



**NEW JERSEY  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
INSURANCE FUND**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024**

**Meeting via Zoom Video Conference  
10:00am - Open Session  
Closed Session Immediately Following**

**Agenda and Reports**

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**AGENDA**

Meeting Called to Order – *10:00am* – Open Public Meetings Act Read

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN BY (1) SENDING SUFFICIENT NOTICE HEREWITH TO STAR-LEDGER, (2) POSTING ON THE NJIIF WEBSITE, (3) FILING ADVANCE WRITTEN NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WITH THE CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR OF EACH MEMBER MUNICIPALITY AND (4) POSTING A COPY OF THE MEETING NOTICE ON THE PUBLIC BULLETIN BOARD OF ALL MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES.

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Roll Call of Executive Committee and Professionals for Open Session
2. Approval of Executive Board Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2024
  - Motion to approve minutes of Executive Board Meeting – February 28, 2024
3. Correspondence
4. Finance Report- (Robert Calise)
5. Chairman’s Report
6. Committee Reports
  - a. Nominating (McNamara)
  - b. By-Laws (Carroll)
  - c. Legislative (Carroll)
  - d. Coverage (Konopada)
  - e. Professionals/Management Oversight (Tucci)
    - Introduction of and Motion to approve Resolution NJIIF-P-2024-022, Appointment of Additional Panel Defense Counsel for Workers Compensation Matters for 2024 (Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer)

- f. Budget/Finance (McNamara)
  - g. Safety/Risk Management (Lazorisak)
  - h. New Member & Development (Chumacas)
7. Risk Manager's Report (John Serapiglia, Polaris Galaxy)
  8. Director of Marketing Report (Al Barlas)
  9. Loss Control Consultant's Report (Tim Weir, PMA)
  10. TPA Report (Jennifer Signs, PMA)
    - Motion to approve all Professionals' Reports
  11. Bill List (Robert Calise)
    - Motion to approve Bill List
  12. Old Business
  13. New Business
  14. Public Comment

IN ORDER TO DISCUSS MATTERS INVOLVING LITIGATION OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION OR CONTRACT MATTERS, AND IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, THE NJIIF EXECUTIVE BOARD IS AUTHORIZED TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(B)(7) OF THE NJ OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, ET SEQ). MINUTES SHALL BE TAKEN DURING THIS CLOSED SESSION AND ONCE THE NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY NO LONGER EXISTS WITH REGARD TO EACH MATTER, THE APPLICABLE MINUTES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

- Motion to move into Closed Session (Closed Session to be convened immediately following the suspension of Open Session, via separate Zoom video conference link)
15. *Closed Session – (Eric Nemeth, Esq., Eric J. Nemeth, PC) – Closed Session Matters*
    - Motion to approve minutes of Closed Session from February 28, 2024 Executive Board Meeting
    - Motion to accept Workers Compensation and Multi-Line claims recommendations, and General Counsel's report as presented.
    - Motion to return to Open Session.
    - Motion to approve all actions recommended in Closed Session.
  16. Adjournment



NEW JERSEY  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
INSURANCE FUND

*The Executive Board*

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## ***MINUTES***

Executive Board Meeting of February 28, 2024



## **THE NEW JERSEY INTERGOVERNMENTAL INSURANCE FUND MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**February 28, 2024**

Call to Order: A meeting of the New Jersey Intergovernmental Insurance Fund was called to order on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 10:02 a.m. via Zoom (video and telephonic) conference. Chairman Tucci read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement and announced that notices were placed in designated newspapers and posted as required.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Tucci opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call:

Executive Board Members

Chairman: Thomas Tucci (Township of Cedar Grove)

Thomas Carroll (Borough of Wanaque)

Maureen Chumacas (Borough of Roseland)

Beverley Konopada (Borough of Mantoloking)

Walter Laurencio (City of Union City)

Alex Lazorisak (Warren County)

Executive Board Alternates, Commissioners and Commissioner Alternates

Sukaina Barlas (Township of Cedar Grove)

Denise Callery (City of Asbury Park)

Khaled Madin (Township of Parsippany)

Joseph D'Arco (Township of Verona)

Kevin O'Sullivan (Township of Verona)

Sam Yodice (Borough of Woodland Park)

Patrick Wherry (Township of Maplewood)

NJIIF Professionals, Risk Managers and Others

David Balken (Balken Risk)

Al Barlas (Director of Marketing/Co-Administrator)

Lou Beckerman (Acrisure)

Robert Calise (CMFO)

Nancy DiMartino (Eric J. Nemeth, P.C./Recording Secretary)

Zach Edelman (Fairview Insurance)

Justin Gallo (Polaris Galax/Risk Manager)

Joe Gentile (GEM – Otterstedt Agency)

Chryzanta K. Hentisz (Eric J. Nemeth, P.C.-General Counsel/Co-Administrator)

Rija Khan, Esq. (Eric J. Nemeth, P.C.-General Counsel/Co-Administrator)

