

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

E. MARIE HAYES
NJAC President
Cape May County Freeholder

JOHN G. DONNADIO
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2020
Video Conference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Maureen Kern *Atlantic County Freeholder Vice-Chairwoman*
Eve Cullinan, *Burlington County Administrator*
Johnathan Young, Sr., *Camden County Freeholder*
E. Marie Hayes, *Cape May County Freeholder*
Joseph Derella *Cumberland County Freeholder Director*
Heather Simmons, *Gloucester County Freeholder*
Abe Antun, *Hudson County Administrator*
John Lanza, *Hunterdon County Freeholder*
John Cimino, *Mercer County Freeholder*
Ann Cannon, *Mercer County Freeholder*
Doug Cabana *Morris County Freeholder*
Deborah Smith, *Morris County Freeholder Director*
John Bonanni, *Morris County Administrator*
Anthony DeNova, *Passaic County Administrator*
Charles Hassler *Salem County Freeholder*
Brian Levine, *Somerset County Freeholder*
Shanel Robinson, *Somerset County Freeholder*
Herb Yardley *Sussex County Freeholder*
Angela Garretson, *Union County Freeholder*
Rick Gardner, *Warren County Freeholder*
Diane Gerofsky, *Mercer County Surrogate*
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

Kim Wood, *Cumberland County Administrator*
Deena Leary *Morris County Deputy Administrator*
Michael Fiure, *Ocean County Deputy Administrator*
Matt Jordan, *Passaic County Counsel*

OFFICIAL REPORTS

1. SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT – NJAC Secretary/Treasurer and Cumberland County Freeholder Director Joseph Derella reported on the following:
 - a. Meeting Minutes/NJAC Financials – The Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of September 18, 2020 and the NJAC financials of November 30, 2020 on a Burlington/Passaic motion.
 - b. NJAC 2019 Audit – The Board unanimously approved the NJAC 2019 audit on a Passaic/Union motion.
 - c. Resolution - NJAC 2021 County Dues – Executive Director Donnadio gave some context to the increase to the 2021 county dues and recent discussion of the finance committee. The resolution was unanimously approved on a Burlington/Passaic motion.
 - d. Resolution - 2021 NJAC Budget – Secretary/Treasurer Derella presented the Board with the proposed 2021 budget and noted substantial cuts from the prior year's budget. The resolution was unanimously approved on a Union/Passaic motion.
2. NOMINATION COMMITTEE – Nomination Committee Chair and Union County Freeholder Angela Garretson presented the following:
 - a. Resolution – Proposed 2021 Executive Officers – The resolution was unanimously approved on a Morris/Passaic motion.
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – NJAC President and Cape May County Freeholder E. Marie Hayes presented the following:
 - a. Resolution – Reorganization Meeting/Board of Directors Schedule 2021 – The Board unanimously approved the 2021 reorganization meeting date and 2021 meeting schedule for Board of Directors on a Union/Burlington motion.
4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio presented the following:
 - a. 2021 NJAC Conference– Mr. Donnadio discussed moving the conference to October as a realistic way of hosting a live annual conference in 2021. Dates have already been secured to ensure a time as other Associations may look to do the same thing in the spring.
 - b. Cashvest– Mr. Donnadio gave a brief overview of the cashVest program and fee structure which comes with no risk to governing bodies and has demonstrated a 5-7% rate of return in other states.
 - c. Virtual Workshops– Mr. Donnadio highlighted the success of the 2020 virtual workshops as they provided an educational forum for county officials and generated revenue for the Association with low overhead. NJAC will provide additional virtual workshops in the spring of 2021.

4. COVID-19 CHALLENGES DISCUSSION – Freeholder Hayes opened the floor for a roundtable discussion:
 - a. Vaccine Distribution – The Board discussed the recent letter drafted by NJAC to Governor Murphy, which discussed issues that county officials would like to see addressed regarding vaccine distribution. This will be a major issue for the counties moving forward. Mr. Bonanni also discussed the fiscal impact of vaccine deployment on the counties and the need for DLGS to be involved in discussions about budgeting.

5. STATE HOUSE NEWS– NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio reported on the following:
 - a. Pension Payments – The substantial increases to the counties 2021 pension payments were discussed. NJAC will be working with other stakeholders to hire an auditor who will be charged with substantiating the Association's contention that the State is using property taxpayer dollars to subsidize the State's mismanagement of the fund. The Board was informed that they will be asked to pass resolutions supporting this initiative and to contact their legislative delegations accordingly.

6. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS – None.

The next meeting is scheduled as a virtual one at 10:00 a.m. on January 29th.

ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned on a Morris/Union County motion at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



John G. Donnadio, Esq.
NJAC Executive Director