

**ABRIDGED REPORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
WALL TOWNSHIP, NJ
July 20, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Ordway at 9:00am 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). The fire exits were pointed out.

Vice President Hankins led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed for Tom Miller, Past Executive from Union County, and Diane Dreby, wife of Second Assistant Secretary Dreby and their families.

Second Assistant Secretary Dreby gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL:

First Assistant Secretary Brian Martone announced that all members were present except for Executive Committeeman Scheuer, who was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1) The Abridged Minutes and Verbatim Minutes of the February 24, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting and the May 4, 2024 meeting were approved as distributed on a motion by Executive Committeeman Handlin, seconded by Executive Committeeman Fazekas. Executive Committeewoman Badger then said that she asked at the May meeting if the Field Examiner/whomever gets a stipend when they go out at night. She stated that President Ordway said no but the minutes say yes. President Ordway stated that for Field Exams and Caucuses when she attends, but not when she goes to a private meeting that we don't know about. Committeewoman Badger said that she had made a motion that they at least get reimbursed for gas and tolls. President Ordway stated that it will be rectified at this meeting. Mr. Spiegel mentioned that Cape May was under review and that was a mistake in the minutes. On a vote for the motion, **Passed**.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Secretary Pelaia announced that there were no additional communications that needed to be read. A motion to accept communications sent to the Executive Committee was made by Executive Committeeman Spiegel, seconded by Executive Committeeman Phillips, **PASSED**.

LIFE MEMBER REPORT:

None

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

VICE PRESIDENT HANKINS:

- 1) The Caucus information has been updated. There has been a change of venue for Camden County.
- 2) The BlueClaws have once again been very generous to us. They have offered us free tickets for certain games. He told the executives that if they want tickets to contact him.
- 3) There is a parking pass in the executive folders for Thursday's meeting in Wildwood. Passes for Friday and Saturday will be distributed at Thursday's meeting.

SECRETARY PELAIJA: He stated that there is an in-depth report in your packets. Also:

- 1) Petitions for the Executive Committee and Board of Managers have been received from every county. There were two petitions that were received for Salem County Executive Committeeperson. A drawing for a ballot position was held. There were four petitions received for the Board of Managers. Three were submitted properly. The other petition was not accepted due to errors in it. That member will need to be nominated from the floor at the Caucus. Since there was no petition for Salem County Manager, they will need to have nominations from the floor as well.
- 2) The deadline for changes to Delegates and Alternates is August 31, 2024.
- 3) On June 15, Convention credentials were mailed to all secretaries. If anyone has any questions about the credentials, please feel free to contact him ASAP.
- 4) All executives who want their report to be included in the packets given out at the Convention are asked to get them to the Secretary as soon as possible.
- 5) The Red Books are at the printer, being finalized. Once approved, they will be mailed out to the local associations.

FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY MARTONE: He has a written report in the packets. He sent a draft copy of some of the History of the Association to the executives. This was started by former Executive Mellert and former First Assistant Secretary Genovay.

SECOND ASSISTANT SECRETARY DREBY:

- 1) The Memorial Service at the Convention is pretty much set up. The Honor Guard and the Pipe Band, along with the singers, have been contacted and they have acknowledged that they will participate.
- 2) He continues to work on the bank statements and has been in touch with the Local Treasurers regarding the same.

TREASURER MULLEN:

- 1) His report has been distributed. He has two items which he wants to mention. On June 1, we had to upgrade QuickBooks from Intuit to a cloud based system. This will enable us, among other things, to have Direct Deposit built in.
- 2) Executive Committeeman Kurdyla inquired about Branchburg. They lost their tax-exempt status. Treasurer Mullen stated that he is working with the IRS to rectify the situation.

FIELD EXAMINER HOLLINGSWORTH: In addition to her written report, her verbal remarks were as follows:

- 1) Some of the executives have been inundated with reports that she has been sending. She said it was much easier to send them to all the executives since they would eventually receive them. Anyone having any questions regarding the reports should see her.
- 2) We will be collecting 2023 Relief Applications at all caucuses except Salem.
- 3) Regarding Health Care apps, she received four applications after the cut-off date. She has advised the proper associations of this.

COUNSEL CAVALLO: No Report.

COUNSEL MORRIS: Counsel mentioned that there has been an amendment to the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) which goes into effect on September 3. The decision by the Supreme Court that we do not have to release Relief Applications is now codified in the law.

PRESIDENT ORDWAY: The President had no written report. His verbal remarks were as follows:

- 1) The State Office will be closed on September 2 for the Labor Day holiday. The office will also be closing early on Wednesday September 11 and completely on September 12 and 13 for the Convention.
- 2) He reminded everyone that the Camden County Caucus has been relocated.

