

**ABRIDGED REPORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
July 17, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Ordway at 9:00A.M in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. He stated that notice of this meeting was posted on the New Jersey State Firemen's website as required pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Vice President Hankins led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance..

**INVOCATION:** President Ordway asked for a moment of silence for our departed brothers especially F/F Shaffer who died in the line of duty this month. Executive Committeeman Mellert then gave the invocation.

**ROLL CALL:**

Roll call was held. First Assistant Secretary Brian Martone announced that all members were present EXCEPT for 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Secretary Dreby and Executive Committeeman Fazekas who were excused.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Abridged and Verbatim Minutes of the May 22, 2021, Executive Committee Meeting were approved as distributed on a motion by Executive Committeeman Handlin seconded by Executive Committeeman Scheuer. Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Secretary Pelaia read a letter from Field Examiner Kenny to President Ordway dated July 12, 2021, announcing his retirement effective January 1, 2022. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Lane seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein to accept the communications. Motion Carried

**OFFICERS REPORTS:**

**Vice President Hankins report:** He reported the following:

- 1) The Pension Committee met and approved the changes in Article 5 Section 5 of the Pension Plan which revises the beneficiaries to the plan.
- 2) He informed the Executives of the Caucus Work schedules
- 3) He will be asking for an approval under New Business to extend the Covid 19 housing reimbursement plan until the February 2022 Executive Committee Meeting

**Secretary Pelaia's Report:** In addition to his written report, his verbal remarks are:

- 1) We will be voting under New Business to accept Barnegat Light into the Association' All their paperwork will be in order. Also, we will be voting on a new Company for West Deptford and a name change for Washington Township (Mercer) to Robbinsville, and also approve a new Company for them.
- 2) Petitions have been received for candidates whose term is up for the Board of Managers to the Firemen's Home. At this time there are two counties where more than one candidate filed so there will be an election at their caucus. Petitions were received by every Executive Committee Member. There were no other petitions submitted for the Executive Committee. The deadline for all Delegate changes is August 31. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- 3) Convention Credentials were mailed to all local secretaries on June 17. Anyone not receiving the credentials should notify me as soon as possible.
- 4) In regard to Mr. Kenny's Retirement, A notice is being sent to all Association Secretaries informing them that there will be a vacancy in the Field Examiners position effective January 1, 2022, and if any member has interest in the position, they are to send a letter of interest along with a resume to us by September 1.

**First Assistant Secretary Martone's Report:** He reported that the age bill was signed by the governor. He thanked everyone who made calls, sent e-mails and the like for helping to have the Bill passed. President Ordway then mentioned that S-5210, the bill regarding the Firemen's Home has been pulled. He also mentioned within 5 days of the governor signing the age bill we had 315 applicants entered into our system and their secretaries were notified of their Line Number.

**Second Assistant Secretary Report:** Second Assistant Secretary was excused. President Ordway reported 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Secretary is working on the Memorial Service. It will once again be virtual. It is expected to begin taping towards the end of August.

**Treasurer Mullen's Report:** He is working with the auditors on the third quarter report and the books for 2020-2021 year were closed on June 30.

**Field Examiner Report:** In addition to his written report, he reports the following:

- 1) that there is an error in the Health Care report and a corrected copy will be forwarded to the Executives.
- 2) Effective with the reporting of the 990 forms to the IRS, as of January 1, 2022, all 990's must be filed electronically. The IRS will not accept paper copies. 11 Associations have filed extensions for the 2020 submissions. Field Examiner Kenny will follow up with these Associations.
- 3) 2020 Field exams will begin on September 15 in Cape May County. The schedule is currently be set up. The remainder of the 2020 Exams will take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings following the Convention. More information will follow.

**Counsel Cavallo reported:** Nothing to report.

**Assistant Counsel Morris:** Just mentioned that he appreciates everyone's service during this pandemic and condolences to everyone who lost someone who passed away. He especially wanted to recognize Former President Emeritus Greenwald for all of his efforts in our Association and to the Lumberton Fire Department and community. Asst. Counsel Morris is a resident of Lumberton.

**President's Report:** He reported the following:

- 1) The Office will be closed on September 6 in honor of Labor Day and September 16-17 while we are in Wildwood.
- 2) He reminded all that the second Quarter Quarterly Relief Report is due on July 30.
- 3) As of this meeting there are 3 Associations not being seated.
- 4) All IRS 990's or Extension Forms were received on time. We are now following up with the 11 Associations that filed extensions
- 5) If any Executive receives a change of address, phone number or e-mail address for one of their Association's officers, he asked that they submit them to Secretary Pelia so that he can update the State's files.
- 6) If an officer of an Association has trouble signing on to the website, no matter how minor it may seem, please have them call the office for assistance.
- 7) He reported that many associations are using email to send in Bank Statements. The email address is [bankstatements@njsfa.com](mailto:bankstatements@njsfa.com) . Also, Local reports should be e-mailed to [localreports@njsfa.com](mailto:localreports@njsfa.com).
- 8) He has been reporting Year to Date comparisons at each meeting. They will be attached to these minutes.
- 9) The president asked for volunteers to sit on the Search / interview Committee for the Field Examiner. He also stated that the Notice of the position will be mailed out to all secretaries and will be on the website and in the Caucus Packets. He will also be asking to appoint the Committees recommendation as Assistant Field Examiner (or an Administrative Assistant) to start immediately to make the transition smooth. At the November Meeting the Executive will have to vote on appointing the person as Field Examiner effective 1/1/2022.
- 10) The Caucuses will be walk through election caucuses to elect the Executive Committeeman and in 5 counties a Home Manager. Literature will be assembled and distributed at the Caucuses like last year. There will be no payment for attending the Caucus, but Delegates who do not attend will be penalized \$100.00 as in past years.
- 10) The Convention will also be a walk-through convention for voting for the State Officers and 4 ballot questions. Attendees will enter from the Boardwalk to the voting site, they will register, fill out their ballots, vote, and receive a packet and badge while exiting the room. A diagram showing the procedure is attached. Associations that want to change Delegates or Alternates must do so by August 31, 2021. **There will be no exceptions.** Finally, the Trolley Company is out of service. Executive Committeeman Speigel mentioned that the 5-mile Beach Association is investigating getting a jitney service.

