

**OCEAN COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION
OPEN MINUTES
MEETING – March 21, 2024
10:00 AM**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Greitz. Chair Greitz read the Open Public Meetings notice into record.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS:

Robert A. Greitz	Present
Michael Fiure	Present
Michelle I. Gunther	Present
John P. Kelly (Alternate)	Excused

FUND PROFESSIONALS PRESENT:

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services Joseph Hrubash
Claims Services	Qual-Lynx Claudia Acosta Karen Beatty
	PERMA Risk Management Services Shai McLeod Jennifer Conicella
NJCE Underwriting Manager	Conner Strong & Buckelew Ed Cooney
Risk Management Consultant	Conner Strong & Buckelew Mary Anne Sander Carole Mack
Treasurer	Julie Tarrant
Attorney	Jack Sahradnik, Esq. Laura Benson, Esq.
Safety Director	J.A. Montgomery Consulting Paul Shives Glenn Prince
Auditor	

ALSO PRESENT:

Antoinette DePaola, Ocean County
Will Demand, Ocean County Utility Authority
Jenn Doderer, Ocean County Library
Brian Wilkie, Ocean County Board of Social Services.
Cathy Dodd, PERMA Risk Management Services

CORRESPONDENCE: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OPEN MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2024

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Moved: Commissioner Gunther
Second: Commissioner Fiure
Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: Mr. Prince reported the Safety and Accident Review Committee last met on December 11, 2023 and the next meeting was scheduled for March 12, 2024 at 1:30 PM via Zoom. Mr. Prince advised a variety of topics would be discussed including proposed training and the most commonly cited PEOSH citations for the previous quarter. Mr. Prince concluded his report unless there were any questions.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE: Ms. Conicella reported the Claims Committee met last week and reviewed the PARS. Ms. Conicella asked if anyone had any questions on the claims and requested a motion to accept the Claims Committee’s recommendation to approve the claims as presented during the Claims Committee Meeting on March 14, 2024.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PARS AS PRESENTED DURING THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 14, 2024

Moved: Commissioner Fiure
Second: Commissioner Gunther
Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

2024 PLAN OF RISK MANAGEMENT: Executive Director referred to a copy of the Plan of Risk Management which was included the appendix section of the agenda. Executive Director advised he reviewed the plan and found it to be in order. Executive Director requested a motion to approve the plan.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 18-24, PLAN OF RISK MANAGEMENT

Moved: Commissioner Fiure
Second: Commissioner Gunther
Roll Call Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE ISSUANCE REPORT: Executive Director referred to a copy of the certificate of issuance report from the NJCE listing the certificates issued for the month of January. Executive Director said there were (16) sixteen certificates of insurance issued during the month. Executive Director asked if anyone had any questions and requested a motion to approve.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REPORT

Moved:	Commissioner Fiure
Second:	Commissioner Gunther
Roll Call Vote	3 Ayes 0 Nays

NEW JERSEY COUNTIES EXCESS JOINT INSURANCE FUND: Executive Director reported the NJCE met on January 11 and based on the Finance Committee recommendations adopted the 2024 budget. Executive Director referred to a summary report of the meeting which was included in the agenda. Executive Director said he wanted to compliment the Underwriting Manager as he did a great job, he came in under budget which allowed us to buy some additional coverages such as higher cyber limits. Executive Director said the NJCE was scheduled to hold their Reorganization Meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 9:30 AM.

2024 RENEWAL WEBINAR: Executive Director reported the Underwriting Manager of the New Jersey Counties Excess JIF conducted a 2024 Renewal Overview Webinar on Tuesday, February 13 at 2 pm. Executive Director advised the NJCE Underwriting Manager detailed the challenges faced marketing the program and coverage changes to be aware of for 2024. Executive Director noted if you were not able to attend the webinar a recording was posted to the NJCE website. Ms. DiPaola noted she did participate, and it was one of the fastest ones and very informative.

OCIFC PROPERTY & CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK: Executive Director reported the November Financial Fast Track was included in the agenda. Executive Director reported as of November 30, 2023 there was a deficit of \$5,342,190. Executive Director noted year 2021 was a challenge and pointed out that we did gain some surplus since the beginning of the year. Executive Director said there was a strong cash balance of \$24,360,994. Executive Director referred to line 10 of the report, "Investment in Joint Venture" and indicated \$755,764 of the surplus was the OCIFC's share of the NJCE equity.

NJCE PROPERTY & CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK: Executive Director reported the NJCE Financial Fast Track was not available and would appear in the next agenda.

CLAIMS TRACKING REPORT: Executive Director reviewed the Expected Loss Ratio Analysis Report as of November 30, 2023 with the Commission.

