



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

December 20, 2023

**FOR ALL MEMBERS & Presenters - APA Hotel Woodbridge Iselin NJ 08830 Ballroom
for MEMBERS**

For all other attendees -Via – MS Teams

Public or those w/o team capabilities - 609-246-5765; PASSCODE 857 132 312#

**THE MEETING OF THE GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND WAS
CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:09 AM.**

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF FUND COMMISSIONERS:

Aberdeen, Township of – E. Walker
Berkeley Township – Absent
Berkeley Heights, Township of – Absent
Bound Brook, Borough of – Absent
Bloomfield, Township of – Absent
Caldwell, Borough of – Absent
Cinnaminson Township – Absent
Eastampton, Township of – Absent
Englewood, City of – J. Birkner
Ewing Township – Absent
Fanwood, Borough of – R. Harris
Freehold Borough – Absent
Town of Guttenberg – C. Cirillo
Hamilton, Township of – Absent
Harrison, Town of – Absent
Highland Park, Borough of – T. Jover
Hoboken, City of – Absent
Holmdel Township – J. Delaney
Howell Township – L. Palazzo
Jamesburg, Borough of – Absent
Kearny, Town of – S. Marks
Kenilworth, Borough of – Absent
Lawrence, Township of – G. Whitehead
Linden, City of – W. Hasko
Livingston, Township of – Absent
Monroe Township – D. Racioppi
Montclair Township – Absent



Morris Township of – T. Quinn
Morristown, Town of – Absent
Neptune, Township of – M. Bascom
New Providence, Borough of – B. Cuccaro
North Brunswick, Township of – Absent
North Bergen, Township of – Absent
North Plainfield, Borough of – W. Speck
Parsippany-Troy Hills, Township of – Absent
Rahway, City of – Absent
Roselle Park, Borough of – A. Casais
Roxbury, Township of – Absent
Union Township – K. Caulfield
Warren, Township of – M. Krane
West Orange Township – Absent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 11/20/2023 MEETING

MOTION: Commr. Palazzo
SECOND: Commr. Jover
ABSTAIN: Commr. Marks; Casais

MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CLAIMS

MOTION: Commr. Hasko
SECOND: Commr. Casais
VOTE: Unanimous, by voice

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CLAIMS COMMITTEE REPORT

In accordance with Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the public body is in Executive Session, as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - Claims – Requests for Settlement Authority

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Commr. Marks
SECOND: Commr. Quinn
VOTE: Unanimous, by voice



APPROVAL REQUESTS FOR SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

- Approval of Claims Committee Report and Requests for Settlement Authority
 - Berkeley Township – GL/Auto BI - Granted Settlement Authority
 - Hamilton Township – WC - Granted Settlement Authority
 - Howell Township– WC – Granted Settlement Authority
 - Town of Kearny – WC– Granted Settlement Authority
 - Township of Montclair – GL/BI - Granted Settlement Authority
 - Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills – PI/GL - Granted Settlement Authority
 - Union Township – WC - Granted Settlement Authority

ADJOURN INTO PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION: Commr. Marks
SECOND: Commr. Quinn
VOTE: Unanimous, by voice

Aberdeen, Township of – E. Walker
Berkeley Township – Absent
Berkeley Heights, Township of – Absent
Bound Brook, Borough of – Absent
Bloomfield, Township of – Absent
Caldwell, Borough of – Absent
Cinnaminson Township – Absent
Eastampton, Township of – Absent
Englewood, City of – J. Birkner
Ewing Township – Absent
Fanwood, Borough of – R. Harris
Freehold Borough – Absent
Town of Guttenberg – C. Cirillo
Hamilton, Township of – Absent
Harrison, Town of – Absent
Highland Park, Borough of – T. Jover
Hoboken, City of – Absent
Holmdel Township – J. Delaney
Howell Township – L. Palazzo
Jamesburg, Borough of – Absent
Kearny, Town of – S. Marks
Kenilworth, Borough of – Absent
Lawrence, Township of – G. Whitehead
Linden, City of – W. Hasko
Livingston, Township of – Absent
Monroe Township – D. Racioppi



Montclair Township – Absent
Morris Township of – T. Quinn
Morristown, Town of – Absent
Neptune, Township of – M. Bascom
New Providence, Borough of – B. Cuccaro
North Brunswick, Township of – Absent
North Bergen, Township of – Absent
North Plainfield, Borough of – W. Speck
Parsippany-Troy Hills, Township of – Absent
Rahway, City of – Absent
Roselle Park, Borough of – A. Casais
Roxbury, Township of – Absent
Union Township – K. Caulfield
Warren, Township of – M. Krane
West Orange Township – Absent

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS & CLAIMS REPORT

- **Resolution 40-23** – Approving Certain Disbursements \$4,653,193.20
 - **Resolution 41-23** – Approving Claims Payments \$6,685,677
- **Claims Report and Requests for Settlement Authority**

MOTION: Commr. Marks

SECOND: Commr. Quinn

ABSTAIN: Commr.

