



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

**April 29<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**Crowne Plaza Monroe Township, NJ at 11:00am**

---

---

**MEETING OF THE GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:06 AM.**

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

- **MEETING OF BOARD OF FUND COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL OF FUND COMMISSIONERS—**

Jim Rodino  
Chris Reid - Absent  
Barbara Russo - Absent  
Ted Ehrenburg - Absent  
Lisa O'Neill  
Michael P. King - Absent  
Chris Muraglia – Absent  
Tim Dacey  
Hilary Hyser - Absent  
Theresa Casagrande  
Fred Tompkins  
Peter Valesi  
Joseph B. Bellina  
Mayor G. Drasheff - Absent  
Edward Forte - Absent  
Lou Guarino  
Paul Zarbetski - Absent  
Scott Luthman  
Quentin Wiest  
Louis Palazzo  
Michael Martello - Absent  
Laura Reinertsen  
Greg Whitehead  
Nancy Koblis  
Russ Jones  
Tim Stafford  
Tim Quinn - Absent  
Michael Rogers - Absent  
Doug Marvin  
Sonia Brown  
Paula Cozzarelli – Absent  
Frank Ruggiero - Absent



Joseph Wassel – Absent  
Karen Caulfield  
Mark Krane  
Mike Matheis

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF 3/25/15 MEETING**

**MOTION:** Commr. Dacey

**SECOND:** Commr. Valesi

**ABSTAIN:** Commr. Casagrande, Stafford, Bellina, Matheis, O’Neill

## **▪ ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

### **MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS**

- **Resolution 14-15 – Approving Certain Disbursements totaling \$1,277,858.24**
- **Resolution 15-15 – Approving Claims Payments totaling \$1,677,812**

**MOTION:** Commr. Matheis

**SECOND:** Commr. Jones

**VOTE: ROLL CALL**

Jim Rodino  
Chris Reid - Absent  
Barbara Russo - Absent  
Ted Ehrenburg - Absent  
Lisa O’Neill  
Michael P. King - Absent  
Chris Muraglia – Absent  
Tim Dacey  
Hilary Hyser - Absent  
Theresa Casagrande  
Fred Tompkins  
Peter Valesi  
Joseph B. Bellina  
Mayor G. Drasheff - Absent  
Edward Forte - Absent  
Lou Guarino  
Paul Zarbetski - Absent  
Scott Luthman  
Quentin Wiest  
Louis Palazzo  
Michael Martello - Absent  
Laura Reinertsen  
Greg Whitehead  
Nancy Koblis



Russ Jones  
Tim Stafford  
Tim Quinn - Absent  
Michael Rogers - Absent  
Doug Marvin  
Sonia Brown  
Paula Cozzarelli – Absent  
Frank Ruggiero - Absent  
Joseph Wassel – Absent  
Karen Caulfield  
Mark Krane  
Mike Matheis

- **Resolution 16-15 – Approving Appointing Approved Counsel**

**MOTION:** Commr. Wiest  
**SECOND:** Commr. Dacey  
**ABSTAIN:** Commr. Bellina

## **REPORTS**

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

- Assessment Payments – E. Miller – Mr. Miller asked members to please make every effort in making their assessment payments on time, since excess insurance payments are due to the carriers early in the year.
- Supplemental Assessments and Dividends - E. Miller/J. Hall - Mr. Miller advised that the revised Actuarial report has finally come in and that the current Fast Track reflects the actuary's reserve recommendations. We will seek to have estimates of supplemental assessments/dividends for members by the next meeting.
- Fast Track Report - Mr. Hall discussed the Fast Track report, the performance of the 2014 Fund Year, and claims development between the 12/31/13 and 12/31/14 actuarial analyses.
- Workers Compensation Payroll Audits – Mr. Hall reminded the membership that Payroll Self-Audit forms were due to the Administrator's office by March 31. Chairman Rodino suggested the Administrator's office provide training for members and Risk Managers in payroll audit practices. The Underwriting department will be developing a webinar for the members' and risk managers' use.
- Property Inspections/Valuations -Mr. Hall reminded the membership that special attention should be paid to property valuations in conjunction with the 2016 member renewal process, to begin this summer. The Underwriting department will point out any locations that appear to be over or undervalued and will work with the Risk Managers to correct any discrepancies.