2024 EXCESS INSURANCE AND ANCILLARY COVERAGE POLICIES: Executive Director advised the NJCE renewal policies would be available electronically through the Conner Strong & Buckelew OneDrive Program for authorized users. Executive Director noted the Limit Schematics were also posted to the site. Executive Director noted there were some major changes to the property schematic explaining Zurich was no longer the property carrier and the

Underwriting Team put together a quota shared program led by Lexington Insurance Company. Mr. Cooney further explained AIG is leading the entire program with their policy and all of the other companies are generally following them. Mr. Cooney noted there are about 40 insurers in total on the program. Mr. Cooney said all the coverage limits are still there, in fact there's some broadening of coverage. Mr. Cooney advised claims are reported as normal and we take care of it with all of the insurance companies. Mr. Cooney pointed out that the retention for the NJCE was reduced from \$3 million to \$1 million which was a tremendous savings. Executive Director said if anyone was having any difficulty in accessing the website, they should contact the Fund Office.

2024 PROPERTY & CASUALTY ASSESSMENTS: Executive Director reported in accordance with the Commission's By Law's the Property & Casualty Assessment Bills would be e-mailed to the member entities. Executive Director advised the first installment was due on March 15, 2024 and future assessments were due on May 15, 2024 and October 15, 2024.

2024 MEL, MRHIF & NJCE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR: Executive Director advised the 14th Annual Seminar would be conducted virtually on 2 half-day sessions: Friday, April 19 and Friday April 26 from 9AM to Noon. Executive Director noted there was no fee for employees, insurance producers as well as personnel who work for service companies associated with the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MELJIF), Municipal Reinsurance Health Insurance Fund (MRHIF) and New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund (NJCE JIF). Executive Director referred to a copy of a flyer included in the agenda for more information. We will send a link to register once it becomes available. If you have any questions or need assistance in registering, please contact Cathy Dodd, cdodd@permainc.com

Executive Director asked if anyone had any questions and concluded his report.

Executive Director's Report Made Part of Minutes.

TREASURER REPORT: Ms. Tarrant requested a motion to approve the February Bills List Resolution 19-24, in the amount of \$2,531,782.95.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 19-24 FEBRUARY BILLS LIST

Moved:	Commissioner Fiure
Second:	Commissioner Gunther
Roll Call Vote:	3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Ms. Tarrant referred to copies of the November Treasurer's report which were included in the agenda and advised the cash balance was \$24,360,994.87. Ms. Tarrant noted we are earning a lot more interest than in the past.

CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Beatty referred to the 2024 Cumulative Savings Summary Report which was included in the agenda. Ms. Beatty advised for the month of January there were 208 bills, with a savings of 63%. Ms. Beatty noted 99% of the care was rendered in the QualCare Provider Network. Ms. Beatty then referred to the Legacy Cumulative Savings Summary and advised there were 26 bills in January with a savings of 79% and 99% of the care was in the QualCare Provider Network. Lastly, Ms. Beatty referred to the Top 10 Providers and said it was a little early to comment, however a good portion was from the Community Medical Center, Inc. Ms. Beatty reviewed the workers' compensation claims reported by claim type and noted there were (15) fifteen claims

reported in January and no covid claims. Ms. Beatty asked if there were any questions and concluded her report.

NJCE SAFETY DIRECTOR: Mr. Prince advised the January through February 2024 Risk Control Activities were included in the agenda along with all of the training opportunities through March 28, 2024. Mr. Prince reported all of the items were posted on the NJCE website and encouraged all members to visit the site. Mr. Prince said he also wanted to talk about the Munich Re Safety Grant and indicated this year it was increased from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Mr. Prince advised he would discuss this further at the Safety Committee Meeting and encouraged all submissions. Mr. Prince said he could assist with preparing any submissions. Mr. Prince said this was a great opportunity and Ocean County has taken advantage of the grant in the past. Mr. Prince said the Leadership Academy Registration opens up on June 1 and noted information was on the NJCE Website and would be a topic at the next Safety Committee Meeting. Mr. Prince concluded his report unless there were any questions. Executive Director said there will be an item on the next NJCE agenda for the Commissioners to consider supplementing the Munich Re Safety Grant by adding another \$30,000.

RISK MANAGERS REPORT: Ms. Sander reported she was working with Ms. DiPaola on some applications and Origami. Ms. Sander said she was working with the other entities to ensure they received their renewals, auto ID cards and renewal certificates. Ms. Sander said as Executive Director mentioned assessment bills were being sent out and if anyone needed any breakdowns, they should reach out to her. Ms. Sander advised she had the 4-1-24 proposal for the ancillary renewal and she would be available to discuss. Ms. Sander concluded her report unless there were any questions.

ATTORNEY: Mr. Sahradnik did not have anything to report.

Correspondence Made Part of Minutes

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: In response to Executive Director's inquiry about the assessment bills, Ms. Dodd said she had the bills, and she would be sending out in the next few days.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC

Motion	Chair Greitz
Second:	Commissioner Fiure
Vote:	3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Seeing no members of the public wishing to speak, Chair Greitz moved a motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting.

MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO PUBLIC

Motion	Chair Greitz
Second:	Commissioner Fiure
Vote:	3 Ayes, 0 Nays

There was no need for a closed session. Chair Greitz said the next meeting was scheduled for March 21, 2024 at 10:00 AM and asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Moved:	Commission Fiure
Second:	Commissioner Gunther
Vote:	3 Ayes, 0 Nays

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:33 AM

Minutes prepared by: Cathy Dodd, Assisting Secretary