Michael Kronyak (Financial Consultant)  
 Spiro Molfetas (Polaris Galax/Risk Manager)  
 Eric J. Nemeth Esq. (Eric J. Nemeth, P.C.-General Counsel/Co-Administrator)  
 Wayne Ring (Brown & Brown)  
 Jennifer Signs (PMA TPA)  
 Tim Weir (PMA Safety & Loss Control)  
 Justin Wilkinson (PMA TPA)

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting of January 24, 2024. It was moved by Konopada, seconded by Lazorisak, that the Minutes of the NJIIF’s January 24, 2024 Executive Board Meeting be accepted as presented.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, Carroll, Chumacas, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None

3. Correspondence: None.
4. Finance Report: CFO Calise reported that the monthly Fund financials through 2/23/24, including assessments and claims payments, are in the/ meeting packets, including the latest investment report.
5. Chairman’s Report: Chairman Tucci reminded everyone that this is the time of the year to encourage DPWs to make sure potholes are fixed, as the NJIIF tends to receive numerous claims arising out of those hazards.
6. Committee Reports
  - a. Nominating Committee (Chair Heather McNamara) No Report.
  - b. By-Law Committee (Chair Thomas Carroll) No Report.
  - c. Legislative Committee (Chair Thomas Carroll). Chairman Tucci mentioned pending legislation that would allow COAH units to be created in residential basements.
  - d. Coverage Committee (Chair Beverley Konopada) –See Agenda Item 15, Closed Session, below.
  - e. Professionals Committee (Chair Thomas Tucci).

Chairman Tucci introduced Resolution NJIIF-P-2024 -019: Appointment of Additional Panel Defense Counsel for Multi-Line Matters for 2024. It was moved by Lazorisak, seconded by Carroll, to approve Resolution NJIIF-P-2024 -019: Appointment of ten Additional Panel Defense Counsel for Multi-Line Matters for 2024.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, Carroll, Chumacas, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None

Chairman Tucci introduced Resolution NJIIF-P-2024 -020: Appointment of Risk Management Consultant for 2024. It was moved by Konopada, seconded by Carroll, to approve Resolution NJIIF-P-2024 -020: Appointment of Risk Management Consultant for 2024.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, Carroll, Chumacas, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None

Chairman Tucci introduced Resolution NJIIF-P-2024 -021: Appointment of Member Development Support Consultant for 2024. It was moved by Laurencio, seconded by Konopada, to approve Resolution NJIIF-P-2024 -021: Appointment of Member Development Support Consultant for 2024.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, Carroll, Chumacas, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None

- f. Budget/Finance Committee (Chair McNamara). Robert Calise (CFO) and Michael Kronyak (Financial Consultant) provided an overview of the First Amended 2024 NJIIF Budget, which reflects the addition of three new Members for 2024. It was moved by Carroll, seconded by Laurencio, to adopt the First Amended 2024 NJIIF Budget.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, Carroll, Chumacas, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None

- g. Safety/Risk Management Committee (Chair Alex Lazorisak). Commissioner Lazorisak mentioned that Salem County had just been hit with a cyber-attack, and stated that Warren County had suffered similar attempts targeting their VPN lines. A discussion regarding cyber training followed. GC/Co-Admin Nemeth reminded Members of the availability of training through the NJIIF’s consultant, D2 cybersecurity.

- h. Member & Development Committee (Chair Maureen Chumacas) No Report.

7. Risk Manager’s Report (Polaris Galaxy). J. Gallo reported that property cyber renewal is underway, and also announced that the 2024 Policy Package would be circulated to all

Members and Risk Managers. Additionally, he reported that his office is working with Cbiz on determining the schedule for the 2024 round of property assessments.

8. Director of Marketing Report (Barlas). A. Barlas reported that he met with J. Gallo (Risk Manager); they are planning for this year’s renewals, as well as targeting potential new municipalities for membership.
9. Loss Control Consultant Report (PMA/T. Wier). Tim Weir reported that PMA provided direct risk control services to 8 members this month, including but not limited to safety meetings, loss cause focus issues, etc. Additionally, J. Matthews has arranged for a chainsaw education program on April 11<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the Township of Wayne and provided by a Stihl authorized trainer. T. Weir also reported that February is Heart Health Month, which is important to recognize given the potential risks in the workplace.

\*\* Commissioner McNamara joined the meeting.

10. TPA Report (PMA./J. Signs). J. Signs provided an update on aggregate WC claims received through 2/1/24, including the number of COVID cases. She reported that total claims reported in 2024 were lower than for the same period in 2023. Signs also indicated that total incurred losses for 2024 were below the 5-year average. Finally, Signs explained that the NJIIF has a total of 419 reported COVID cases with 104 related claim petitions filed to date, and noted that no new COVID claims have been received this year.

\*\* Commissioner Chumacas was called away from the meeting.

It was moved by Carroll, seconded by Konopada to approve all Professionals’ Reports.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, McNamara, Carroll, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain:

11. Bill List. It was moved by McNamara, seconded by Laurencio to approve the February Bill List as presented.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, McNamara, Carroll, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain:

12. Old Business – None.

13. New Business – None

14. Public Comment. Chairman Tucci opened the Public Comment Section of the Meeting.

There being no public comment, Chairman Tucci closed the Public Comment period.