## Wellness, Safety and EPL Training – A. Ven Graitis – Wellness

- **Fleet Loss Control Program – A. Ven Graitis** Fleet loss control must remain a priority to all members due to the potential for catastrophic loss. SERVE emergency responder training, In2vate on line driver training, and in person driver training is available from the Risk Control. We will also be issuing a sample fleet loss control program prior to the next meeting which will include MVR checks, CDL requirements, vehicle maintenance and inspection, etc. With recent events affecting our members, MVR checks are now a priority and must be performed by all members for all employees driving on municipal business. The sample Fleet policy will assist with member efforts.
- **On-line Training – A. Ven Graitis** Members continue to better utilize the In2vate training platform. Every member should now have an administrator signed up to assign and track training. Risk control will be happy to administer the program for any town but members must take the initiative to take advantage of this training.
- **Wellness – A. Ven Graitis** - Workout 2 Win is now complete. Results will be presented at the next meeting. Over 200 employees broken out into 50 teams participated and made this challenge a success. We next plan on holding a 5K walk/run on July 25<sup>th</sup> in North Brunswick. This event will count as a challenge for the WIP. Details will be provided in the near term.
- **Loss Trends – A. Ven Graitis** PMA now has a program to compare member loss data and to provide comprehensive reports. NIP will be rolling out a similar program in the near term. We ask that members consider what loss control reports will benefit you at Safety Committee Meetings and advise Risk Control. We intend to simplify the Stewardship report and rather supply reports for SCM's and provide a high level summary document annually.

## PRESENTATION

- **David Smith of Princeton Public Affairs** - Overview of NJ Legislative Impact and Bills of Interest to the GSMJIF - David Smith from the Princeton Public Affairs Group provided an overview of services provided to the GSMJIF which included legislation introduction analysis and communications to the JIF, committee agenda monitoring and lobbying, full Assembly and Senate Voting session monitoring and lobbying and regulatory assistance with the Department of Banking and Insurance when needed.

## Claims Update

- **Supreme Court Case Aguas vs. State of New Jersey** (W. Wiebalk & Conrad Cyriax) - Wendy spoke about the Aguas v. State NJ Supreme Court case, which requires plaintiffs to report EPL claims before suing or to risk having their claims dismissed.
- **Workers Compensation Notice – Secondhand Cigarette Smoke a Compensable occupational Exposure if Filed Timely – Robert Persico** – Bob gave a presentation on the case of Pulejo vs. Middlesex County Consumer Affairs, where a 21 year employee allegedly contracted cancer as a result of exposure to secondhand cigarette smoke while in the workplace. In January 2001, due to the cancer, the employee had a section of his lung removed. He advised the physicians in 2001 it was exposure to secondhand smoke that he believed caused the cancer.



Thus he knew in January of 2001 the exposure to secondhand cigarette smoke resulted in his lung cancer. The Honorable Judge Wojtenko on February 11, issued a decision finding the exposure to the secondhand cigarette smoke while employed did contribute to his lung cancer or aggravated his pre-existing pulmonary disease. However the employee failed to comply with the two year statute of limitations to file his petition and the claim was dismissed. Since the employee realized in January of 2001 the secondhand cigarette smoke caused his cancer his petition should have been filed by January of 2003. In this instance the petition was filed in 2010 some 7 years later.

**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. Dacey  
**SECOND:** Commr. Matheis  
**VOTE:** Unanimous

**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CLAIMS**

**ADJOURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

**MOTION TO APPROVE CLAIMS**

**MOTION:** Commr. Matheis  
**SECOND:** Commr. Dacey  
**VOTE:** Unanimous

**Claims: April**

**Union Township Liability Claim - Granted Settlement Authority**  
**Borough of New Providence WC Claim - Granted Settlement Authority**  
**Highland Park Borough Liability Claim - Granted Settlement Authority**

**MOTION:** Commr. Matheis  
**SECOND:** Commr. Rodino



## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **OPEN FORUM**

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Commissioner Rodino made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:15PM and Commissioner Guarino seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Prepared by E. Miller.

---

Earl Miller

---

James Rodino

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Earl Miller – NIP  
Madeline Delgado – NIP  
David Springer – NIP  
Robert Persico – NIP  
Jonathan Hall – NIP  
Anthony Ven Graitis – NIP  
Conrad Cyriax - NIP  
Robert Smith – NIP  
Wendy Wiebalk – NIP  
Steve Edwards – BGIA  
George Crosby – BGIA  
Brian Erlandsen – BGIA  
Karen Caulfield – Twp of Union  
John Geaney – Capehart Scatchard  
Frank Kelly – BGIA  
Larry Graham – Fairview Insurance  
Mark Boyles – PMAMC  
Ilene Laursen – Conner Strong  
Fred Arnold – Caldwell  
John M. Hanuscin – Fairways Insurance  
Ken Child – PMA  
Ed Vath - PMA  
Renee Nelms – Qual-lynx  
Dominick Cinelli – Brown & Brown  
Ray Vaughn – AGA  
James Renner – NIP  
Anthony Amadeo – NIP  
Lou Beckerman – Beckerman & Co.  
Eugene Chin - Fanwood  
Dave Smith – Princeton Public Affairs



Sonia Brown – Twp. North Brunswick  
Patrick DeBalsio – Treasurer  
Michael O’Connell – Pringle, Quinn, Anzano