



**GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014  
Woodbridge Hilton Iselin NJ at 11:00am**

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**MEETING OF THE GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:08 AM.**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL OF FUND COMMISSIONERS**

Jim Rodino – Chairman  
Mark Vannella  
Barbara Russo  
Ted Ehrenburg  
Brad Palatucci – Absent  
Tom Czerniecki - Absent  
Tim Dacey  
Hilary Hyser  
Theresa Casagrande  
Eleanor McGovern  
Peter Valesi  
John DiStefano  
Edward Forte - Absent  
John Barrett  
Paul Zarbetski  
Joan Hullings  
Quentin Wiest  
Jeff Filiatreault  
Michael Martello  
Laura Reinertsen  
Peter Kiriakatis  
Nancy Koblis  
Russ Jones  
Cesar Correa  
Marc Dashfield  
Tim Quinn  
Ann Cucci  
Doug Marvin  
Robert Lombard  
Paula Cozzarelli  
Pat Mizerek  
Joseph Wassel - Absent  
Kathleen Green



Mark Krane  
Mike Matheis

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF 3/19/14 MEETING**

**MOTION:** Commr. Matheis

**SECOND:** Commr. Filiatreault

**ABSTAIN:** Commr. Vannella, Ehrenburg , Dacey, Zarbetski, Dashield, Cucci,  
Matheis

### **▪ MEETING OF BOARD OF FUND COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER**

### **▪ ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

### **MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS**

- Resolution 17-14 – Approving Certain Disbursements totaling \$825,443.77

**MOTION:** Commr. Jones

**SECOND:** Commr. Matheis

**VOTE: ROLL CALL**

Jim Rodino – Chairman  
Mark Vannella  
Barbara Russo  
Ted Ehrenburg  
Brad Palatucci – Absent  
Tom Czerniecki - Absent  
Tim Dacey  
Hilary Hyser  
Theresa Casagrande  
Eleanor McGovern  
Peter Valesi  
John DiStefano  
Edward Forte - Absent  
John Barrett  
Paul Zarbetski  
Joan Hullings  
Quentin Wiest  
Jeff Filiatreault  
Michael Martello  
Laura Reinertsen  
Peter Kiriakatis  
Nancy Koblis  
Russ Jones  
Cesar Correa



Marc Dashield  
Tim Quinn  
Ann Cucci  
Doug Marvin  
Robert Lombard  
Paula Cozzarelli  
Pat Mizerek  
Joseph Wassel - Absent  
Kathleen Green  
Mark Krane  
Mike Matheis

- Resolution 18-14 - Approving Certain Disbursement Payments totaling \$2,002,067

**MOTION:** Commr. Filiatreault

**SECOND:** Commr. Dacey

**VOTE: ROLL CALL**

Jim Rodino – Chairman  
Mark Vannella  
Barbara Russo  
Ted Ehrenburg  
Brad Palatucci – Absent  
Tom Czerniecki - Absent  
Tim Dacey  
Hilary Hyser  
Theresa Casagrande  
Eleanor McGovern  
Peter Valesi  
John DiStefano  
Edward Forte - Absent  
John Barrett  
Paul Zarbetski  
Joan Hullings  
Quentin Wiest  
Jeff Filiatreault  
Michael Martello  
Laura Reinertsen  
Peter Kiriakatis  
Nancy Koblis  
Russ Jones  
Cesar Correa  
Marc Dashield  
Tim Quinn  
Ann Cucci  
Doug Marvin  
Robert Lombard  
Paula Cozzarelli  
Pat Mizerek



Joseph Wassel - Absent  
Kathleen Green  
Mark Krane  
Mike Matheis

- **Resolution 19-14** – Adopting Fund Position on use of Risk Management Professionals

**MOTION:** Commr. Krane  
**SECOND:** Commr. Matheis

**VOTE: ROLL CALL**

Jim Rodino – Chairman  
Mark Vannella  
Barbara Russo  
Ted Ehrenburg  
Brad Palatucci – Absent  
Tom Czerniecki - Absent  
Tim Dacey  
Hilary Hyser  
Theresa Casagrande  
Eleanor McGovern  
Peter Valesi  
John DiStefano  
Edward Forte - Absent  
John Barrett  
Paul Zarbetski  
Joan Hullings  
Quentin Wiest  
Jeff Filiatreault  
Michael Martello  
Laura Reinertsen  
Peter Kiriakatis  
Nancy Koblis  
Russ Jones  
Cesar Correa  
Marc Dashield  
Tim Quinn  
Ann Cucci  
Doug Marvin  
Robert Lombard  
Paula Cozzarelli  
Pat Mizerek  
Joseph Wassel - Absent  
Kathleen Green  
Mark Krane  
Mike Matheis



## **Executive Director – NIP Group - E. Miller**

- **Fast Track** - Mr. Miller Reviewed the Fast Track report and indicated that the overall surplus position is still holding at just over \$2 million.
- **Risk Management Consultants** – Mr. Miller reiterated the discussions from prior meetings regarding the importance of each member being represented by a NJ-licensed insurance professional in its interactions with the Fund in order to protect the mutual interests of all. He recommended that the Commissioners approve Resolution 19-14.
- **Supplemental Assessment-** Mr. Miller clarified that the Commissioners were not being asked to vote on the Supplemental Assessment, but that the plan was being presented for discussion purposes. Discussion ensued on the pros and cons of levying the assessment for the 2002-04 years vs. the 2002-06 years, the payoff terms and the timing of implementation. It was concluded that the Fund Administrator would prepare two assessment scenarios for the years in question and include three, five and seven year payback options. The plan will be presented to the Executive Committee after the May 21<sup>st</sup> Commissioners meeting for review. The Executive Committee will then make a final recommendation to the Fund Commissioners at the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **Claims Settlement Approvals** – Mr. Miller clarified the Fund claims approval process. If a claim is being settled within a member's self-insured retention the member may unilaterally approve such settlement. If the settlement involves any GSMJIF contribution (regardless of amount), it must be reviewed by the Claims Committee and approved by the Fund Commissioners.

