

**OCEAN COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION
OPEN MINUTES
MEETING – February 19, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

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
Frank Sadeghi (Alternate)	Excused

FUND PROFESSIONALS PRESENT:

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services Joseph Hrubash
Claims Services	Qual-Lynx Claudia Acosta Lisa Gallo Vanguard Claims Administration Sarah Mentzer PERMA Risk Management Services Shai McLeod Robyn Walcoff
NJCE Underwriting Manager	Conner Strong & Buckelew
Risk Management Consultant	Conner Strong & Buckelew Carole Mack Mary Anne Sander
Treasurer	Julie Tarrant
Attorney	Jack Sahradnik, Esq. Laura Benson, Esq.
Safety Director	J.A. Montgomery Consulting Glenn Prince

ALSO PRESENT:

Jen Hagendoorn, Ocean County Board of Social Services
Jen Doderer, Ocean County Library
Cathy Dodd, PERMA Risk Management Services

CORRESPONDENCE: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2026

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2026

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

SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: Mr. Prince advised the Committee met last quarter and we discussed it at the previous Commission Meeting. Mr. Prince said the next meeting was scheduled for March 10, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Prince reported at that meeting they would discuss the new training programs that were developed especially for our law enforcement communities. Mr. Prince noted all training programs were available on the NJCE website along with the most common PEOSH citations for public entities. Mr. Prince concluded his report unless there were any questions.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE: Ms. Walcoff noted she was attending today’s meeting in place of Ms. Drumheiser. Ms. Walcoff reported the Claims Committee met on February 12 and reviewed the PARS. Ms. Walcoff 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 February 12, 2026.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PARS AS PRESENTED DURING THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2026

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

2026 PLAN OF RISK MANAGEMENT: Executive Director referred to a copy of the Plan of Risk Management which was included in Appendix II of the agenda. Executive Director noted the changes were highlighted in yellow. Executive Director advised the aggregate limit for general liability, law liability and employee benefits liability increased to \$32 million which represented a favorable improvement. Executive Director said the largest settlement within the county commission system recently did reach \$20-\$25 million so the higher limit provides stronger protection compared to the previous \$25 million aggregate. Executive Director reported another significant change was the named storm deductible where the aggregate has been reduced from

\$10 million to \$5 million, lowering the potential exposure for the fund. Executive Director said the market has improved, making these coverages more affordable and allowing the funds to secure better limits and terms. Executive Director asked if anyone had any questions and requested a motion to approve the Plan of Risk Management.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 18-26, PLAN OF RISK MANAGEMENT

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

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE ISSUANCE REPORT: Executive Director referred to a copy of the certificate of insurance report from the NJCE listing the certificates issued for the month of January. Executive Director said there were (11) eleven certificate of insurances 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 would hold their Reorganization Meeting in person at the Forsgate County Club in Monroe Township which is Exit 8A off the New Jersey Turnpike on February 26, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. Executive Director advised J.A. Montgomery would discuss some initiatives being launched for the NJCE Program. Executive Director said he would discuss potential changes in property claims funding. Executive Director noted a virtual option might be available if you cannot attend in person. Also, a meeting invitation would be extended to Commissioners of the member Insurance Commissions.

NJCE JIF – 2026 RENEWAL WEBINAR: Executive Director reported Underwriting Manager of the New Jersey Counties Excess JIF would be conducting the 2026 Renewal Overview Webinar on Tuesday, February 24th at 11:00 a.m. 2026. Executive Director advised an invitation was sent with the link to register. If you need the link or have trouble registering, you can reach out to Cathy Dodd.

OCIFC PROPERTY & CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK: Executive Director reported the October Financial Fast Track was included in the agenda. Executive Director reported as of October 31, 2025 there was a statutory surplus of \$3,027,737. Executive Director said there was a cash balance of \$30,762,753. Executive Director referred to line 11 of the report, “Investment in Joint Venture” and indicated \$994,562 of the surplus was the OCIFC’s share of the NJCE equity.

NJCE PROPERTY & CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK: Executive Director reported the NJCE November Financial Fast Track was included in the agenda. Executive Director said as of November 30, 2025 the NJCE had a surplus of \$18,959,601. Executive Director noted the total cash amount was \$39,682,885. Executive Director reported line 7 of the report “Dividend” represented

the figure released by the NJCE of \$6,707,551. Executive Director reported that year 2026 from a property perspective is off to a really tough start. We have several claims that will be hitting the excess, so we will keep an eye on that, but we have plenty of surplus. Executive Director asked if anyone had questions about the Financial Fast Tracks.

CLAIMS TRACKING REPORTS: Executive Director reviewed the Expected Loss Ratio Analysis Report as of October 31, 2025 with the Commission which was included in the agenda. Executive Director said the loss ratio reports align with the financial statement. Executive Director reported that Fund Years 2025 and 2024 were performing favorable and is expected to end in a surplus similar to 2024 with 2025 trending in the same direction. Executive Director stated the primary challenges remain with the early commission years, particularly 2021 and 2022. Executive Director asked if anyone had any questions.

2026 EXCESS INSURANCE AND ANCILLARY COVERAGE POLICIES: Executive Director stated 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. If anyone has any difficulty in accessing the website, they should contact the Fund Office.