## **THERE WAS NO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ADVISORY/ SPECIAL / SUPPLEMENTAL COMMITTEE:** Executive Committeeman Mellert stated that the reports are in your packet.

**COMPENDIUM COMMITTEE:** No Report

**DELEGATE AND LIFE MEMBER COMMITTEE:** No Report.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Treasurer Mullen reported that The Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday to complete their review of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters. Also the President appointed John Delesandro III from Toms River to replace the vacancy due to the death of James Greschak.

**FIREMEN'S HOME COMMITTEE:** Chairman Otterbein reported that there is a report in your packet but there is one correction. On line 3, Legislator should read Legislature. He also mentioned that the Memory Care wing is completed and the only hold up is the Final Inspection by the Department of Health.

**HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE:** Chairman Reeves reported that his written report has been distributed. He also reported that we have surpassed the funds distributed compared to the same time last year. Year to date we have received Applications from 45 members and 39 spouses for a total of 84.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:** Chairman Handlin reported that he has been working with Treasurer Mullen and will be meeting with the investment companies soon and will hopefully meet with full committee shortly.

**LEGISLATIVE:** First Assistant Secretary Martone stated the report has been distributed. He sends his committee weekly update which he also is sending to the Executive Committee. Executive Committee Naylis mentioned that the museum bill, which creates the museum as a non-Profit standalone committee has passed the Senate Committee and has been sent to the full Senate. Chairman Martone said that his committee endorsed it and he will keep everyone up to date on it.

**Long Range Planning Committee:** No Report

**PENSION COMMITTEE:** Vice President Hankins reported that the committee met this morning and appointed Treasurer Mullen as the Plan Administrator. The committee will put an amendment to the plan which is in your packets to be voted on under New Business.

**SALARY COMMITTEE:** Executive Committeeman Phillips reported that if Administrative Assistant to the field Examiner is approved, that his committee will meet to propose the salary for the position.

**FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION** – Executive Committeeman Naylis reported that in May an MOU was signed with Rutgers with regard to a Crisis Hot line. An MOU was also signed with New Jersey City University for Firefighters in the Fire Science Program to receive 15 credits towards a Bachelor of Science Degree. The Junior Firefighter Regulations have been drafted it is making its way up the line to become a Regulation. President Ordway then asked Vice President for report on the Recruitment and Retention Task Force. VP Hankins said they are waiting for the Speaker of the Assembly to make his appointments.

**RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:** Chairman Cavallo said they received 22 similar resolutions. The committee decided to have the first resolution received to be the one that was to be placed on the ballot. The resolution is in the packets. A copy of the Resolution will be on the sample that is attached to these minutes. Executive Committeeman Scheuer asked if he can get an explanation of the Resolution since the Chairman of the Board of Managers statement that the Resolution “is not worth the paper that it is written on”. President Ordway responded that the Resolution was submitted, it was sent to the committee, and they approved it to be placed on the ballot. The President stated that the wording is accurate. He also reminded everyone that no matter if it passes or fails, nothing will happen until it goes through the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Executive Committeeman Naylis asked if the Resolution Committee is going to make a recommendation. Counsel Cavallo stated that the committee stopped making recommendations several years ago.

#### **APPLICATIONS:**

**1) Barnegat Light** – Secretary Pelaia informed all that all the paperwork has been received and is in order. If approved they will be incorporated and will be Association 539. A motion was made by Executive Committeewoman Hollingsworth, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Lenarski. **Roll call Vote:** Passed 20-0

**2) Washington Township (Mercer County)** – Secretary Pelaia informed all that all the paperwork has been received and is in order. If approved they will become Robbinsville Fire Company #2. **Roll call Vote:** Passed 20-0

**3) a) West Deptford** - Secretary Pelaia informed all that all the paperwork has been received and is in order for West Deptford Fire Department Company #5. He also said that all the non-qualified members in the other Companies will be transferring to this company and then the other Companies will become inactive.

**Roll call Vote:** Passed 20-0

b) President Ordway then gave an update of other Associations that may be forming new Companies:

**Kingston – (Middlesex/Somerset)** - Executive Committeeman Mazzarella is following up.

**Franklin Township (Somerset)** - Executive Committeeman Kurdyla is following up.

**Maplewood/South Orange** - (Essex) Executive Committeeman Otterbein is Following up on a possible merger.

**Estell Manor – (Atlantic)** – Executive Committeewoman Badger is trying to contact them. We are still awaiting paperwork.

**Mizpah – (Atlantic)** - Executive Committeewoman Badger reports they are Out of Service

**Maple Shade (Burlington)** Company was closed by the Municipality and Executive Committeeman Fazekas is investigating.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1) The Budget Document distributed at the last meeting and approved. There may have to be a vote on a budget amendment in the near future. Treasurer Mullen has reviewed last year's budget and the actual expenditures from the previous budget will be distributed to the Executive Committee soon.