## **Wellness, Safety and EPL Training – A. Ven Graitis, VP of Risk Control – Wellness, EPL and Safety & Wendy Wiebalk Litigation Manager**

(Walter Reibrich of PMA spoke in Anthony Ven Graitis absence)

- **In2vate Training – Update - W. Reibrich**  
Announcement went out advising of available training. Administrators are being registered on the system. Once registered, general safety, EPL, and Police professional training modules can be assigned to an unlimited amount of employees. Contact your loss control professional if you have any questions.
- **Safety First Initiate – Update – W. Reibrich**  
You and Ken probably have the first hand info on where members are at. Please follow up with pilot program members so you can provide a time table to other members on the roll out of the stickers and when the program will be running. You should have all vehicle lists at this point or be able to mention those that are still outstanding.
- **SERVE Training – Update – W. Reibrich**  
Announcement went out advising of available driver training for emergency responders (Police, Fire, EMS). Over 325 seats have been already assigned in 2014. Contact your loss control professional if you would like more information.
- **Biggest Loser Challenge – Update – W. Reibrich**  
Over 35 teams and 125 employees have signed up to date. Employees can continue to sign up at any time as the competition ends on July 15. Weight does not have to be shared when results are reported, maintaining confidentiality which has been raised as an issue.
- **New Jersey Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act – W. Wiebalk**



Wendy spoke about the NJPWFA, the amendment to NJLAD to include same, and the potential ramifications for employers.

### **Claims Update – Robert Persico Vice President Claims**

- **Claims Update – R. Persico**  
Bob advised NIP Claims Management Services hired a new Representative, Donna Garland who would be managing general liability, auto liability and some property claims. He also introduced a new APD Program, Direct Pay with the goals of preferred pricing, ease of service and overall greater efficiency. He then turned the presentation of the program highlights to Jim Renner.
  
- **Auto Physical Damage – Direct Payment Plan – R. Persico/J. Renner**  
Jim discussed the rollout of the program which will allow each town to select their own repair shop(s) to repair their damaged vehicles. NIP will issue payments for repair costs directly to these shops instead of to the township. This will take a step out of the process which will get payments to the shops quicker which should get the township vehicles repaired and back on the road sooner. The shops will send their estimates to our appraisal vendor, Ace, who will come to an “agreed price” with the shop for the repairs. These agreed prices are generally lower than the original estimates which should result in a cost savings to the townships.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Patrick DeBlasio**

Mr. DeBlasio reviewed the monthly treasurer’s report and cash management account and advised that the Fund has met all outstanding obligations and its financial position is secure.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(B), TO DISCUSS PENDING OR ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (CLAIMS)**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CLAIMS**

**MOTION:** Commr. Correa  
**SECOND:** Commr. Martello  
**VOTE:** Unanimous

**ADJOURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

**MOTION TO APPROVE CLAIMS**

**MOTION:** Commr. Lombard  
**SECOND:** Commr. Martello  
**VOTE:** Unanimous

**Claims:**

**Union Township Lia. Claim - Granted Settlement Authority**



**Morris Township – WC Claim – Granted Settlement Authority**  
**Livingston Township – WC Claim – Granted Settlement**  
**Township of West Orange – AL Claim – Granted Settlement**

**MOTION:** Commr. Ehrenburg  
**SECOND:** Commr. Cucci

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Ehrenburg suggested how all should take the opportunity to have an outside representative review and write/rewrite and/or review policies and procedures since most might be outdated and townships might be at risk to suffer a monetary loss due to its inadequate and/or outdated information.

**OPEN FORUM**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Commissioner Valesi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:52AM and Commissioner Filiatreault seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Prepared by E. Miller.

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Earl Miller

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James Rodino

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Earl Miller – NIP  
Madeline Delgado – NIP  
Steve Edwards – BGIA  
Robert Persico – NIP  
James Renner – NIP  
Jonathan Hall – NIP  
Anthony Ven Graitis – NIP  
Robert Smith – NIP  
Wendy Wiebalk – NIP  
Brian Erlandsen – BGIA  
George Crosby - BGIA  
Francis Kelly – NIP  
Dominick Cinelli – Brown & Brown

Sanders Reynoso – Strategic Insurance Partners  
Lisa O’Neil – Caldwell



Mario BiFalco – Caldwell  
Fred Arnold – Caldwell  
Sonia Brown – North Brunswick  
Patrick DeBlasio - Treasurer  
BettyAnne Stinchcomb – New Providence  
Mike Lovett – Warren Township  
Thea Isabella – First MCO  
John Geaney – Capehart  
Cynthia Lisa – Danskin  
Ken Child – PMAMC  
Mark Boyles – PMAMC  
LaTonya Jackson – GR Murray  
Walter Reibrich – PMA  
Karen Carman – Morris Township  
Doug Borden – Borden Perlman  
Ilene Laursen – Conner Strong  
Larry Graham – Fairview Insurance  
Judith Cannon – Qual-Lynx  
Alice Lihou – Qual-Lynx  
Michael Martello – Town of Kearny  
George Littler – AGA  
Joanna Brewster – Ewing Township  
David Balken – Balken Risk  
Jessica Sheehy – Linden  
Glenn Jacobs – Fairview Insurance