15. Closed Session. It was moved by Lazorisak, seconded by McNamara, that the Board move into Closed Session.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, McNamara, Carroll, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None



**THE NEW JERSEY INTERGOVERNMENTAL INSURANCE FUND  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING – Closed Session Summary and  
Adjournment**

**February 28, 2024**

Call to Order: Closed Session of the February 28, 2024 Meeting of the New Jersey Intergovernmental Insurance Fund was called to order at 10:37 a.m. via Zoom conference.

Minutes of Closed Session: January 24, 2024. It was moved by Konopada, seconded by Carroll that the Minutes of Closed Session from the NJIIF’s meeting of January 24, 2024 be accepted as presented.

Roll Call:
Aye: Tucci, McNamara , Carroll, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain:

It was moved by Lazorisak, seconded by Carroll, that the WC and ML Claims recommendations and General Counsel's Report be accepted as presented.

Roll Call:
Aye Tucci, McNamara, Carroll, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: Each Executive Board Member abstains as to claims against its Member entity.

It was moved by Konopada, seconded by Laurencio, that the Board return to Open Session.

Roll Call:
Aye Tucci, McNamara, Carroll, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay: None
Abstain: None

It was moved by Laurencio, seconded by Lazorisak, to approve all actions presented in Closed Session of the February 28, 2024 Executive Board Meeting, including but not limited to requests for settlement authority for WC and/or ML matters listed in the Closed Session Motion and the coverage positions recommended in Closed Session.

Roll Call:	
Aye	Tucci, McNamara, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay:	None
Abstain:	Each Executive Board Member abstains as to claims against its Member entity.

16. Adjournment - There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by McNamara, seconded by Laurencio, to adjourn the February 28, 2024 Executive Board Meeting.

Roll Call:	
Aye	Tucci, McNamara, Konopada, Laurencio, Lazorisak
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None

The NJIIF's February 28, 2024 Meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.



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*The Executive Board*

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## ***CLOSED SESSION MATTERS***



**Closed Session Motion**

**For the March 27, 2024 Meeting of the New Jersey Intergovernmental Insurance Fund**

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Following are the matters to be discussed in Closed Session:

**Workers Compensation Fund Claim Matters**

Case Update Reports, Coverage Recommendations and Requests for Settlement Authority (RSA):

1. Hollo adv. City of Asbury Park (W002806454) ----- RSA
2. Ivins adv. City of Asbury Park (W003703151) ----- RSA
3. Johnson adv. City of Asbury Park (W003338042) ----- RSA
4. Johnson adv. City of Asbury Park (W003528433) ----- RSA
5. Yaede adv. Township of Old Bridge (W003307659) ----- RSA
6. Sneer adv. Township of Old Bridge (W002166145) ----- RSA

Case Update Reports for WC Fund Subrogation/Restitution Claims:

1. Ceparano adv. City of Union City (W003965977) ----- Case Update
2. Mattura adv. City of Union City (W03967750) ----- Case Update
3. Fryer adv. Township of Wayne (W003969367) ----- Case Update

**Multi-Line Fund Claim Matters**

Case Update Reports or Requests for Settlement Authority (RSA):

1. Greenhow v. City of Asbury Park (1905) ----- RSA
2. Mackolin v. City of Asbury Park (2245) ----- Case Closure
3. Desmond v. City of Bayonne (1718) ----- Case Closure
4. Finley v. City of Bayonne (2336) ----- RSA
5. Jedziniak v. City of Bayonne (2304) ----- Case Closure
6. Conrad v. Township of Maplewood (2287) ----- RSA
7. Green v. Township of Maplewood (1805) ----- Case Closure
8. Vargas v. City of Union City (2467) ----- Case Closure
9. Valdez v Union City Parking Authority (1995) ----- Case Closure
10. Davis v. Township of Verona, Wayne Township, etc (1577) --- Case Closure
11. Giunta v. Borough of Wanaque (1596) ----- Case Closure

Coverage Recommendations for New Claims/Litigation:

1. Elliott v. City of Asbury Park (OGC#2530 / L003764355)
2. DeCicco v. City of Bayonne (OGC#2534 / L003609825)
3. George v. City of Bayonne (2536 / L004022544)

4. Myers v. City of Bayonne (2535 / L003428880)
5. Portuguese Structural Steel v. Township of Maplewood (2526 / L004271125)
6. Bagate v. Township of Parsippany (2532 / L004276114)
7. In Re Raul Genao adv. City of Union City (2533 / LL004284957)
8. Jersey Property Holdings LLC v. City of Union City (2532 / L004284573)
9. Zuniga v. City of Union City (2528 / L003699804)
10. Boyce v. Warren County (2526 / L004273057)
11. Kist v. Warren County (2529 / L004086254)
12. Rodriguez v. Borough of Woodland Park (2525 / L004270468)