2) Caucuses will begin in a week and a half. We have had many meetings in the office regarding the caucuses and hopefully all will go well.

3) President Ordway asked all of the Executives to begin thinking about any increases to programs that they may want to propose for the future, especially Relief, Health Care and Burial Benefit. He reminded everyone that an increase in the benefits may require a change in the percentages of the funds that are issued to the local Associations. Executive Committeeman Kurdyla, inquired if there is a way to get projections from the Insurance Companies regarding future funds coming in. President Ordway responded that we do not directly work with Insurance Companies. We work with Banking and Insurance. Upon Executive Committeeman Kurdyla's request President Ordway said he will check with Banking and Insurance to see if they have any projections. There was further discussion

4) Executive Committeeman asked if there was any progress on Princeton's inquiry on the funds that they receive. President Ordway said that Banking and Insurance has not gotten back to him yet.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Mellert, seconded by Executive Committeeman Mazzarella to accept the amendments to Article 5 Section 5 Subsection (a) that the Pension Committeeman Recommends. On a **Roll Call vote: Passed 20-0.**
- 2) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Handlin, seconded by Executive Committeeman Lane to accept the resignation of Field Examiner James Kenny with regret effective January 1, 2022. On a **Roll Call vote: Passed 19-1.**
- 3) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Lenarski, seconded by Executive Committeeman Kurdyla to approve the name change from Washington Township Relief Association (Mercer County) to Robbinsville Relief Association. **Passed 20-0**
- 4) A motion by Executive Committeeman Naylis, seconded by Executive Committeeman Kelly to extend the Covid 19 Housing Reimbursement program to the February Executive Committee Meeting. On a **Roll Call vote: Passed 20-0.**
- 5) A motion by Executive Committeeman Scheuer seconded by Executive Committeeman Reeves that the President appoint a temporary Administrative Assistant to the Field Examiner as recommended by the Field Examiner Search Committee to assist in a smooth transition to Field Examiner. On a **Roll Call vote: Passed 20-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Past President Gunson thanked Field Examiner Kenny for his dedication over the past 10 years. **There was no further comment.**

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- 1) President Ordway reminded everyone that there will be a Memorial Remembrance for former treasurer Barry Osborn at the Herbertsville Fire Company at 1pm today.
- 2) President Ordway said he was happy to see everyone at the meeting who previously had some health problems.
- 3) The State Exempt Association will be having their Annual Elections here at the State Office on August 21, 2021.
- 4) President Ordway thanked Field Examiner Kenney for his dedication for the past 10 years. Through those years there were many changes to and additional programs which included Special/Supplemental Relief, Financial Standing Reports, Health Care Applications, 990's. and much more. In addition to his remarks, many Executives thanked Mr. Kenny for a job well done.

3) Executive Committeeman Spiegel asked if the Application for Membership has been changed to reflect the new age bill. President Ordway responded yes, and we will still accept all applications with a revision date of 5/19 or later.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Executive Committeeman Florio, seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein the meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Thomas J. Pelaia**  
**Secretary**



# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, NJ 07727

DATE OF MEETING: July 17, 2021

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PRES   ABS

NAME	TITLE	PRES	ABS	Vote #1 - Approve Barnegat Light Application as a new Association.		Vote #2 - Approval for Robbinsville adding a Fire Company to their Association.		Vote #3- Approval for West Deptford adding a Fire Company to their Association.		
										YES
ROBERT F. ORDWAY	PRESIDENT	X								
JOSEPH T. HANKINS	VICE PRESIDENT	X								
THOMAS J. PELAIÀ	SECRETARY	X								
BRIAN E. MARTONE	1ST ASS'T SECY	X								
RICHARD K. DREBY	2ND ASS'T SECY	E	E							
EDWARD R. MULLEN	TREASURER	X								
JAMES J. KENNY	FIELD EXAMINER	X								
	PRES. EMERITUS	--	--							
FRANK P. CAVALLO, JR.	COUNSEL	X								
GEORGE M. MORRIS	ASS'T COUNSEL	X			YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
CINDY L. BADGER	ATLANTIC	X		X			X		X	
GERARD J. NAYLIS	BERGEN	X		X			X		X	
STEPHEN C. FAZEKAS	BURLINGTON	E	E	---	---		---	---	---	---
NORMAN F. FIGUEROA, JR.	CAMDEN	X		X			X		X	
DANIEL F. SPEIGEL	CAPE MAY	X		X			X		X	
JAMES F. REEVES	CUMBERLAND	X		X			X		X	
RICHARD C. OTTERBEIN	ESSEX	X		X			X		X	
GLENN D. ROEMMICH	GLOUCESTER	X		X			X		X	
LAWERENCE J. HANDLIN	HUDSON	X		X			X		X	
JOHN R. PHILLIPS	HUNTERDON	X		X			X		X	
JOSEPH M. LENARSKI	MERCER	X		X			X		X	
ANDREW MAZZARELLA	MIDDLESEX	X		X			X		X	
ROBERT J. KELLY	MONMOUTH	X		X			X		X	
EUGENE T. MINELL	MORRIS	X		X			X		X	
JENNIE M. HOLLINGSWORTH	OCEAN	X		X			X		X	
JOHN V. LANE	PASSAIC	X		X			X		X	
FRANCIS X. WALKER, JR.	SALEM	X		X			X		X	
ALLEN F. KURDYLA	SOMERSET	X		X			X		X	
DANIEL L. SCHEUER	SUSSEX	X		X			X		X	
NICHOLAS J. FLORIO	UNION	X		X			X		X	
KONRAD A. MELLERT	WARREN	X		X			X		X	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>

GUESTS: Past President, Frank Gunson  
 Past Secretary, Sanford Weinberg  
 William Smith, President of NJ Fire Chief's Assoc.  
 Bruce Horvath, Middlesex County Firemens Home Manager

William Hollingsworth, Little Egg Harbor  
 Gary Engelhardt, Point Pleasant Beach  
 Nick Lombardi, Piscataway  
 Artie Hayducka, Piscataway

# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, NJ 07727

DATE OF MEETING: July 17, 2021

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PRES ABS

NAME	OFFICE	Vote #4 - Approve Pension Resolution Change.		Vote #5 - Accept Resignation of Field Examiner, James Kenny.		Vote #6 - Approval for an Extension of Emergent Covid-19 Housing Relief Program.			
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO		
<b>ROBERT F. ORDWAY</b>	<b>PRESIDENT</b>								
<b>JOSEPH T. HANKINS</b>	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>								
<b>THOMAS J. PELAIA</b>	<b>SECRETARY</b>								
<b>BRIAN E. MARTONE</b>	<b>1ST ASS'T SECY</b>								
<b>RICHARD K. DREBY</b>	<b>2ND ASS'T SECY</b>								
<b>EDWARD R. MULLEN</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>								
<b>JAMES J. KENNY</b>	<b>FIELD EXAMINER</b>								
	<b>PRES. EMERITUS</b>								
<b>FRANK P. CAVALLO, JR.</b>	<b>COUNSEL</b>								
<b>GEORGE M. MORRIS</b>	<b>ASS'T COUNSEL</b>								
<b>CINDY L. BADGER</b>	<b>ATLANTIC</b>	X		X		X			
<b>GERARD J. NAYLIS</b>	<b>BERGEN</b>	X		X		X			
<b>STEPHEN C. FAZEKAS</b>	<b>BURLINGTON</b>	---	---	---	---	---	---		
<b>NORMAN F. FIGUEROA, JR.</b>	<b>CAMDEN</b>	X		X		X			
<b>DANIEL F. SPEIGEL</b>	<b>CAPE MAY</b>	X		X		X			
<b>JAMES F. REEVES</b>	<b>CUMBERLAND</b>	X		X		X			
<b>RICHARD C. OTTERBEIN</b>	<b>ESSEX</b>	X		X		X			
<b>GLENN D. ROEMMICH</b>	<b>GLOUCESTER</b>	X		X		X			
<b>LAWERENCE J. HANDLIN</b>	<b>HUDSON</b>	X		X		X			
<b>JOHN R. PHILLIPS</b>	<b>HUNTERDON</b>	X		X		X			
<b>JOSEPH M. LENARSKI</b>	<b>MERCER</b>	X		X		X			
<b>ANDREW MAZZARELLA</b>	<b>MIDDLESEX</b>	X		X		X			
<b>ROBERT J. KELLY</b>	<b>MONMOUTH</b>	X			X	X			
<b>EUGENE T. MINELL</b>	<b>MORRIS</b>	X		X		X			
<b>JENNIE M. HOLLINGSWORTH</b>	<b>OCEAN</b>	X		X		X			
<b>JOHN V. LANE</b>	<b>PASSAIC</b>	X		X		X			
<b>FRANCIS X. WALKER, JR.</b>	<b>SALEM</b>	X		X		X			
<b>ALLEN F. KURDYLA</b>	<b>SOMERSET</b>	X		X		X			
<b>DANIEL L. SCHEUER</b>	<b>SUSSEX</b>	X		X		X			
<b>NICHOLAS J. FLORIO</b>	<b>UNION</b>	X		X		X			
<b>KONRAD A. MELLERT</b>	<b>WARREN</b>	X		X		X			
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>		

GUESTS:

# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, NJ 07727

DATE OF MEETING: July 17, 2021

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PRES   ABS

NAME	TITLE			Vote #7 - Approval for an Administrative Assistant to the Field Examiner.					
				YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
ROBERT F. ORDWAY	PRESIDENT								
JOSEPH T. HANKINS	VICE PRESIDENT								
THOMAS J. PELAIÀ	SECRETARY								
BRIAN E. MARTONE	1ST ASS'T SECY								
RICHARD K. DREBY	2ND ASS'T SECY								
EDWARD R. MULLEN	TREASURER								
JAMES J. KENNY	FIELD EXAMINER								
	PRES. EMERITUS								
FRANK P. CAVALLO, JR.	COUNSEL								
GEORGE M. MORRIS	ASS'T COUNSEL								
CINDY L. BADGER	ATLANTIC			X					
GERARD J. NAYLIS	BERGEN			X					
STEPHEN C. FAZEKAS	BURLINGTON			---	---				
NORMAN F. FIGUEROA, JR.	CAMDEN			X					
DANIEL F. SPEIGEL	CAPE MAY			X					
JAMES F. REEVES	CUMBERLAND			X					
RICHARD C. OTTERBEIN	ESSEX			X					
GLENN D. ROEMMICH	GLOUCESTER			X					
LAWERENCE J. HANDLIN	HUDSON			X					
JOHN R. PHILLIPS	HUNTERDON			X					
JOSEPH M. LENARSKI	MERCER			X					
ANDREW MAZZARELLA	MIDDLESEX			X					
ROBERT J. KELLY	MONMOUTH			X					
EUGENE T. MINELL	MORRIS			X					
JENNIE M. HOLLINGSWORTH	OCEAN			X					
JOHN V. LANE	PASSAIC			X					
FRANCIS X. WALKER, JR.	SALEM			X					
ALLEN F. KURDYLA	SOMERSET			X					
DANIEL L. SCHEUER	SUSSEX			X					
NICHOLAS J. FLORIO	UNION			X					
KONRAD A. MELLERT	WARREN			X					
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>				

GUESTS:

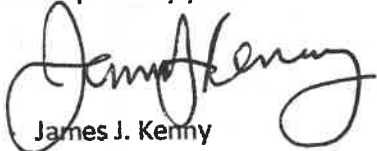
July 12, 2012

Dear President Ordway, Officers and Executive Committee Members of the NJSFA,

At this time I am announcing my retirement effective December 31, 2021. This action will allow you time to hire and train a new replacement for my position.

