J.S.A. 34:13A-1 *et seq.* (herein the “Act”);

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual covenants, promises, and undertakings herein set forth the parties agree as follows:

**WITNESSETH:**

1. The County and the Union agree that the retiree health insurance benefits set forth in the Memorandum will not be changed except in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Memorandum.

2. The County and the Union agree that the retiree health insurance benefits set forth in the Memorandum may only be changed as to the Employee and his/her eligible dependents with the written consent of the Employee.

3. The County and the Union agree that any future collective bargaining agreement, sidebar agreement or other agreement or contract into which they may enter, whether written or oral, will be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the Memorandum of Agreement and that any provision of such future agreement which purports to change any terms or conditions of this Agreement shall be unenforceable as against the Employee and his/her dependents unless the Employee provides his/her written consent for such change(s).

4. The parties hereto agree that good and valuable consideration was provided for the covenants and guarantees set forth in this Agreement by all parties hereto and it is the intent of all such parties that this Agreement be fully enforceable according to its plain language which

all parties agree is to be construed in favor of the Employee and against the County and the Union.

5. This Agreement and its interpretation and performance shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Jersey without giving effect to its conflicts of law rules.

6. All parties are bound by this Agreement and each of its provisions. Anyone who succeeds to their rights and responsibilities, such as their successors and assigns, as well as the Employee's heirs and the executor of his/her estate, also are bound. This Agreement is made for the benefit of all the parties hereto and all who succeed to their rights and responsibilities, and expressly includes their officials, employees, agents, attorneys, successors and assigns.

7. This Agreement embodies the entire agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreement, representation or understanding, whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be modified except by written instrument executed by all the parties hereto.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK]

WHEREFORE THE PARTIES HERETO SET THEIR HANDS THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

**COUNTY OF UNION**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
George W. Devanney  
County Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST

**Supervisor's Association**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Wysocki  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_, Employee  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST