

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
September 13, 2019
State House Annex Building – Committee Room 4
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 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

E. Marie Hayes, *Cape May County Freeholder*
Joseph Derella *Cumberland County Freeholder Director*
Brendan W. Gill, *Essex County Freeholder President*
John Cimino, *Mercer County Freeholder Chairman*
Teri O'Connor *Monmouth County Administrator*
John Bonanni, *Morris County Administrator*
Charles Hassler *Salem County Freeholder*
Herb Yardley *Sussex County Freeholder Director*
Angela Garretson, *Union County Freeholder*
Mary H. Melfi, *Hunterdon County Clerk*
Elaine Flynn *Middlesex County Clerk*
Shaun Golden, *Monmouth County Sheriff*
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*
Bob Werkmeister *NJAC Transportation Consultant*
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

Byrana DeVeaux, *Middlesex County*
Jody Hirata, *Cumberland County Deputy Administrator*
Greg Poff, *Sussex County Administrator*
Deena Leary, *Morris County Deputy Administrator*
Kim Wood, *Cumberland County Administrator*

GUEST SPEAKER

Governor Murphy's Chief of Staff George Helmy addressed the board on a number of topics including: the Department of Transportation and NJ Transit; large pending transportation

projects including the Portal Bridge and Gateway Tunnel; economic incentives; and, the administration's attempt to bring venture capital money into New Jersey.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

1. SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT - NJAC Secretary Treasurer and Monmouth County Administrator Teri O'Connor reported on the following:
 - a. Meeting Minutes - The Board approved the meeting minutes of June 28, 2019 on a Mercer/Cape May County motion. Monmouth County abstained.
 - b. NJAC Financials - The Board unanimously approved the NJAC financials, dated August 31, 2019 on a Cumberland/Cape May County motion.
2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - NJAC President Brendan W. Gill presented the following:
 - a. NJAC Executive Board Nominations- Freeholder President Gill reiterated to the board that NJAC needs to nominate a Democratic candidate to the Executive Board in the coming year. Interested parties were asked to inform the Executive Director of their interest to be discussed by the Nominating Committee.
 - b. NJAC County Administrators Program - The Board was reminded of the NJAC County Administrators Program run in conjunction with Rutgers University. Details of the program were included in the board packets.
3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT -
 - a. NJAC Foundation Scholarships - Mr. Donnadio gave an overview of this year's scholarship presentations, and asked any board members that might know of corporations with foundations to engage them about the NJAC foundation in order to grow the program.
 - b. Year-End Conference - Mr. Donnadio encouraged board members to attend the 2019 NJAC year-end conference at the Trenton Country Club on December 20th. The topic this year will be Mental Health and Suicide Prevention; and, the event will be free for county officials although space is limited.
 - c. Regional Freeholder Association Meetings - Mr. Donnadio mentioned October, but most likely February as the potential launch date for the proposed new regional county groups discussed at prior board meetings.
4. LEGISLATIVE REPORT - NJAC 2nd Vice President and Mercer County Freeholder Chair John Cimino announced that the latest copy of the State House News, dated August 23, 2019, was enclosed in the provided packets and apprised board members on the following issues:
 - a. Interest Arbitration - NJAC is encouraging all counties to adopt a resolution urging State leaders to permanently extend the 2% cap on binding interest arbitration

- awards and to require that all interest arbitration awards include a full financial impact statement on the total cost of the contract.
- b. Vote-by-Mail - On September 23rd, the New Jersey Council on Local Mandates is scheduled to hear NJAC's complaint that the 2018 vote-by-mail law imposes an unfunded mandate on county governments and is unconstitutional. If successful, the Council's decision would invalidate both the 2018 law and the recently enacted vote-by-mail law that included a \$2.0 million appropriation.
 - c. Path to Progress - NJAC recently met with partisan staff to discuss a package of bills designed to promote shared services, which of note would include legislation that would require counties to appoint a shared-services coordinator and appropriation \$2.0 million, and a bill that would authorize counties to establish a property tax assessment program.
 - d. 2020 Goals and Objectives - Mr. Donnadio reviewed the list of "goals and objectives" for NJAC in 2020 that was included in the board packets. The board subsequently approved the list, on a Sussex/Cape May motion after removing item #11 from the list.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 20 at 9:00 a.m. at the Trenton Country Club.

ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned on a Mercer/Cape May motion at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donnadio". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John G. Donnadio, Esq.
NJAC Executive Director