It has been a pleasure to work with all of you.

Respectfully yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. Kenny". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

James J. Kenny  
Field Examiner

# ***NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION***

1711 Route 34 South • Wall Township, New Jersey 07727-3934

Telephone: (732) 798-8137 • (800) 852-0137

Fax: (732) 938-2580

**Robert F. Ordway, President**  
**Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President**  
**Edward R. Mullen, CPA, Treasurer**  
**Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel**

**Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary**  
**Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary**  
**Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary**  
**James J. Kenny, Field Examiner**

July 17, 2021

To: All Association Secretaries

From Thomas J. Pelaia, NJSFA Secretary

Re: Field Examiner's Position

We have been notified by Field Examiner James Kenny that he will be retiring from his position on December 31, 2021. Jim has done a great job during his 10 years as our Field Examiner, and he will be sorely missed.

The Executive Committee is beginning a search for a member to replace him. Attached is a list of the General Duties of the Field Examiner. Any member with a line number in the State Association, who is interested in the position must submit to us a letter of interest in the position along with a resume to:

**Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary**  
**New Jersey State Firemen's Association**  
**1711 Route 34 South**  
**Wall Township, New Jersey 07727-3934**

All letters and Resumes must be submitted by the close of business **September 1, 2021**.

Letters and resumes will be reviewed by a search committee consisting of members of the Executive Committee and acceptable candidates will be notified by the Committee of a date for an interview. The successful candidate will serve out Mr. Kenny's term which runs until the May 2022 Executive Committee meeting at which time the Executive Committee will appoint the Field Examiner for a one-year term.

Anyone having any questions should feel free call me at the above telephone number.

Thank You,

Thomas Pelaia  
Secretary

**Vice-President's Report**  
**July 2021 Executive Committee Meeting**

To: Officer's & Executive Committee Members:

May 26<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Jersey City Firemen's Memorial Service with President Ordway, Secretary Pelaia, & Executive Committeeman Larry Handlin.

June 2 Attended a meeting of the New Jersey Retired Police & Firefighters Association.

June 6<sup>th</sup> Attended the Patterson Fire Department Memorial Service with President Ordway & Executive Committeemen John Lane.

June 11<sup>th</sup> Attended the New Jersey State Museum Coalition meeting along with Secretary Pelaia and Executive Committeeman Robert Kelly.

Attended the Ocean County 200 Club Awards Ceremony.

June 12<sup>th</sup> Attended the N.J. Firemen's Home E- Board meeting with President Ordway & Executive committeemen Otterbein, Handlin.

June 21<sup>st</sup> Attended the 20 years of Assistance to Firefighters Grant program hosted by Congressman Bill Pascrell and the Patterson Fire Department with Executive Committeemen Lane.

June 27<sup>th</sup> Attended the Volunteer Firemen's Association meeting in Southampton Township.

July 10<sup>th</sup> Attended the Full Board meeting of the NJ Firemen's Home, with President Ordway and Executive Committeeman Otterbein

July 11<sup>th</sup> Attended a meeting with Executive Committeewoman Hollingsworth to go over paperwork for a new Association.

July 14<sup>th</sup> Attended the South Monmouth Fire Chiefs Association with President Ordway, Secretary Pelaia, Treasurer Mullen, and Executive Committeeman Kelly.

The Pension Committee met, and I would expect, approved an addendum to the pension plan document.

The updated Caucus & Convention workers list are included in your packet. If there are any caucuses, you are assigned to that you cannot work please let me know.

Using the Ancestry & Newspapers subscription we have paid 340 burial claims and closed out 131 as no claims due to no surviving family. 471 total claims closed.

Additionally, reviewing the last 132 funeral bills statewide that have been submitted, the average cost is \$9,842.00. The new fiscal year will start 7-1-21 I have been told by more than one funeral director that 50% to 70% of their business is now cremation.

Respectfully submitted

*Joseph T. Hankins*

Joseph T. Hankins  
Vice President

# ***NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION***

1711 Route 34 South • Wall Township, New Jersey 07727-3934

Telephone: (732) 798-8137 • (800) 852-0137

Fax: (732) 938-2580

Robert F. Ordway, President  
Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President  
Edward R. Mullen, CPA, Treasurer  
Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary  
Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT July 17, 2021**

In addition to the normal duties performed by the Secretary I report the following:

- 1) We have received 1538 new Applications for Membership for our fiscal year July 2020 thru June 2021. Included in these new applications are 305 New Applications for those members who are now eligible to join the Association under the new age requirement.
- 2) Along with our office staff we prepared the Convention Packets, and mailed them to all Local Secretaries on June 17, 2021
- 3) We continue to receive changes in Convention Delegates and Alternates. As a reminder **NO CHANGES can be made after August 31, 2021**
- 4) I along with Vice President Hankins assisted with the formation of s New Association and several new Companies.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Pelaia  
Secretary

REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
QUARTER ENDING: JUNE, 30 2021

CHECKS ISSUED IN VARIOUS AMOUNTS

1 @	\$391.00	\$391.00
2 @	\$1,083.34	\$2,166.68
1 @	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
2 @	\$2,600.00	\$5,200.00
1 @	\$2,839.75	\$2,839.75
1 @	\$2,864.60	\$2,864.60
3 @	\$3,000.00	\$9,000.00
1 @	\$3,153.00	\$3,153.00
2 @	\$3,200.00	\$6,400.00
1 @	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00
1 @	\$3,900.00	\$3,900.00
1 @	\$4,100.00	\$4,100.00
1 @	\$4,300.00	\$4,300.00
1 @	\$4,478.00	\$4,478.00
1 @	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
1 @	\$4,550.00	\$4,550.00
1 @	\$4,600.00	\$4,600.00
2 @	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
1 @	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00
2 @	\$5,250.00	\$10,500.00
2 @	\$5,500.00	\$11,000.00
1 @	\$5,597.80	\$5,597.80
1 @	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1 @	\$6,402.20	\$6,402.20
1 @	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
1 @	\$6,565.00	\$6,565.00
1 @	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
2 @	\$7,200.00	\$14,400.00
2 @	\$7,400.00	\$14,800.00
1 @	\$7,595.00	\$7,595.00
2 @	\$7,700.00	\$15,400.00
2 @	\$9,000.00	\$18,000.00
1 @	\$9,160.25	\$9,160.25
2 @	\$9,300.00	\$18,600.00
1 @	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00
1 @	\$9,700.00	\$9,700.00
3 @	\$10,000.00	\$30,000.00
4 @	\$10,500.00	\$42,000.00
3 @	\$10,750.00	\$32,250.00
1 @	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00
3 @	\$11,500.00	\$34,500.00
2 @	\$11,750.00	\$23,500.00
195 @	\$12,000.00	\$2,340,000.00
		<hr/>
		\$2,773,363.28



REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
 TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
 QUARTER ENDING: JUNE, 30 2021

CLAIMS FILED BETWEEN APRIL 01, 2020 AND JUNE 30, 2020	279	
CLAIMS FILED BETWEEN APRIL 01, 2021 AND JUNE 30, 2021	280	
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD APRIL 01, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2020	224	
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD APRIL 01, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2021	254	
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD APRIL 01, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2020	224	\$2,577,350.00
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD APRIL 01, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2021	254	\$2,773,363.28
1 - WIDOW	104	\$1,221,800.00
2 - DAUGHTER	56	\$539,666.68
3 - SON	55	\$565,350.00
4 - MOTHER	1	\$12,000.00
5 - FATHER	1	\$10,500.00
6 - UNDERTAKER	24	\$252,549.05
C - GRAND-DGT	1	\$2,864.60
G - NIECE	2	\$12,391.00
M - WIDOWER	1	\$12,000.00
N - CAREGIVER	13	\$139,741.95
P - SISTER	1	\$4,500.00
	254	\$2,773,363.28

EXPLANATION - NO CLAIMS

NO CLAIMS WERE FILED

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Richard K. Dreby, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Secretary  
Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Konrad Mellert  
Francis X. Walker  
James Reeves Jr.,  
Edward R Mullen, CPA, Secretary-Treasurer  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner  
Gary D. Schwartz, M.D. Consultant

DATE: July 17, 2021

To: Executive Committee

### The Health Care Committee Report:

- Date July 17, 2021
- Home Care Applications Approved: 57
- Assisted Living/Long Term Care Applications Approved: 27
- New Applications Received for: 45 Firefighters, 39 Spouses
- Total Applications Approved: 84
- Total Paid to Date: \$1,602,607.93.60
- 2020 Home Care Applications Approved: 108
- 2020 Assisted Living/Long Term Care Applications Approved: 16
- 2020 Total Applications Approved: 124
- 2020 Total Paid to Date: \$1,573,001.17

Sincerely,

James Reeves  
Health Care Committee

# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

July 17, 2021

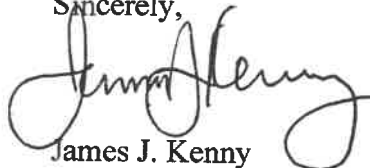
## FIELD EXAMINERS REPORT

May 6, 2021 to July 15, 2021

During the period covered by this report the following applications for Supplementary Relief were processed.

	Applications Received	Approved	Returned/Denied		Amount
May	6	6	0	0	\$42,000.00
June	7	7	0	0	\$68,229.21
July	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	0	0	<u>\$63,000.00</u>
Total Supplementary	18	18	0	0	\$173,229.21
Special Relief	29	29	0	0	\$129,875.00

Sincerely,



James J. Kenny  
Field Examiner

JJK:dp



**NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN — ESSEX COUNTY**

**Richard C. Otterbein**  
18 Sunset Road  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

Home: 973-226-3446  
Cell: 973-809-3004  
Email: rotterbein@yahoo.com

To: Officers and Executive Committeepersons

From: Rich Otterbein

Subject: NJS Firemen's Home Report

Meetings: 6/12/21 Executive Board Meeting  
7/10/21 Full Board Meeting

**6/12/21 Meeting:**

- Budget – currently on budget
- Superintendent – happy with staff
- Memory Care Unit Occupancy – being held up by Local, DCA and State Dept. of Health; planning to occupy in July.
- Census – 42 Long Term; 5 Residential = 47 total guests
- 5 applications in process
- 5 applications for Memory Care - pending
- Superintendent – contract up
- Finance – 5/8 – 6/12: \$354,397.99; motion to pay approved
- Assembly Bill A-5210 – withdrawn; 5 talking points dead; no reason to meet with Assemblyman.
- In lieu of Convention Meeting in Wildwood in September, a Full Board meeting will be held at the Home on September 25, 2021, at 9:30 AM
- Discussion concerning a name for the Memory Care Unit – no decision.
- Discussion – why is the Home's Executive Board in existence – to help with travel time reduction; no change.

**7/10/21 Meeting:**

- Home Managers not in attendance: Oser, Signorello and Strube
- Budget: working on 2021-2022 year budget

- Internet – working on integrated upgrade; did purchase a new Minivan & Kubota tractor; upgrade to Front Lobby.
- Census: 43 Long Term; 5 Residential = 48 guests; 2 new in and 1 out since last meeting.
- 9 applications approved; 4 applications pending; 5 waiting on Memory Care Unit – 3 new and 2 current guests; 4 applications pending; 16 potential add.
- Finance: 6/12 – 7/8: \$513,230.27 – motion approved
- Oscar Dutch reported he was contacted by and spoke to 2<sup>nd</sup> District NJ Assemblyman John Armato, Atlantic County, concern current issues.
- New Business: Frato appointed Committees: 1) Fact Finding for Home expansion to other New Jersey locations; Oscar Dutch appointed chairman of the Committee; Frato comment – “expand no matter what the cost”, and 2) Memorial Committee – Grenco chairman – plaque for former Managers.
- Board Chairperson Frato expects to meet with 24<sup>th</sup> District Assemblyman (either Space/Wriths) soon. Claims he will bring up the Dept. of Health lack of evaluation of the Memory Care Unit among other issues.
- Frato indicated that the posted NJSFA “Home” Resolution to be voted on in at the September Convention “is not worth the paper it is written on; the current status is protected by State Statute.”
- Marketing – looking to hire a Professional Marketing Organization
- Memory Care Unit – DCA and Local authorities have approved the occupancy; waiting on NJ Dept. of Health. (I posed the following question: since it appears that several managers have contacts with members of the state legislator, why have they not asked these legislators to use their office to put pressure on NJ Dept. of Health to open the Memory Care Unit). My general comment on this situation: The fact that the Memory Care Unit construction is complete has been sitting unused for months is a travesty and should be dealt with by the home management immediately. I have personally toured the Memory Care Unit and it is complete in all respects and yet it sits idle. This is inappropriate and not in the best interest of NJ Firefighters.
- Contract for Home Superintendent – approved - 5 years deal; starting salary increased by 45% - \$145,000. Employee committee did some research and claims his new salary is at the low part of a salary range for comparable nursing home superintendents in the central NJ area; no details were provided on actual comparables and salary increase justification.

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**Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel**

**Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary**  
**Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary**  
**Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary**  
**James J. Kenny, Field Examiner**

## **Legislative Committee Report** **July 17, 2021**

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

The 2020-2021 Legislative Session has been continuing with more and more in person meetings, and they have been starting to open them up to the public. The total number of bills introduced to date are up to 10,853 as of this report. The Governor has signed 337 bills into law with currently 174 bills sitting on his desk waiting to be signed. The Legislative Committee is currently tracking 110 bills which are broken down into two categories, Fire & Emergency Services and Pensions. Currently, five of our tracked bills have been signed into law by the Governor so far for this Legislative Session. The most recent one being and probably most important one, our Age Bill, A-4745 -Raises from 45 to 57 maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Fireman's Association.

I want to take the time to thank everyone for all their help and support for the past two years with the process of the getting the Age Bill signed into Law. It was a long process, and everyone's help of making phone calls, writing support letters, and attending committee meetings to show support for the bill was a huge part in getting the bill signed into law. It was a team effort with a lot of moving parts, and it could have not been accomplished without it. The Final Draft of the bill has not been posted but as soon as it is I will send it out to everyone.

I am preparing a generic report from the Legislative Committee for the County Caucus Meetings and the Annual Convention that will be included in the packet of information that gets handed out to everyone.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Brian E. Martone**  
**Legislative Committee Chairman**  
**First Assistant Secretary**

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## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Konrad Mellert  
Francis X. Walker  
James Reeves Jr.,  
Edward R Mullen, Secretary-Treasurer  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner  
Gary D. Schwartz, M.D. Consultant

Date: July 17, 2021

To: Executive Committee

From: Special Relief Committee

The Special Relief Committee Report,

- July 17, 2021
- Applications Approved: 77
- For a total of \$ 349,377.00

Last year for the same period we approved 95 applications for a total of \$352,157.00

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SUMMARY APPROVED</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYOUT</u>
2011	155	\$177,774.00
2012	172	\$197,225.86
2013	117	\$140,500.00
2014	133	\$146,516.34
2015	138	\$143,550.00
2016	135	\$131,000.00
2017	180	\$396,632.00
2018	168	\$357,819.13
2019	197	\$400,192.69
2020	206	\$867,283.00

Respectfully Submitted,



Konrad Mellert, Chairman

# RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Fireman's Association (hereafter the "Company"), a New Jersey not-for-profit corporation, sponsors the New Jersey State Fireman's Association Retirement Plan (the "Plan") for the benefit of its members.

**WHEREAS**, Article 8, Section 1 of the Plan allows for Company to amend the Plan by following the procedures set forth therein.

