Notice of Public Meeting: Read by Executive Director Peter Lijoi: In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, at least 48 hours notice of this meeting was sent by way of the Secretary of State to the following newspapers: The Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Trentonian, The Courier Post, The Atlantic City Press, The Asbury Park Press, and the Bergen Record.

Roll Call: Michele Brown, Chair, Ana Montero, DCA Designee (present via teleconference), Tiffany Smith, DOL Designee (present via teleconference), Roger Cohen, Treasury Designee, Lewis Hurd, and Daniel Lindemann, Public Members (present via teleconference), and Patricia Roach, DAG.

Nicole Crifo, Governor’s Authorities Unit, was also present.

Approval of April 11, 2012 minutes: First motion by Lewis Hurd, and Second Ana Montero. Abstentions: Michele Brown, Roger Cohen, and Daniel Lindemann. Motion carried with a (3/0/3) vote.

New Business:

PROJECT: 2013 UEZ Authority Meeting Calendar
MOTION TO APPROVE: Lewis Hurd SECOND: Roger Cohen. Motion Carried with a (6/0/0) vote
AUTHORITY DISCUSSION: N/A

PROJECT: Adoption of Special Retention Emergency Rule
MOTION TO APPROVE: Ana Montero SECOND: Tiffany Smith. Motion Carried with a (6/0/0) vote

AUTHORITY DISCUSSION: Michele Brown asked Peter Lijoi to give a brief description the Emergency Rule. He explained that the reason for the Emergency Rule is due to the economic downturn and there are, at this time, approximately 500 businesses applying for UEZ recertification that have not been able to meet the job creation and/or 25% hiring requirements. Having this Emergency Rule in place will give the businesses the ability to re-set their baseline employment at the current hardship level. L. Hurd: What can the UEZ do to help the businesses met their goal? A. Montero: The UEZ can make these firms aware of the One Stop services available throughout the State also make them aware of the other business services available through
the Department of Labor. P. Lijoi: Noted that the inability to meet the 25% hiring requirements was due to the impact of layoffs and reductions in force. As the economy recovers and these firms begin rehiring this Emergency Rule does not relieve them of the 25% hiring requirements. P. Lijoi indicated that the UEZ would require firms requesting relief under this Rule to certify to compliance when executing their online application. D. Lindemann: He wanted to note for the record that he felt getting the commitments in writing is an excellent idea.

OLD BUSINESS:

OTHER: N/A

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Roberta Farber, Jersey City Coordinator asked if implementation of the Emergency Rule would reflect current employment numbers as the baseline number going forward. She also wanted to know if it’s true that the UEZ Certificates were only good for six months if they didn’t meet the Employment requirement. P. Lijoi: The certificates typically state that they are good for one year. Michele Brown indicated the UEZ would notify the firms of this fact. Roberta Farber also wanted to know what programs were available to small business impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Tiffany Smith from the Department of Labor made her aware of what was currently available through Labor. Roberta Farber noted that current SBA programs do not meet all the needs of small business impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Michele Brown noted that the needs of business including small firms were currently being analyzed and thanked her for the comment.

Jackie Belton, Pleasantville Coordinator asked how long the Emergency Rule will be in effect. P. Lijoi: The current three year recertification period, 2012, 2013 and 2014. She noted similar concerns as Ms. Farber regarding zone small businesses.
NEW JERSEY URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2013
EDA BOARDROOM, 2:00 P.M.
36 WEST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES

ADJOURNMENT:
MOTION TO ADJOURN: Roger Cohen  SECOND: Lewis Hurd. Motion Carried with a (6/0/0) vote

I, Lisa Migliaccio certify that the above are true and correct minutes taken at the December 18, 2012 Urban Enterprise Zone Authority Meeting.