

**NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**  
*County Government with a Unified Voice!*

BRENDAN W. GILL  
NJAC President  
Essex County Freeholder President

JOHN G. DONNADIO  
Executive Director

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
*June 28, 2019*  
State House Annex Building – Committee Room 6  
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

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The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by 2019 NJAC President Brendan W. Gill. After the flag salute, NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio called roll, and a quorum was present.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Eve Cullinan, *Burlington County Administrator*  
Jon Young, *Camden County Freeholder*  
E. Marie Hayes, *Cape May County Freeholder*  
Brendan W. Gill, *Essex County Freeholder President*  
Abe Antun, *Hudson County Administrator*  
John Lanza, *Hunterdon County Freeholder*  
John Cimino, *Mercer County Freeholder Chairman*  
Deena Leary, *Morris County Deputy Administrator*  
John P. Kelly, *Ocean County Freeholder Deputy Director*  
Brian D. Levine, *Somerset County Freeholder Director*  
Mary H. Melfi, *Hunterdon County Clerk*  
John Armeno, *Executive Director, NJ Sheriff's Association*  
George D. Strachan, *Gloucester County Improvement Authority*  
Paul Anzano, Esq., *Pringle Quinn Anzano, P.C. and NJAC General Counsel*  
Joe Hannon, Esq., *Member of Genova Burns LLC and NJAC Labor Relations Counsel*  
John G. Donnadio, *NJAC Executive Director*  
Allen Weston, *NJAC Legislative Director*  
Loren Wizman, *NJAC Director of Business Development*  
Kimberly Nolan, *NJAC Office Manager*

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Jeffrey Pierson, *Cape May County Freeholder*  
Ann Cannon, *Mercer County Freeholder*  
Mike Fiure, *Ocean County Deputy Administrator*

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo of the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development discussed a number of topics including: the administration of shared services; the Department's work with county colleges; the availability of departmental programs to both private and public sector employers; new labor laws impacting employers; and, took questions from board members.

## OFFICIAL REPORTS

1. SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT - NJAC First Vice President and Cape May County Freeholder E. Marie Hayes reported on the following:
  - a. Meeting Minutes - The Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of March 22, 2019 on a Mercer/Cape May County motion.
  - b. NJAC Financials - The Board unanimously approved the NJAC financials, dated May 31, 2019 on a Mercer/Hunterdon County motion.
2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - NJAC President Brendan W. Gill presented the following:
  - a. NJAC Conference Update - Freeholder President Gill reviewed the highlights of the 2019 NJAC Conference; and, allowed NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio to recognize the Freeholder Hall of Fame recipients in attendance at the meeting.
  - b. NJAC Night at the Ballpark - The Board was reminded of the NJAC night at the ballpark on July 18<sup>th</sup>, which is a free event for county officials. Members were encouraged to sign up as soon as possible as space is limited.
  - c. President Visits and County Briefings - Freeholder President Gill announced that it was still a priority visit as many county freeholder meetings as possible to discuss NJAC's goals and objectives.
3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT -
  - a. NJAC Foundation Scholarships - Mr. Donnadio gave an overview of the history of the NJAC scholarship presentations and invited Eileen Leahey of PSE&G to discuss their long-standing involvement with the program, as well as their focus on green-initiative scholarships.
  - b. NACo Annual Conference - Mr. Donnadio encouraged board members to attend the 2019 NACo Annual Conference which will be held July 12<sup>th</sup> - July 15<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas, Nevada.
  - c. County Administrators Training - Once again, NJAC and Rutgers University will be partnering on the New Jersey County Administrators Basic Certificate Program. This year's program will take place on September 27<sup>th</sup> and October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Rutgers University Inn and Conference Center in New Brunswick.
  - d. Year End Conference - Mr. Donnadio announced that plans had begun for the 2019 NJAC Year End Conference and discussed possible topics. After taking feedback from the Board, it was tentatively decided that the topic would be suicide prevention.
  - e. Regional County Meetings - Mr. Donnadio mentioned he would like to form three groups regionalizing the northeast, central, and western counties similar to the Southern New Jersey Freeholders Association.

4. LEGISLATIVE REPORT – NJAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Mercer County Freeholder Chair John Cimino announced that the latest copy of the State House News, dated June 14, 2019, was enclosed in the provided packets and apprised board members on the following issues:
- a. State Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Governor Phil Murphy is expected to sign the Legislature’s \$38.6 billion spending plan for State Fiscal Year 2020 on Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup>, although it is widely assumed that he will line item veto several yet-to-be identified items.
  - b. Interest Arbitration – NJAC will continue to push for this important taxpayer initiative. Additionally, NJAC will be hosting workshops in late July (tentatively) on how to negotiate with public safety sector unions looking to leverage the expiration of the cap.
  - c. 911 Funding – The State fiscal year 2020 budget does not include any new funding for county and municipal 911 centers and the State will continue diverting 911 fees. NJAC plans to begin a media ad buy campaign to raise public awareness of this harmful diversion of funds.
  - d. County Jail Bills – Mr. Donnadio gave an overview on several bills that NJAC has recently worked on with the County Jail Wardens Association of NJ. Several topics covered by these bills include: restrictions on the use of solitary confinement; the compassionate caregivers act; and, renaming county correctional officers.
  - e. Vote-by-mail – Mr. Donnadio announced that the Council on Local Mandates will be hearing NJAC’s complaint related to the vote-by-mail legislation signed into law last year. Mr. Donnadio will be arguing before the Council with the help of Hunterdon County Counsel Shayna Taylor. A date for the hearing has not yet been set.
  - f. Code Blue/Red – Pending legislative proposals that would expand the temperatures applicable to code blue alert days, as well as apply a similar mandate to hot days were discussed. Board members were encouraged to contact their legislators to discuss the difficulty counties have had implementing the existing law.
  - g. OPRA/OPMA – Long pending legislation that would expand the requirements of OPRA/OPMA was discussed. The bills were recently pulled from the Senate Board List due to a lack of support within the democratic caucus.

*The next meeting is scheduled for September 13 at 10:00 a.m. in committee room 4 of the State House Annex.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned on a Cape May/Mercer County motion at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donnadio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial letter.

John G. Donnadio, Esq.  
NJAC Executive Director