



**GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND
MEETING MINUTES**

December 10th, 2014

The Hotel Woodbridge at Metro Park, Iselin NJ in the Sunset Room at 11:00am

MEETING OF THE GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:02 AM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jim Rodino
Chris Reid - Absent
Barbara Russo
Ted Ehrenburg
Lisa O'Neill
Chris Muraglia - Absent
Tim Dacey - Absent
Joanna Mustafa
Theresa Casagrande
Eleanor McGovern
Peter Valesi
Michael Calaguero
Edward Forte - Absent
Lou Guarino
Paul Zarbetski
Scott Luthman
Quentin Wiest
Jeff Filiatreault
Michael Martello - Absent
Laura Reinertsen
Greg Whitehead
Nancy Koblis
Russ Jones
Cesar Correa
Tim Stafford - Absent
Tim Quinn
Doug Marvin
Robert Lombard
Paula Cozzarelli
Frank Ruggiero
Joseph Wassel - Absent
Karen Caulfield
Mark Krane
Mike Matheis



APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF 11/12/14 MEETING

MOTION: Commr. Matheis

SECOND: Commr. Lombard

ABSTAIN: Commr. Correa; Zarbetski; Reinertsen; Ruggiero

MEETING OF BOARD OF FUND COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER

- Fund Chairman J. Rodino has called Claims Executive Session to be first on agenda, since Mr. J. Geaney Litigation Consultant had to depart meeting early.

▪ ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS

- **Resolution 36-14 – Approving Certain Disbursements totaling \$ \$306,977.23and;**
- **Resolution 37-14 – Approving Claims Payments totaling \$1,264,712.**

MOTION: Commr. Correa

SECOND: Commr. Filiatreault

ABSTAIN:

VOTE: ROLL CALL

Jim Rodino
Chris Reid - Absent
Barbara Russo
Ted Ehrenburg
Lisa O'Neill
Chris Muraglia - Absent
Tim Dacey - Absent
Joanna Mustafa
Theresa Casagrande
Eleanor McGovern
Peter Valesi
Michael Calaguero
Edward Forte - Absent
Lou Guarino
Paul Zarbetski
Scott Luthman
Quentin Wiest
Jeff Filiatreault
Michael Martello - Absent
Laura Reinertsen
Greg Whitehead
Nancy Koblis
Russ Jones
Cesar Correa



Tim Stafford - Absent
Tim Quinn
Doug Marvin
Robert Lombard
Paula Cozzarelli
Frank Ruggiero
Joseph Wassel - Absent
Karen Caulfield
Mark Krane
Mike Matheis

Executive Director – NIP Group - E. Miller

- **Financial Fast Track** –The December Fast Track has not been completed because of the earlier than usual meeting date.
- **Final 2015 Assessment Budget** –Mr. Miller reviewed the final 2015 assessment budget, noting that the effective overall increase was 2.0%, with the majority of that change resulting from increases in member exposure levels.
- **2015 Service Provider RFQ's** – Mr. Miller indicated that the Executive Committee met to review the responses to the 2015 RFQ's and have recommended contract renewal for all incumbent service providers.
- **2015 Indemnity & Trust Agreements** –We have received some I & T's, - 1/3 of the group is renewing so far. Currently, we have received four and ask that those remaining members who have not submitted to please do so as soon as possible.
- **Meeting Venues** – After seeking bids from other venues to have our GSMJIF monthly meetings, we have decided to continue having the meetings at our current locations, Hotel Woodbridge at Metro Park, Iselin and The Crowne Plaza in Monroe. Some are not entirely satisfied with Crowne Plaza, however, it is the most convenient to southern members and has kept the cost low. We will have three meetings in 2015 at this location.
- **Prospects (J. Hall)** –The Administrator's office has released quotes to four prospects: Cinnaminson Township, Freehold Borough, Borough of South River, and Township of Teaneck.
- **Member Renewals (J. Hall)** –The Administrator's office has received Resolutions to Renew and Indemnity and Trust Agreement from three of the 13 renewing members. The Administrator's office encourages renewing members to submit their Resolutions and Agreements as soon as they are approved by the respective Governing Bodies.

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

- **Police Committee/Training - A. Ven Graitis** – Verbal De-escalation and Handcuff Restraint training is being finalized for an early 2015 rollout. 6 or more classes will be scheduled, likely starting in February, and will be available to all member police departments.
- **Wellness: “What’s on your Plate” - A. Ven Graitis** – What’s on your Plate challenge is ongoing despite low participation rates due to the holidays and also due to the more complex reporting and tracking procedures.



- **2015 Initiatives – A. Ven Graitis** – Initiatives include on-line training classes, police professional training, supervisory training, additional fleet loss control programs including a general defensive driver training class and options for emergency responders. Roundtables for each major department will also be supported and held throughout the year.
- **Overview of EPL Survey Results – W. Wiebalk**- Wendy thanked the members for their participation and will put something together regarding the results for January 2015 meeting.

Claims Update – Robert Persico Vice President Claims

- **Success in Recovery - R. Persico** – Bob presented an overview of a case where the claimant attorney refused to pay our workers compensation lien in full on the premise the third party settlement was for pain and suffering not medical benefits. The GSMJIF disagreed with such a faulty premise and after the Judge of Workers Compensation refused to rule on the case the GSMJIF filed for relief in the NJ Superior Court.

The GSMJIF prevailed in Superior Court and the full lien will be paid but the plaintiff also has taken an appeal. While unpublished this case provides the GSMJIF with support when seeking recovery of our full lien in other workers compensation cases.

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. Jones
VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION TO APPROVE CLAIMS

MOTION: Commr. Ehrenburg
SECOND: Commr. Correa
VOTE: Unanimous



Claims:

**Montclair Township WC Claim- Granted Settlement Authority
Town of Harrison – WC Claim – Granted Settlement
Montclair Township – WC Claim – Granted Settlement
Ewing Township – WC Claim – Granted Settlement**

MOTION: Commr. Dacey
SECOND: Commr. Cozzarelli

NEW BUSINESS

OPEN FORUM

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Commissioner Rodino made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:55PM and Commissioner Stinchcomb seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Prepared by E. Miller.

Earl Miller

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 – BGIA
Patrick DeBlasio – Treasurer
Michael O’Connell – PQA
Walt Reibrich – PMA
Sonia Brown – North Brunswick
Betty Ann Stinchcomb – New Providence
Karen Caulfield – Township of Union
Cindy Lisa – Danskin



Charles Casagrande – Danskin
John Bussiculo – Berkeley Heights
Scott Luthman – Highland Park
Ken Child – PMAMC
Fred Arnold – Caldwell
Michael Calaguiro – Guttenberg
Judith Cannon – Qual-Lynx
David Weightman – PMAMC
Mark Boyles – PMAMC
Dom Cinelli – Brown & Brown Metro
LaTonya Jackson – GR Murray
Doug Borden – Borden Perlman
Walter Reibrich – PMA
Greg Whitehead – Lawrence Township
Mike Lovett – Warren Township
Glenn Jacobs – Fairview Insurance
Ed Vath - PMA
Larry Graham – Fairview
Lou Beckerman – Beckerman & Co.