**WHEREAS**, the Plan currently only allows for a death benefit to be paid to married participants.

**WHEREAS**, Company desires to amend the Plan to allow for a death benefit to be paid to unmarried participants, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 (the "Effective Date")

**WHEREAS**, the Company does not intend to modify the Plan in any manner that materially alters its function or administration except as specifically set forth herein.

**WHEREAS**, the Company does not intend to amend the Plan, Trust, Plan Checklist, or other Plan documents in any manner with the appearance, implication, or effect of jeopardizing the Plan's qualified status.

**WHEREAS**, it is the understanding of the Company that this resolution will not jeopardize the Plan's qualified status.

**WHEREAS**, on July 17, 2021 a legitimately constituted and legally-sufficient meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company (individually and collectively hereafter the "Board") was convened for the purpose of discussing amending the Plan in the manner set forth above.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board adopted the following resolutions (the "Resolution") on the Effective Date.

1. **RESOLVED**, that the Plan Document shall be amended as follows:
  - a. Replace Article 5, Section 5, subsection (a) with the following:

**"(a) Death prior to retirement benefits beginning.** The death benefit provided under this Plan shall be the "minimum spouse's death benefit" provided in Section 5.5(c). In the case of an unmarried Participant who dies prior to such Participant's Retirement Date, the death benefit shall be the benefit provided in Section 5.5(g)."
  - b. Insert the following Article 5, Section 5, subsection (g):

**"(g) Death benefit for unmarried participants.** For the purposes of this Section, the death benefit payable to beneficiaries of unmarried participants shall be the actuarial equivalent of the accrued life annuity of the deceased Participant that would be payable upon that Participant's benefit commencement date. Such benefits shall continue until the earlier of (1) the death of the named beneficiary, or (2) 120 monthly payments have been made."
2. **RESOLVED**, that the amendments contemplated herein shall also be incorporated into the document by reference through these resolutions.
3. **RESOLVED**, that the Board, individually and collectively, are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take such actions as shall be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intentions of these resolutions, including, but not limited to, execution of any documents, adoption of any amendments permitted or required by law to maintain the tax-qualified status of the Plan as of its termination, delivering a copy of these resolutions to the Plan's trustee, and any other steps as any such officer may deem necessary or advisable; and be it further



4. **RESOLVED**, that in addition to the specific authorizations set forth in any of the foregoing resolutions, the proper officers be, and each of them hereby is, authorized, empowered and directed, in the name and on behalf of the Board to take or cause to be taken any and all such further actions, to prepare, execute and deliver or cause to be prepared, executed and delivered all such other documents, certificates, instruments, schedules, reports and agreements, to make such filings, to incur and pay all such fees and expenses and to engage in such acts as it shall in its judgment determine to be necessary, advisable or appropriate to carry out fully the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolutions, and the execution by the proper officers of any such documents, certificates, instruments, schedules, reports or agreements or the payment of any such fees and expenses or the doing of any act in connection with the foregoing matters shall be conclusive evidence of their authority therefor and for the approval of the documents, certificates, instruments, schedules, reports and agreements so executed, the expenses so paid, the filings so made and the actions so taken; and be it further
  
5. **RESOLVED**, that all actions heretofore taken by the Board and/or a proper officer of the Company or those acting at the direction of any of them, in connection with any matter referred to or contemplated by any resolution contained herein be, and they hereby are, approved, ratified and confirmed in all respects; and be it further
  
6. **RESOLVED**, that each of the Board members and any officer each acting singly, shall be considered a proper agent of the Company for the purposes of each of the foregoing resolutions.
  
7. **RESOLVED**, that Company shall further amend any names or other identifiers in the Plan to bring the entirety of the Plan and Trust into technical compliance with the changes set forth above.
  
8. **RESOLVED**, that the signatory to this resolution is authorized to execute documents on behalf of the Company and may bind the Company though its signature.



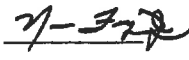

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, on the date set forth below the Company or its duly authorized agent memorializes their acceptance and affirmation of the Resolution set forth herein.

Date: July 17, 2021

Signed: 

Print Name: Joseph Hankins Vice President  
For New Jersey State Fireman's Association

Committee Members

Cindy Badger  Eugene Minelli  Norman Figueroa Jr.   
 NJSFA Treasurer Edward Mullen 

Witnessed by Frank P. Cavallo ESQ. Council N.J.S.F.A.



# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Comparison 2020 vs 2021

<u>JANUARY - JUNE</u>	<u>1/1/2020 thru 6/30/2020</u>		<u>1/1/2021 thru 6/30/2021</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
* Healthcare	\$478,836.69	80	\$1,730,320.62	133	\$1,251,483.93	261.36%	State Office
Special Relief	\$362,157.00	86	\$258,025.00	60	-\$104,132.00	-28.75%	State Office
<b>Total - State</b>	<b>\$840,993.69</b>		<b>\$1,988,345.62</b>		<b>\$1,147,351.93</b>	<b>136.43%</b>	

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<u>BURIAL CLAIMS JANUARY - JUNE</u>	<u>1/1/2020 thru 6/30/2020</u>		<u>1/1/2021 thru 6/30/2021</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
Burial Claims	\$6,185,881.86	544	\$6,190,144.50	548	\$4,262.64	0.07%	State Office

\* 2021 Healthcare currently being utilized by members from 20 Counties

## Quarterly Relief Paid Reports Comparison - Local & Supplemental Actual Paid Combined

	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>YTD Total</u>
<b>2020</b>	\$ 968,392.53				\$ 968,392.53
<b>2021</b>	\$ 868,866.31				\$ 868,866.31
<b>Difference</b>	\$ (99,526.22)				\$ (99,526.22)