VOTE: **ROLL CALL:**

Aberdeen, Township of – E. Walker
Berkeley Township – Absent
Berkeley Heights, Township of – Absent
Bound Brook, Borough of – Absent
Bloomfield, Township of – Absent
Caldwell, Borough of – Absent
Cinnaminson Township – Absent
Eastampton, Township of – Absent
Englewood, City of – J. Birkner
Ewing Township – Absent
Fanwood, Borough of – R. Harris
Freehold Borough – Absent
Town of Guttenberg – C. Cirillo
Hamilton, Township of – Absent
Harrison, Town of – Absent



Highland Park, Borough of – T. Jover
Hoboken, City of – Absent
Holmdel Township – J. Delaney
Howell Township – L. Palazzo
Jamesburg, Borough of – Absent
Kearny, Town of – S. Marks
Kenilworth, Borough of – Absent
Lawrence, Township of – G. Whitehead
Linden, City of – W. Hasko
Livingston, Township of – Absent
Monroe Township – D. Racioppi
Montclair Township – Absent
Morris Township of – T. Quinn
Morristown, Town of – Absent
Neptune, Township of – M. Bascom
New Providence, Borough of – B. Cuccaro
North Brunswick, Township of – Absent
North Bergen, Township of – Absent
North Plainfield, Borough of – W. Speck
Parsippany-Troy Hills, Township of – Absent
Rahway, City of – Absent
Roselle Park, Borough of – A. Casais
Roxbury, Township of – Absent
Union Township – K. Caulfield
Warren, Township of – M. Krane
West Orange Township – Absent

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – J. Hall (NIP Management Services)

- **Indemnity & Trust Agreements** – The Administrator’s office requests that renewing members please return the Resolutions to Rejoin as soon as they are passed by your governing bodies and executed accordingly.
- **Risk Manager Agreements** – The Administrator’s office requests that all Risk Managers please return fully executed copies of your Risk Management Consultant Agreements. As a reminder, service providers cannot receive payment from the Fund without a signed agreement authorizing the expense.
- **2024 Budget** – Mr. Hall presented the updated 2024 Draft Budget. There were no questions.

TREASURER’S REPORT – P. DeBlasio

- **Treasury Report as of November 30, 2023** – All Bills have been paid and our cash balance is secure.

UNDERWRITING REPORT – R. Smith (NIP Management Services)



- **Outstanding Items** – All outstanding items are due ASAP. Missing items will result in a lapse in coverage.
- **Insurance Placement Update** – All major lines have been bound, we are working on closing out all the ancillary lines now as well. BGIA will report on the renewal at the February meeting.
- **Prospects** – We reviewed numerous prospects, and pursued several opportunities but at this time, no new members will be joining the fund.

RISK CONTROL REPORT (Anthony Ven Graitis)

Safety Recap:

- **Snowplow Rodeo** - Thank you to Township of Union for hosting the 6th Annual Snowplow Rodeo. A great event was held with over 40 professional drivers testing their skills, steering through an obstacle course of left and right turns, maneuvering around parked cars and moving through a serpentine series of cones, while timed for speed, safe driving and judged for effectively pushing the snow (markers must be moved) while avoiding parked cars and other obstacles. A CDL and non-CDL driver category was used based on the vehicles driven. Winners in the CDL Category were: 1st Place, Gary Gordon of Monroe Township, 2nd Place, Richard Reinitz of Monroe Township and 3rd Place, Ryan Mangan of Lawrence Township. Winners of the Non-CDL Category were: 1st Place, Ibrahim Elbanna of Union Township, 2nd Place, Joe Reid of Monroe Township and 3rd Place, Paul Pawlowski of Monroe Township. Congratulations to all the drivers but especially these six who placed, as they truly demonstrated their professionalism and driving skills.
- **Winter Weather** - driving with very limited snow events in the past two years, risk control is reminding all drivers to be mindful of possible inclement weather in the upcoming weeks. Online Defensive Driving-Reducing Weather Accidents, is available to any interested drivers. Drivers should consider watching the weather before driving, slow down in inclement weather, increase spacing - 8 to 10 sec, check tires, check wipers and fluid, clean exterior of snow/ice, steer in the direction of a skid, don't overcorrect, and accelerate and decelerate slowly.
- **Unregulated Private Police Training** - The Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) issued a report on 12/6/23 on unregulated private police training. Post-academy police training in NJ is not regulated. A six-day conference in October 2021 was referenced, where the report states that unconstitutional policing tactics for motor vehicle stops were promoted, training glorified violence, and training included over 100 discriminatory and harassing remarks. Risk Control asks all members to consider retraining participants of this training, and to use only well-known trainers and curriculum promoted by Risk Control.
- **Sexual Abuse and Molestation Best Practices** - Critical allegations were recently made against a GSMJIF Member. Risk control is asking every member to review hiring and training policies and procedures. Any employees working with the vulnerable, elderly or youth must have comprehensive background checks made. Risk Control has training and resources available.



CLAIMS MANAGEMENT REPORT – R. Persico (NIP Management Services)

- **Claims KPI Report November 2023** – Bob Persico presented the claims KPI report for November 2023. The presentation consisted of claim counts, new claims by year, closed claims count, closed incurred amounts, a historical look at pending claims and subrogation for the month and year to date.

NEW BUSINESS

OPEN FORUM

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Commissioner Marks made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 PM and Commissioner Palazzo seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Prepared by M. Delgado

M. Delgado

J. Hall

ALSO, PRESENT – In-Person (sign in sheet) & confirmed via MS Teams date & time and length of attendance (attendance longer than 40 minutes)

IN-PERSON

- K. Mitchell
- J. Brown
- M. Delgado
- S. Oppegard
- S. Edwards
- L. Hamm
- K. Larkin
- P. DeBlasio
- J. Hall
- M. O’Connell
- R. Nelms
- R. Persico



L. Gallo
R. Smith
S. Stroher
J. Aspen
J. Cottell
M. McArow
L. Klein
A. Ven Graitis
D. Springer

Via MS Teams for more than 40 minutes

A. Pieroni
D. Voda
D. Weightman
E. Mannion
J. McManimon
J. Hanuscin
J. Hall
J. Kerlin
K. Walters
K. Boffa
K. Connor
L. Brennan
M. Liggett
P. Archangeli
R. Aldulaimi
R. Smith
R. Racioppi
R. Hope
S. Daveggia
W. Robinson
W. Ring
XXX-XXX-1400