

**SOMERSET COUNTY JOINT INSURANCE FUND
FUND COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2024**

STATEMENT OF PROPER NOTICE READ BY COMMISSIONER CUPIT: Adequate notice of the regular meeting of the Somerset County Joint Insurance Fund held on Wednesday, December 19, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. has been provided through posting of said notice to the Courier News, and the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

SHANEL Y ROBINSON	County of Somerset	Present
DANIEL J. HAYES, JR.	Somerset County Park Commission	Present
JOHN TROJAN	Raritan Valley Community College	Present
RAELENE SIPPLE	Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools	Present
GREGORY J. BONIN	Township of Branchburg	Absent
BRIAN K. AUGER	Somerset County Library Commission	Absent
KELLY G. CUPIT	Township of Green Brook	Present
KAREN GILBERT	Township of Raritan	Present
WILLIAM CLOSE	Township of Clinton	Present
DIANE MC DANIEL	Township of Delaware	Absent
GLENN CULLEN	Borough of South Plainfield	Absent

ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS

YVONNE CHILDRESS	County of Somerset	Present
JANINE ERICKSON	Somerset County Park Commission	Absent
CHERYL WALLACE	Raritan Valley Community College	Absent
ADAM BEDER	Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools	Absent
DENISE PISZKOWSKI	Township of Branchburg	Absent
BRIAN MORGAN	Somerset County Library Commission	Absent
RAYMOND S. MURRAY	Township of Green Brook	Present
DALE MELVILLE	Township of Raritan	Absent
CHIEF THOMAS DEROSA	Township of Clinton	Absent
DIANA RUMAGE	Township of Delaware	Present
AMY L. ANTONIDES	Borough of South Plainfield	Present

ALSO PRESENT:

Barbara Murphy	New Jersey Risk Managers & Consultants, LLC
Cindy Villagran	
Javier Esparra	
Kenneth Spiller	
Lucy Martins	
Pamela Aquino	

Stephen O. Davis, Esq.	DiFrancesco, Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, PC
M. Paige Berry, Esq.	Saul Ewing, LLP
Dave Balken	ACRISURE
Louis Beckerman	ACRISURE
Trevor Morris	ACRISURE

- **MOTION TO APPROVE OPEN AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES FROM THE 11/27/2024 MEETING:**

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Commissioners Robinson and Antonides- Abstained

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Executive Director/Administrator: Barbara Murphy provided a brief overview of the Statement of Fund-Year Surplus encompassing five years of financial information. She also noted that there was a slight change in the Meeting Schedule for 2025 specifically, the May Commissioner’s Meeting would be held on May 21st. Discussions were held to change the start time for future Commissioner’s Meetings. It was agreed that the January 2025 Reorganization Meeting and subsequent meetings would be scheduled to begin at 9:30 AM.

Fund Attorney - Claims Management / Litigation: No additions to the report submitted.

Fund Attorney – Regulatory Compliance / Legislation: During the November SCJIF Commissioner’s Meeting, inquiries were made regarding requirements for placement of legal notices. To that end, Fund Attorney M. Paige Berry provided an update and advised that a Bill was introduced to amend the OPMA public notice requirements when newspapers were no longer available in print format. The Bill would allow public entities to continue using current newspapers for the purpose of complying with any requirements for issuing or publishing a public notice or legal advertisement, providing adequate notice of a meeting, and designated as an official newspaper regardless of physical or digital format for the newspaper’s publication. When the Bill is passed, the amendment would be in place for three months until a permanent determination is made by the State.

Attorney Berry also advised that New Jersey has taken additional initiatives to adopt new Legislature to address the growing concerns of risks associated with heat-related workplace injuries. The proposed legislation includes provisions to align New Jersey’s standards with any future federal heat safety regulations, should the federal government adopt a heat prevention standard. She would continue to keep the Fund apprised of any new developments.

Third Party Administrator: In addition to the report submitted, Barbara Murphy reviewed the Loss Performance Summary distributed to Board Members and advised that arrangements would be made to start the 2024 Year End Audit for presentation to the Board by June 30, 2025.

Custodian of Funds: No additions to the report submitted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Safety Committee: Chairperson Sipple advised that the Safety Committee met on December 3, 2024 and the meeting minutes were included in the Agenda. Also included in the package was the JIFNEWS, Volume 16, Issue 1, January 2025 featuring information on updated vaccines guideline from the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Secrets on How to Make Mondays More Productive and How to Keep Your Pet Safe in a Hurricane or Other Natural Disaster. A copy of this issue would be available on the Fund’s website.

Additionally, a fourth quarter training seminar entitled “Hand Safety and Frequent PEOSH Violations” was presented by Mark Worthington of T&M Associates on December 10, 2024, at Raritan Valley Community College. The training was well received and approximately 60 employees were in attendance. The next scheduled SCJIF Safety Committee Meeting will be held on January 7, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the Trade Wins Restaurant of the Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION TO OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE BUDGET AT 9:52 A.M.:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT 9:53 A.M.:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Unanimous

#24-046 RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR 2025 FUND YEAR:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Roll Call

ROLL CALL VOTE					
COMMISSIONER		YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
COS	SHANEL Y. ROBINSON	X			
SCPC	DANIEL J. HAYES, Jr.	X			
RVCC	JOHN TROJAN	X			
SCVT	RAELENE SIPPLE	X			
TOB	GREGORY BONIN			X	
SCLC	BRIAN AUGER			X	
TOGB	KELLY G. CUPIT	X			
TOR	KAREN GILBERT	X			
TOC	WILLIAM CLOSE	X			
TOD	DIANA RUMMAGE	X			
BSP	AMY ANTONIDES	X			

NEW BUSINESS

#24-047 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CURRENT EXPENSES & CLAIM PAYMENTS:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Antonides
VOTE: Roll Call

ROLL CALL VOTE					
COMMISSIONER		YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
COS	SHANEL Y. ROBINSON	X			
SCPC	DANIEL J. HAYES, Jr.	X			
RVCC	JOHN TROJAN	X			
SCVT	RAELENE SIPPLE	X			
TOB	GREGORY BONIN			X	
SCLC	BRIAN AUGER			X	
TOGB	KELLY G. CUPIT	X			
TOR	KAREN GILBERT	X			
TOC	WILLIAM CLOSE	X			
TOD	DIANA RUMMAGE	X			
BSP	AMY ANTONIDES	X			

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION AT 9:54 A.M. TO DISCUSS CLAIMS AND OTHER ACTIONS:

Workers' Compensation/Property/General Liability Claims:

- 4.16391
- 4.20217
- 4.20465
- 4.20655
- 4.20713
- 4.20904
- 4.20958
- 4.20962

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING AT 10:00 A.M.:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Unanimous

#24-048 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND OTHER ACTIONS ESTABLISHED IN CLOSED SESSION:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Antonides
VOTE: Roll Call

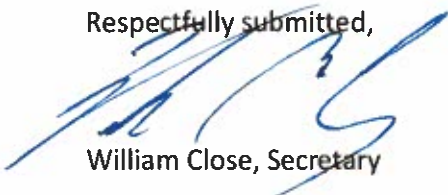
ROLL CALL VOTE					
COMMISSIONER		YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
COS	SHANEL Y. ROBINSON	X			
SCPC	DANIEL J. HAYES, Jr.	X			
RVCC	JOHN TROJAN	X			
SCVT	RAELENE SIPPLE	X			
TOB	GREGORY BONIN			X	
SCLC	BRIAN AUGER			X	
TOGB	KELLY G. CUPIT	X			
TOR	KAREN GILBERT	X			
TOC	WILLIAM CLOSE	X			
TOD	DIANA RUMAGE	X			
BSP	AMY ANTONIDES	X			

Dividend checks were distributed to the Fund Member prior to the conclusion of the meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 10:01 A.M.:

MOTION: Commissioner Trojan
SECOND: Commissioner Close
VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



William Close, Secretary