- 3) Applications for Special and Supplemental Relief are due by December 1 to be processed for 2024.
- 4) Second Quarterly reports are due in the office by July 30.
- 5) All Delegate reports have been received. All changes must be submitted in writing.
- 6) Delegate and life member payment vouchers (pinks and blues) must be received in our office by November 1. Do not submit the white page affidavit document.
- 7) Changes have been made to the Annual Financial Report. The system now calculates the estimated maximum limit for local expenses. The system will transfer the names and last four digits of every bank account from the previous year's report. This will assist the treasurer when it is filled out.
- 8) Removal of non-qualified members for lack of service has been completed for this year. There are approximately 280 members that may be removed from the rolls compared to 1500 last year.
- 9) Caucus locations must be ADA Compliant.
- 10) The 2024 Convention will be held September 13-14. A sample ballot is in the packets and will be distributed with caucus packets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADVISORY/SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTAL COMMITTEE: Executive Committeeman Walker stated that the reports are in the packet. There is a report on a member who was charged with Moral Turpitude and did not appear for his hearing. We will have a vote on our recommendation under new business.

COMPENDIUM COMMITTEE: Executive Committeeman Roemmich said there was no report.

DELEGATE AND LIFE MEMBER COMMITTEE: Executive Committeeman Florio report is already submitted for this coming convention but asked the executives to talk with the members they represent and inquire what expenses are incurred for discussion for year's convention.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance Committee will be meeting on Monday August 5.

FIREMEN'S HOME COMMITTEE: Chairman Otterbein submitted a report which is in the packets. Home is currently undergoing an actuarial study. They have also formed a Building Addition committee. There continues to be discussion on the addition requirements to the home. Also, Should the admission require 84 months of service to be eligible for entering the home.

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE: Chairman Reeves stated his report is in the packets. There are currently 433 applicants at this time Vice President Hankins stated that most of the executives received an e-mail from a specific vendor regarding Health Care. He noted that it is not in the Association's best interest to have any one person speak at your Caucus. We have received many requests to put vendor information out and we do not do that. Vice President Hankins stated that if this vendor reaches out to you, do not permit them to speak at your Caucus.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE: Executive Committeeman Handlin stated that the committee will be getting together before the November meeting. They are getting reports together to present at the meeting,

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE: No Report.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: First Assistant Secretary Martone reported that the Legislative Committee members were informed that they must provide a report at their Caucus. They all have been issued a generic report that they can tweak or change.

PENSION COMMITTEE: Treasurer Mullen said that they met this morning and a couple of items were discussed. There is retirement coming up on October 1. NPPG (Northeast Professional Planning Group) is going to update our Pension Plan document. This is required by the IRS every six years.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE: Assistant Counsel Morris reported that the committee met on June 27. They entertained 15 resolutions. Three were standard resolutions that we vote on each year. Twelve were submitted by the membership. Of the 12 resolutions submitted, only one will appear on the ballot. This is in regard to adding siblings to the burial claim. The Resolutions Committee recommended a no vote on this. Executive Committeeman Walker asked if we will be speaking on this resolution at our Convention. Counsel Morris said yes.

SALARY COMMITTEE: No report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE: Executive Committeeman Lane reported that the mission of this committee is to review programs that involve monetary distributions to our members. He stated that it has become apparent that the current programs such as Health Care and Special Relief have grown substantially during recent years, thereby requiring reevaluation of our current offerings.

FIRE COMMISSION: Executive Committeeman Naylis that the physical training for recruits in training Academies came up.(???) He emphasized that this is not a requirement of the Division of Fire Safety, but a recommendation of the Advisory Counsel. He then reported that there are several changes to the Fire Safety Act which are now going through the legislature. Action on these bills is not expected before

Election Day. The legislature also voted to defer the townhouse automatic Sprinkler Bill and then sent it to the Governor's for his signature.

OLD BUSINESS:

Removal from Review:

- 1) There is a list of associations that may be coming off review: Executive Committeeman Mazzearella said he had three; Perth Amboy and Carteret. A motion was made bt Executive Committeeman Mazzearella and seconded by Executive Committeeman Kelly to them from review.
- 2) Executive Committeeman Mazzearella said New Brunswick was historically problematic. They told him that they had six Relief Applications when they had eight. Since the association is under review, Committeeman Mazzearella was supposed to go over them himself, but they were acted upon and paid without his approval. They also paid some applicants more than the need warranted. Executive Committeeman Mazzearella made a motion, seconded by Executive Committeeman Handlin, to place New Brunswick Out of Accord. On a Roll Call Vote **PASSED 21-0.**
- 3) The Woodbridge Firemen's Relief Association applied to form a new company; Company #2. Executive Committeeman Kelly made a motion, seconded by Executive Committeeman Florio to approve the new company. **PASSED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Executive Committeeman Otterbein commented on the Finance and Future Planning Committee. He reiterated that there will be no change of where we are as far as the suspension of applications, receipt of applications for spouses and assisted living. There is a lot of misinformation out in the field. The only things suspended are assisted living and spousal applications.
- 2) Committeewoman Badger inquired about the motion that was tabled at the last meeting regarding people getting reimbursed for gas and mileage, and if this conflicted with laws and regulations. Counsel Cavallo and President Ordway apologized for not having an answer at this meeting. Executive Committeeman
- 3) Reeves informed all that long time former Home Manager Bob Sanders passed away about 10 days ago. He will be sorely missed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) The Advisory Committee reported that member 369-02-229 of United Woodbridge Township did not appear for a hearing where charges were filed against him for Moral Turpitude. A motion was made by Executive *Committeeman* Kelly, seconded by Executive Committeeman Walker, to remove member 369-02-229. **On a Roll Call Vote, PASSED 21-0.**

2) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Reeves, seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein, that all Relief Applications (Local, Special, Supplemental and Health Care) must be the current revised forms found on the New Jersey State Firemen's Association website. They must be downloaded by everyone needing any of these forms. **PASSED 21-0.**

3) Executive Committeeman Mazzarella spoke regarding the Executive Committee's Convention allowance. He stated that since it involved money, that it should be approved with a roll call vote. The discussion ensued and after some discussion, Counsel Cavallo said that there needed to be a motion and second for the discussion to continue. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Mazzarella to continue this discussion. There was not a second. President Ordway then said he would have a report on the amounts that the Executives to review at the Executive Committee meeting prior to the Convention, and the Executives can review it and vote on it at that time.

4) Executive Committeeman Handlin mentioned that some of the speakers at last year's convention went on too long. President Ordway was aware of the concerns and is informing the speakers that although what they are speaking on is important, they need to abbreviate it a little this year.

5) Executive Committeeman Handlin that the either the Long-Range Planning Committee or the Compendium Committee review who votes at the Convention.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no comments from the public.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

1) Second Assistant Secretary Dreby thanked the officers, Executive Committee and members for their cards, texts and attendance at the visitation and service for his wife. Their support really helped him through this tough time.

2) Secretary Pelaia thanked everyone for their calls and cards during his recent hospitalization.

3) Executive Committeeman Mazzarella thanked everyone for their condolences on the passing of his sister.

4) Executive Committeeman Kelly wanted the officers to consider closing the office as a holiday on September 11, as it is a very dramatic day. There is a movement on the Federal and State level to make this a national holiday. President Ordway said that we always follow what the Feds do.

5) Executive Mazzarella thanked everyone for their support for the past eight years that he was an Executive Committeeman. He has decided not to run this year.

6) Executive Committeeman Handlin spoke for the entire Executive Committee and officers in supporting Executive Committeeman Walker in his re-election bid.

7) Vice President Hankins informed everyone that Executive Committeeman Lenarski received an award from the National Society Sons of the American Revolution.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Executive Committeeman Speigel, seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein to adjourn the meeting at 10:07am. **MEETING ADJOURNED.**

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas J. Pelaia

Secretary

NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, NJ 07727

DATE OF MEETING: July 20, 2024

PAGE: 1 of 1

PRES ABS

NAME	TITLE	PRES	ABS	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
ROBERT F. ORDWAY	PRESIDENT	X							
JOSEPH T. HANKINS	VICE PRESIDENT	X							
THOMAS J. PELAIA	SECRETARY	X							
BRIAN E. MARTONE	1ST ASS'T SECY	X							
RICHARD K. DREBY	2ND ASS'T SECY	X							
EDWARD R. MULLEN	TREASURER	X							
JENNIE HOLLINGSWORTH	FIELD EXAMINER	X							
FRANK P. CAVALLO, JR.	COUNSEL	X							
GEORGE M. MORRIS	ASS'T COUNSEL	X							
				#1) Place New Brunswick Relief Association # 245 Out of Accord.		#2) Removal of a Member (Line # 369-02-0229) from United Woodbridge Relief Association.			
				YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
CINDY L. BADGER	ATLANTIC	X		X		X			
GERARD J. NAYLIS	BERGEN	X		X		X			
STEPHEN C. FAZEKAS	BURLINGTON	X		X		X			
NORMAN F. FIGUEROA, JR.	CAMDEN	X		X		X			
DANIEL F. SPEIGEL	CAPE MAY	X		X		X			
JAMES F. REEVES	CUMBERLAND	X		X		X			
RICHARD C. OTTERBEIN	ESSEX	X		X		X			
GLENN D. ROEMMICH	GLOUCESTER	X		X		X			
LAWERENCE J. HANDLIN	HUDSON	X		X		X			
JOHN R. PHILLIPS	HUNTERDON	X		X		X			
JOSEPH M. LENARSKI	MERCER	X		X		X			
ANDREW MAZZARELLA	MIDDLESEX	X		X		X			
ROBERT J. KELLY	MONMOUTH	X		X		X			
EUGENE T. MINELL	MORRIS	X		X		X			
JOSEPH JUBERT	OCEAN	X		X		X			
JOHN V. LANE	PASSAIC	X		X		X			
FRANCIS X. WALKER, JR.	SALEM	X		X		X			
ALLEN F. KURDYLA	SOMERSET	X		X		X			
DANIEL L. SCHEUER	SUSSEX	Excused		Excused		Excused			
NICHOLAS J. FLORIO	UNION	X		X		X			
JOSPEH MECSEY 3RD	WARREN	X		X		X			
TOTALS		29	1	20	0	20	0		

GUESTS: Past Secretary, Sanford Weidnberg
 Past Field Examiner, James Kenny
 Past Warren County Executive, Konard Mellert
 Roger Hull, Ocean County Firemen's Home Manager
 Daniel Dunn, Cape May County Firemen's Home Manager
 Garrick Miller, Middlesex County Firemen's Home Manager

William Smith, Past President NJSFC
 William Hollingsworth, Litte Egg Harbor Twp.
 Nick Lombardi, Piscataway
 Artie Hayduck, Piscataway

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

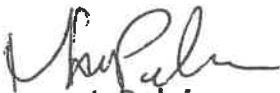
Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary
Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary
Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

SECRETARY'S REPORT

July 20, 2024

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

- 1) We have received 1510 new Applications for Membership for our fiscal year July 2023 thru June 2024. Unfortunately, we had 884 members pass away during the fiscal year.
- 2) REMEMBER – New Applications for Membership must have a Revision Date of 9/23. Any Application received with a date before 9/23 will be returned to the Secretary. Anyone who needs current Applications for Membership can call the office and they will be sent out the same day.
- 3) Along with our office staff we prepared the Convention Packets and mailed them to all Local Secretaries at the beginning of July .
- 4) We continue to receive changes in Convention Delegates and Alternates. As a reminder all changes must be in writing via e-mail. **NO CHANGES can be made after August 31, 2024**



Thomas J. Pelaia
Secretary

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Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary
Jennie M. Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

First Assistant Secretary Report Executive Committee Meeting July 20, 2024

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

I would like to just give an update on some of the things that I have been working on since the May Meeting.

I emailed all the Convention Committee Workers their assignments and information for the convention including times to report. I thank you for all your help with this.

I completed all three Manuals along with a Trustee/Relief Application Power Point. They were all uploaded to our website under the Manuals Tab. Each one is posted as a PDF file and is updated with all the edits that I received to date.

All three Relief Applications have been updated (Local, Special, & Supplemental). I was working with Field Examiner Hollingsworth on these to make them more user friendly/consistent. They have all been uploaded to our website under the Forms Tab as a PDF file with the revision date of 05/2024.

Lastly, I have been updating some files on our history that past Warren County Executiveman Konard Mellert was working on. This included, the History of the Executive Committee, History of attendance and locations of the Annual Convention, and the History of Executive Officers as voted on at the Annual Convention. Past First Assistant Secretary Jacob Genovay had a running list of the Past Officers as voted on at the Convention. I have emailed all three of the files to everyone, please let me know what you think and if there is anything that needs to be updated or changed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian E. Martone
First Assistant Secretary

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Jennie M. Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

Legislative Committee Report **July 20, 2024**

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

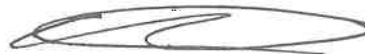
We are in the 2024-2025 Legislative Session, there has been a total of 8,868 bills introduced as of this report. The total of our tracked bills is 262, with 147 bills in Fire & Emergency Services, 48 bills in Pensions, and 71 bills in Firemen's Home. There are currently thirty-nine bills sitting on the Governor's Desk including one of our tracked bills, S-2435, Revises certain requirements concerning eligibility for reimbursement from "Emergency Medical Technician Training Fund." The Governor has signed forty-seven bills into law to date (two of the ones signed are our tracked bills).

A-4458 (P.L. 2024 c.42), Establishes exemptions and revises implementation timeline for requirement that newly constructed townhouses be installed with automatic fire sprinkler system (signed 07/10/2024).

A-3939 (P.L. 2024 c.15), Mandates access to periodic cancer screening examinations for professional firefighters not enrolled in SHBP, but who are eligible for SHBP by virtue of public employment (signed 06/03/2024).

The Annual Legislative Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday night, May 21, 2024, at 7:00pm via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian E. Martone
Legislative Committee Chairman
First Assistant Secretary

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Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary
Jennie M. Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

May 6, 2024

Robert F. Ordway, President
New Jersey State Firemen's Association
1711 Route 34 South
Wall Township, NJ 07727-3934

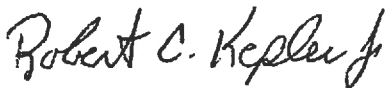
Dear Mr. President:

A regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on May 6, 2024, at the office of the Association. At that time, the accounts of the Association were audited for the Third Quarter ending March 31, 2024. Treasurer Edward R. Mullen was available by phone as needed and cooperated fully with the Committee in providing satisfactory answers to any questions that arose during the audit.

The reviews covered the reconciliation of all checks, vouchers, ledger entries and bank statements for the General fund, Burial Fund, Pension, General Checking, Assessment and Special Relief accounts. The Association income documents, bank statements, and credit and debit documents were found to be accurate and in satisfactory condition.

The Committee considers the accounts of the Association to be in satisfactory condition and has no recommendations to make at this time.

Very truly yours,



Robert C. Kepler, Jr., Chairperson

John A. Delesandro, III



Edward A. Pettit, Jr.

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NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Comparison 2023 vs 2024

<u>JANUARY - JUNE</u>	<u>1/1/2023</u> <u>thru 06/30/2023</u>		<u>1/1/2024</u> <u>thru 06/30/2024</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
* Healthcare - FF	\$5,418,598.79	227	\$6,679,118.47	253	\$1,260,519.68	23.26%	State Office
* Healthcare - Sp	\$1,449,307.28	166	\$1,527,969.94	193	\$78,662.66	5.43%	State Office
Special Relief	\$276,046.00	56	\$360,740.00	69	\$84,694.00	30.68%	*State Office
Total - State	\$7,143,952.07		\$8,567,828.41		\$1,423,876.34	19.93%	

<u>BURIAL CLAIMS</u> <u>JANUARY - JUNE</u>	<u>1/1/2023</u> <u>thru 06/30/2023</u>		<u>1/1/2024</u> <u>thru 06/30/2024</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
Burial Claims	\$5,553,427.55	477	\$5,287,291.84	450	-\$266,135.71	-4.79%	State Office

- * 2024 Healthcare payments are going to members from all 21 Counties
- * 699 Firefighters since inception 1/2017
- * 357 spouses since inception 1/2021

Local Relief Paid Comparison - Local, *Special & Supplemental Actual Paid Combined - Paid out by Local Associations

	<u>YTD Total</u>	<u>Incr/Decr from P/Y</u>	<u>PCT</u>		<u>2024</u>
2018	\$4,283,313.18			1st Qtr	\$991,047.03
2019	\$4,736,931.39	\$453,618.21	11%	* 2nd Qtr	\$952,775.41
2020	\$4,736,568.64	-\$362.75	0%		
2021	\$4,635,913.57	-\$100,655.07	-2%		
2022	\$5,127,076.83	\$491,163.26	11%		
2023	\$5,142,598.12	\$15,521.29	0%		
					<u>\$1,943,822.44</u>

* Qtr not totally in.



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

Date: July 15, 2024

To: Officers and Executive Committeepersons

From: Rich Otterbein, Chairperson, NJSFA Firemen's Home Liaison Committee

Subject: NJS Firemen's Home Report

Meetings: 5/11/24, 6/8/24 and 7/13/24 Full Board Meetings

5/11/24 Full Board Meeting

- Legionella issue: water testing continuing.
- BBQ season is starting.
- Finance: Bills: \$497,175.02 for the monthly period 4/10/24 through 5/7/24; motion to approve passed.
- Census (as of 5/11/24): 65 Long Term; 8 in Memory Care; 8 Residential = 81. Now have a wait list. (See the attachment)
- Manager Apgar to discuss a building addition with Chairperson/Manager Washer
- Actuarial study - progress.
- Manager Apgar advised the Board that they should review and comment on a proposed new admissions policy criterion (re: 84-month requirement for admission).
- Essex County Executive Committeeperson Otterbein questioned two items on the Home's revenue and budget report. Buildings and Grounds transferred "encumbered funds" to the Property Fund Account.
- Next meeting: Full Board – 6/8/24 at the Home.

6/8/24 Full Board Meeting

- Legionella issue: water testing continuing.
- Finance: Bills: \$403,495.27 for the monthly period 5/7/24 through 6/4/24; motion to approve passed.
- Census (as of 5/31/24): 65 Long Term; 7 in Memory Care; 8 Residential = 80. The Home Guest count is close to capacity. Wait list in effect. (See the attachment)

- Essex County Manager moved to table any discussion regarding changes to the application admission policy until a study concerning the potential building addition is complete. Motion to table passed 13-7.
- Golf – 106 golfers signed up to date.
- Chairperson/Manager Washer appointed a committee to study a potential building addition. Committee assigned: Manager Cunningham (Chair), Manager Mitch (Vice Chair), Manager Dutch, Manager Sutphen, Manager Signorello.
- Motion to approve an agreement with Morris County OEM's ambulance service for use of space and staging at the Home approved.
- Roof replacement – to be rebid.
- Next meeting: Full Board – 7/13/24

7/13/24 Full Board Meeting

- Home annual report for the NJSFA Caucus issued.
- Travel mileage stipend increased 3% as of March 1.
- COVID outbreak – Guests confined to their rooms; 17 tested positive; 15 now out of quarantine.
- Legionella issue: a couple a recent positive test. Testing continuing
- Budget – 7/1/23 - 6/30/24 year end budget ended with a slight reserve.
- Golf outing a success; 138 golfers; net profit \$15,720.
- Census (as of 7/9/24): 68 Long Term; 7 in Memory Care; 7 Residential = 82. Wait list in effect.
- Finance: Bills: \$471,849.16 for the monthly period 6/5/24 through 7/9/24; motion to approve passed.
- Budget for 2025-2026 – discussion to take place shortly.
- Manager Apgar asked the Managers to review and provide potential updates to the Managers Book; the book contains three sections - By-Laws, Statute, and Committee responsibilities.
- Long Term Planning – nothing to report until actuarial study is received.
- Manager Hull requested that the tabled admissions policy be un-tabled for discussion. Ater some discussion, there was no resolution. Further discussion will take place at next month's meeting.
- Hudson County Executive Committeeman Larry Handlin addressed a recent report delivered by Atlantic County Manager Oscar Dutch at a recent Atlantic County Firefighters' Association monthly meeting. Executive Handlin expressed concern about the report and noted that he takes exception to Manager Dutch's comments that the State Association does not care about their members and his recommendation on building a 40-room Firemen's Home on Route 72 in Ocen County as being inappropriate. (See the attachment)
- Next meeting: Full Board – August 10, 2024, at the Home

Report of the Applications Committee
New Jersey State Firemen's Home

June 4, 2024

The Application Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday June 4, 2024 at 0900 hours. Location was the Boonton Firemen's Home 565 Lathrop Ave. Boonton N.J.

Attending the meeting. Manager's Cunningham, Miller, Keyser, DeVirgilio, Jeffer. Chairmen Al Freeman excused.

Medical Staff: Director of Nursing Amber Bundrick and Social Services Director Ursula Baumgartner and Nursing Supervisor Mary-Kate Ernst

Guests: Superintendent John Veras, Vice Chairman Tim Apgar.

The Committee signed two (2) Applications to be admitted to the home.

The Monthly census as of 5/31/2024

First Floor:	30
Lathrop Station Memory Care Unit:	7
Second Floor :	35
Residential:	8
Total of	80

One Resident from Morris County answered his final alarm.

Two New Admissions, one from Morris County on 5/22/24 and one from Passaic on 5/1/24.

One Resident was discharged on 5/20/24.

We have an admission list of as this month.

The Next Applications Committee meeting is scheduled for July 2^a, 2024 @0900 hours Located at the Boonton Home.

Respectfully Submitted

Bernie Cunningham Essex County Manager
Applications Vice Chairperson

- Essex County Manager moved to table any discussion regarding changes to the application admission policy until a study concerning the potential building addition is complete. Motion to table passed 13-7.
- Golf – 106 golfers signed up to date.
- **Chairperson/Manager Washer appointed a committee to study a potential building addition. Committee assigned: Manager Cunningham (Chair), Manager Mitch (Vice Chair), Manager Dutch, Manager Sutphen, Manager Signorello.**
- Motion to approve an agreement with Morris County OEM's ambulance service for use of space and staging at the Home approved.
- Roof replacement – to be rebid.
- Next meeting: Full Board – 7/13/24

7/13/24 Full Board Meeting

- Home annual report for the NJSFA Caucus issued.
- Travel mileage stipend increased 3% as of March 1.
- COVID outbreak – Guests confined to their rooms; 17 tested positive; 15 now out of quarantine.
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Respectfully Submitted

Bernie Cunningham Essex County Manager
Applications Vice Chairperson

Fwd: Firemen's Home

Richard Otterbein <EssexExecutive@njsfa.com>

Thu 7/11/2024 9:41 AM

To: Joseph Hankins <Josephh@njsfa.com>

As requested. Rich

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cindy Badger <cindylbadger@gmail.com>

Date: June 20, 2024 at 11:43:19 AM EDT

To: Robert Ordway <Roberto@njsfa.com>, Joseph Hankins <Josephh@njsfa.com>, Richard Otterbein <EssexExecutive@njsfa.com>

Subject: Firemen's Home

Last night, the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association held its monthly meeting. I have included what Oscar Dutch put on the record at May's meeting and, in part, what he said last night.

The May 15, 2024, approved meeting minutes read Oscar Dutch, Atlantic County Board Manager, reported that the home is at capacity and a waitlist has been established. He said they are working on creating an actuarial report to estimate likely future applications for the home and whether they should consider adding twenty additional rooms to the home to meet potential future needs. He asked the board to consider looking at the possibility of a small facility in or around the Route 70 area of Toms River to assist future needs by assigning a committee to do the research. He said that the Morris County Historical Society recently toured the home and placed a plaque noting the home's historical significance. It was requested that the home not be submitted for any historical designation due to the probability of limiting future modification of expansion of the home.

At the June 20, 2024, meeting, Oscar Dutch said they are filled and have recently received twenty-some applications. He recommended building a 40-room Firemen's Home on Route 72 in Ocean County. He felt that the Relief Association would not agree to a second home, and the Firemen's Home would have to go to the State for approval. He felt the waitlist resulted from the State Relief Association freezing new applications for nursing home care. I told him that was not true. There was no freeze on nursing home care but assisted living care. I reminded him that the State Association reimburses a member in a nursing home up to twelve thousand dollars a month. The member can choose any nursing home in any state, and there are currently several members in nursing homes in other states. I said that the State Office wired the Firemen's Home over eleven million dollars in May and asked Oscar if that number would double if there were a second home. He never answered my question but said it is not the State Association's money, and the State Association does not get their money until the Firemen's Home budget is passed. Oscar commented that the State Association does not care about their members and wants the Firemen's Home to change their eligibility requirements to enter the Home to 7 years. He disagreed with the seven years.

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
Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

July 20, 2024

FIELD EXAMINERS REPORT

The following applications for Supplementary Relief, Special Relief, and Health Care were processed thus far in 2024.

Applications	Received	Approved	Denied	Active Claims	Amount Paid YTD
Special Relief	101	91	10		\$ 417,996.00
Supplementary Relief	52	41	11		\$ 503,935.00
Health Care Program	131	131		433	\$ 9,554,194.36

Notes:

- We will be collecting 2023 relief applications at all caucuses coming up (except for Salem). Please advise your locals to only bring applications that did not go to second level (Special Relief).
- Regarding the Health Care freeze on spouses I have a few spouse applications that arrived after the cutoff date. I will be returning them to the local association with a letter.
- I have received a few calls regarding how helpful the new manuals are.
- Attached is the list of Associations under review.

The following is what was processed for the month of May.

- I reviewed and approved 269 claims for health care reimbursement.
- I processed 21 new claims for health care and many renewal claims.
- I reviewed and processed 22 claims for special and supplemental review.

The following is what was processed for the month of June.

- I reviewed and approved 269 claims for health care reimbursement.
- I processed 21 new claims for health care and many renewal claims.
- I reviewed and processed 20 claims for special and supplemental review.

Sincerely,

Jennie Hollingsworth

Field Examiner

Visit us on the web at www.njsfa.com

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Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

Date: July 20, 2024

To: Executive Committee

Health Care Committee Report:

HEALTH CARE

NEW CLAIMS Y/T/D 131
OF THAT
FIREFIGHTER Y/T/D 83
SPOUSE Y/T/D 48
PAID YTD \$9,554,194.36
ACTIVE CLAIMS TOTAL – 433

HEALTH CARE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYOUT</u>
2017	46	\$ 99,600.06
2018	28	\$ 141,376.99
2019	53	\$ 329,791.83
2020	94	\$ 1,573,001.17
2021	165	\$ 4,052,639.95
2022	271	\$ 8,296,092.42
2023	276	\$13,770,372.93

Sincerely,

James Reeves

James Reeves
Health Care Committee

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Francis X. Walker
James Reeves Jr.
John Lane
Edward R Mullen, CPA, Secretary-Treasurer
Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner
Gary D. Schwartz, M.D. Consultant

Date: July 4, 2024

To: Executive Committee

From: Special Relief Committee

The Special Relief Committee Report

- Applications for special relief Approved YTD: 91
 - For a total of \$417,996.00
- Special paid out by locals \$55,250.00
- Applications for supplemental relief Approved YTD: 41
 - For a total of \$503,935.00

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SUMMARY APPROVED</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYOUT</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYOUT BY LOCALS</u>
2017	180	\$396,632.00	
2018	168	\$357,819.13	
2019	197	\$400,192.69	
2020	206	\$867,283.00	
2021	178	\$812,217.00	
2022	159	\$757,456.00	
2023	171	\$702,239.00	\$107,260.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Francis X. Walker

Francis X Walker, Chairman

New Jersey State Firemen's Association



FIELD EXAMINERS REPORT

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

TO THE OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND
MEMBERS OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

This report is being distributed in compliance with resolution adopted by the 1933 Convention. This report contains the Financial Standing of 541 local associations for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennie Hollingsworth

Jennie Hollingsworth

Field Examiner

2023 FINANCIAL STANDING - 541 LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

	2020	2021	2022	2023	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE (+/-)	PERCENT DIFFERENCE (+/-)
RECEIPTS (Locals)						
Premium Tax Distributions	\$ 34,218,258.03	\$ 36,476,498.20	\$ 37,586,267.25	\$ 43,408,390.56	\$ 5,822,123.31	+
Interest (all sources)	2,240,048.92	1,272,472.83	1,257,104.61	3,574,825.13	2,317,720.52	+
Subsidy	221,638.95	116,489.84	168,196.28	379,324.81	211,128.53	+
Miscellaneous Income	477,632.46	83,572.24	-1,240,718.32	576,302.05	1,817,020.37	+
Total Receipts (all sources)	\$ 37,157,578.36	\$ 37,949,033.11	\$ 37,770,849.82	\$ 47,938,842.55	\$ 10,167,992.73	+
2023 Receipts (+/-) Over Previous Year						
DISBURSEMENTS (Locals)						
Relief Paid	\$ 4,736,568.64	\$ 4,635,913.57	\$ 5,127,076.83	\$ 5,157,047.41	\$ 29,970.58	+
Convention Expense	402,889.99	3,139,398.03	3,592,433.24	3,661,135.05	68,701.81	+
Administrative Expense	2,760,810.60	2,823,223.22	2,946,328.66	3,214,202.29	267,873.63	+
Assessment to General Relief Fund	17,793,494.12	20,361,604.73	22,450,842.61	26,045,034.22	3,594,191.61	+
Miscellaneous Expense	16,427.23	161,252.93	48,712.71	20,638.00	(28,074.71)	-
Total Disbursements (all sources)	\$ 25,710,190.58	\$ 31,121,392.48	\$ 34,165,394.05	\$ 38,098,056.97	\$ 3,932,662.92	+
2023 Disbursements (+/-) Over Previous Year						
ANALYSIS OF CONVENTION EXPENSE (Locals)						
Delegates Expense	\$ 231,900.00	\$ 1,648,665.11	\$ 1,921,129.39	\$ 1,963,905.48	\$ 42,776.09	+
Life Members Expense	170,989.99	1,490,732.92	1,671,303.85	1,697,229.57	25,925.72	+
Total Convention Expense	\$ 402,889.99	\$ 3,139,398.03	\$ 3,592,433.24	\$ 3,661,135.05	\$ 68,701.81	+
2023 Convention Expense (+/-) Over Previous Year						
ANALYSIS OF BURIAL CLAIMS						
Claims Paid	[1067]	[1037]	1052	894		
Claims Value	\$ 12,068,462.11	\$ 11,781,343.10	\$ 12,239,524.02	\$ 10,422,973.61	\$ (1,816,550.41)	-
2023 Claims Expense (+/-) Over Previous Year						
ANALYSIS OF SPECIAL RELIEF CLAIMS						
Claims Paid	[206]	[182]	201	170		
Claims Value	\$ 867,283.00	\$ 794,460.00	\$ 975,801.00	\$ 851,972.00	\$ (123,829.00)	-
2023 Claims Expense (+/-) Over Previous Year						
ANALYSIS OF HEALTH CARE CLAIMS						
Claimants Paid	[124]	[201]	367	495		
Claims Value	\$ 1,573,001.17	\$ 4,052,639.95	\$ 8,296,092.42	\$ 13,770,372.93	\$ 5,474,280.51	+
2023 Claims Expense (+/-) Over Previous Year						
ANALYSIS OF ASSETS (Locals)						
Bank Investments	\$ 199,673,173.69	\$ 203,609,866.97	\$ 202,522,329.01	\$ 206,325,504.99	\$ 3,803,175.98	+
Government Bonds	10,536,065.40	13,143,237.93	17,659,538.07	23,698,070.57	6,038,532.50	+
Other Assets	3,200.00	3,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Total Assets	\$ 210,212,439.09	\$ 216,756,306.90	\$ 220,181,867.08	\$ 230,023,575.56	\$ 9,841,708.48	+
2023 Assets (+/-) Over Previous Year						

					10.32	+
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2023 Assets (+/-) Over Previous Year						

ASSOCIATIONS SHOWING FINANCIAL GAIN OR LOSS FOR 2023

COUNTY	GAIN	LOSS	NO CHG	TOTAL ASSOCIATIONS REPORTING
ATLANTIC	19	3	0	22
BERGEN	53	15	0	68
BURLINGTON	28	9	0	37
CAMDEN	19	14	0	33
CAPE MAY	14	2	0	16
CUMBERLAND	6	4	0	10
ESSEX	18	4	0	22
GLOUCESTER	11	12	0	23
HUDSON	11	1	0	12
HUNTERDON	20	3	0	23
MERCER	11	1	0	12
MIDDLESEX	25	4	0	29
MONMOUTH	41	8	0	49
MORRIS	28	9	0	37
OCEAN	27	4	0	31
PASSAIC	14	2	0	16
SALEM	6	6	0	12
SOMERSET	15	5	0	20
SUSSEX	17	6	0	23
UNION	20	1	0	21
WARREN	15	4	0	19
TOTAL 2023	418	117	0	535
TOTAL 2022	319	218	0	537
TOTAL 2021	407	132	0	534
TOTAL 2020	513	25	0	538

Associations under review

Review for relief applications - 2022

Hudson

-North Bergen, Kearny, West New York

Morris

-Morristown, Florham Park, Long Valley

Union

-Hillside

Somerset

-Bernardsville Borough

Burlington

-Bass River

Monmouth

-Asbury Park

Essex

-Bloomfield, Maplewood, Irvington

Ocean

-Mantoloking, Twp of Ocean, Ocean Gate

Bergen

-Bergenfield, East Rutherford, Ridgefield, Fairview

Middlesex

-New Brunswick, Perth Amboy, Carteret

Associations under review in 2023 from Field Exams

Hunterdon

-West Amwell

Associations under review in 2024 from Field Exams

Morris

-Harding Twp, Hanover Twp, Mine Hill

Bergen

-Dumont

Monmouth

-Atlantic Highlands, Allentown

Atlantic

-Linwood

Camden

-Clementon, Brooklawn, Stratford, Lawnside, Woodlynne