2026 PROPERTY & CASUALTY ASSESSMENTS: Executive Director reported in accordance with the Commission's by Law's the Property & Casualty Assessment Bills were e-mailed to the member entities. Executive Director noted the first installment was due on March 31, 2026 and future assessments would be due on May 15, 2026 and October 15, 2026.

2026 MEL, MRHIF & NJCE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR: Executive Director referred to a copy of a flyer announcing the 16th annual seminar would be conducted virtually on 2 half-day sessions: Friday, April 24th and Friday, May 1st from 9AM to 12PM. Executive Director noted the seminar was pending approval for Continuing Educational Credits including CFO/CMFO, Public Works and Clerks, Insurance Producers, Accountants, Lawyers, Water Supply and Wastewater Licensed Operators, Registered Public Purchasing Officials and Qualified Purchasing Agents.

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 19-26, in the amount of \$2,746,970.37.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 19-26 FEBRUARY BILLS LIST

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

Ms. Tarrant said at the end of October we had with all funds \$31,188,444. 23. Ms. Tarrant reported she is seeing a lot less on the legacy account. There was \$2 million deposited in November and it seems like the claims have gone down quite a bit from the past.

CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR: Ms. Gallo referred to the reports included in the agenda and advised she made some enhancements to try to provide some more actionable information that you find beneficial. Ms. Gallo noted she would be around after the meeting in case anyone wanted to discuss something else they would like to see in the reports.

Ms. Gallo reviewed the figures for Fund Year 2025 for the Insurance Commission and Legacy Claims as noted below.

2026 - YTD	BILL COUNT	BILLED AMOUNT	APPROVED AMOUNT	NETWORK SAVINGS	% SAVINGS	FEE AMOUNT	PPO PENETRAT ION RATE
January	254	\$ 283,695.71	\$ 108,880.48	\$ 144,270.26	51%	\$ 28,980.56	88%

LEGACY 2026 - YTD	BILL COUNT	BILLED AMOUNT	APPROVED AMOUNT	NETWORK SAVINGS	% SAVINGS	FEE AMOUNT	PPO PENETRAT ION RATE
January	44	\$ 158,395.23	\$ 46,584.63	\$ 91,695.04	58%	\$ 20,115.56	70%

Ms. Gallo advised the next report was updated based on feedback from last month’s meeting and now includes Top 10 Providers by Charges and Network Status sections. This addition shows not only the amounts paid to these providers but also what they are charging and savings achieved on those bills. Ms. Gallo said the report is organized by in-network and out-of-net network providers, which helps identify high-out-of-net network charges that could prompt outreach to the contracting department to potentially recruit those providers into the network. Ms. Gallo noted the same report was created for the Legacy claims. Ms. Gallo said the final report was the workers' compensation claims reported by claim type and next month she would include the claim cause in this report. Ms. Gallo concluded her report unless there were any questions.

NJCE SAFETY DIRECTOR: Mr. Prince reported advised the Safety Director report was included in the agenda and included all Risk Control Activity for January and February. Mr. Prince said the report outlines training opportunities for February, March and April and are also available on NJCE.org where participants can register online and receive e-mail confirmations.

Mr. Prince referred to the information included in the agenda for the Leadership Academy. Mr. Prince noted open enrollment begins on June 1. Mr. Prince said the program runs for seven months and includes both mandatory courses and electives. Mr. Prince stated participants have two years to complete the curriculum and they will receive a commemorative plaque.

Mr. Prince advised on February 9 he had an opportunity to go out in the field with Patrick Boska. Mr. Prince said they visited the Sheriff’s Training Facility and Lt. Foltz gave us an escorted tour. They have a lot of partnerships and when we were leaving there were some active trainings with FLETC going on which is the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Mr. Prince said he had some minor recommendations which would be included the report coming out this week along with some recommendations for the Southern Recycle Center. Mr. Prince concluded his report unless there were any questions.

Chair Greitz said Mr. Boska has been updating our County Safety Plan, it has been a while since it was revised and updated. Mr. Prince advised the Right to Know requirements in New Jersey have additional obligations beyond the federal hazard communication standard. Chair Greitz said the plan was significantly larger than expected, approximately 380 pages instead of the anticipated 15 pages.

RISK MANAGERS REPORT: Ms. Sander reported everyone was busy with the recent water damage claims and noted All Risk was out there the next day. Ms. Sander said she would work with Ms. DePaola to review the coverage and possibly review at another meeting so Mr. Sadeghi could participate. Ms. Sander advised she was working with Ms. DePaola on some insurance requirements for various contract and with Darlene Riccioon clarifying vehicles versus assets. Ms. Sander said she would refresh the physical damage quote as the property rates have come down. Ms. Sander concluded her report unless there were any questions.

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

Correspondence Made Part of Minutes

OLD BUSINESS: Chair Greitz reported there was one item of old business that he was aware of and that was the appointment of the auditor. Chair Greitz advised there were two auditors that submitted proposals, Bowman and HFA, and the scoring resulted in a tie. Chair Greitz advised we had some discussions the last couple of meetings and did not know the Commissioner's decision. Mr. Fiure said he did have some discussions and wanted to make a motion to discuss HFA.

MOTION TO APPOINT HFA AS THE COMMISSION AUDIT

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

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC

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

CLOSED SESSION: Mr. Greitz advised there was no need for a closed Session.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:33 a.m.

Minutes prepared by: Cathy Dodd, Assisting Secretary