

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

County Government with a Unified Voice!

TERI O'CONNOR
NJAC President
Monmouth County Administrator

JOHN G. DONNADIO, ESQ.
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2022

Video Conference Meeting

10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by NJAC President and Monmouth County Administrator Teri O'Connor.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Teri O'Connor, NJAC President & Monmouth County Administrator
Jonathan Young, NJAC 1st VP & Camden County Commissioner
Shaun Van Doren, NJAC 2nd VP & Hunterdon County Commissioner
Shanel Robinson, NJAC Secretary-Treasurer & Somerset County Commissioner Director
Eve Cullinan, Burlington County Administrator
E. Marie Hayes, Cape May County Commissioner
Darlene Barber, Cumberland County Commissioner Director
Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Commissioner Deputy Director
Abe Antun, Hudson County Administrator
Dominick DiRocco, Monmouth County Commissioner
Deborah Smith, Morris County Commissioner
John Bonanni, Morris County Administrator
Tony DeNova, Passaic County Administrator
Herbert Yardley, Sussex County Commissioner
Al Mirabella, Union County Commissioner
Dr. Angela Garretson, Union County Commissioner
James Kern III, Warren County Commissioner
Mary Melfi, Hunterdon County Clerk
Diane Gerofsky, Mercer County Surrogate
Shaun Golden, Monmouth County Sheriff
George Strachan, Gloucester County Improvement Authority Executive Director
Joseph Hannon, NJAC Labor Relations Counsel
Bob Werkmeister, NJAC Transportation Consultant
John Donnadio Esq., NJAC Executive Director
Allen Weston, NJAC Legislative Director
Loren Wizman, NJAC Director of Business Development
Kim Nolan, NJAC Office Manager

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Michael Bellucci, Bergen County Deputy Administrator
Alison Hansen, Cape May County Purchasing Agent

Gerry Seneski, Cumberland County CFO & Treasurer
Eric Campo, Gloucester County Counsel
Paul Adezio, Mercer County Counsel
John Carroll, Middlesex County Director, Public and Government Affairs
Chris Markley, Middlesex County Assistant Director of Public Works
John Pulomena, Middlesex County Administrator
Chris Marion, Monmouth County Deputy Administrator
Beti Bauer, Morris County Director of Finance
Deena Leary, Morris County Deputy Administrator
Julie Acton, Salem County Deputy County Administrator
Amy Wagner, Union County Deputy County Manager

OFFICIAL REPORTS

1. SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT - NJAC Secretary/Treasurer and Somerset County Commissioner Director Shanel Robinson reported on the following:
 - a. Meeting Minutes/NJAC Financials – The Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of the January 28, 2022 NJAC Reorganization Meeting on a Camden/Monmouth motion. The NJAC financials were also unanimously approved on a Hunterdon/Cape May motion.
2. PRESIDENT’S REPORT - NJAC President and Monmouth County Administrator Teri O’Connor presented the following:
 - a. County Government Month Resolution - President O’Connor asked the Board to review the resolution concerning “County Government Month.” The resolution was approved unanimously on a Cape May/Hunterdon motion.
 - b. NJAC Committee Assignments - The Board also reviewed the 2022 NJAC committee assignments, which were approved unanimously on a Hunterdon/Somerset motion.
 - c. Presidential Visits, County Briefings & Legislative Meetings – President O’Connor indicated that she’s looking forward to hitting the road and visiting with everyone across the State. President O’Connor commended Director Robinson for setting the bar very high with the inaugural meeting of the Central New Jersey County Commissioners meeting held on March 15th in Somerset County with the Northern New Jersey County Commissioners meeting set for March 22nd in Passaic County.
 - d. Federal Infrastructure Funding - President O’Connor further reported that NJAC has worked closely with the National Association of Counties (NACo) on several issues lately, including federal infrastructure funding with the Association hosting a free virtual workshop on the matter set for 10:00 a.m. on April 13th.
3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT - NJAC Executive Director John Donnadio presented the following:
 - a. NJAC Partnership with cashVest– Mr. Donnadio discussed NJAC’s partnership with cashVest and encouraged counties to meet with them if they haven’t done so already.

- b. NJAC Foundation Scholarships - Mr. Donnadio discussed how the scholarship program has grown under the leadership of Gloucester County Deputy Director Heather Simmons as the Foundation's new President, which includes a new \$10,000 donation from Amazon in addition to the continued generosity of SHI, Investors Bank, and NJM Insurance. NJAC is in the process of identifying scholarship award winners and board members were informed to stay tuned for letters from NJAC to schedule in-person check presentations to students.
 - c. NJAC Virtual Workshops – Mr. Donnadio discussed the upcoming free virtual workshops scheduled for April 13th, July 6th, September 14th and November 9th.
 - d. Annual Celebration of County Government– Mr. Donnadio encouraged members to attend the Association upcoming annual celebration of county government from May 4th – May 6th at Caesar's in Atlantic City where the Association is expected to host an outstanding event with the return of cook-off, sing-off, county service awards, terrific workshops, and much more.
4. STATE HOUSE NEWS – NJAC 1st Vice President and Camden County Commissioner Jon Young reported on the following:
- a. NJAC Legislative Goals – Commissioner Young reviewed NJAC's legislative goals for the upcoming legislative session with the primary focus to end the State's long-standing diversion of 911 fees. Mr. Donnadio noted that the Association was hosting a press conference at the Hunterdon County 911 Center on April 5th to discuss the issue and all board members were encouraged to attend. Sheriff Golden also addressed the topic and noted that the Sheriffs support the Association's efforts to restore 911 funding to local 911 centers. The Sheriff also discussed the Report and Recommendations of the End 911 Fee Diversion Now Strike Force of which the Sheriff is a member. NJAC plans to send letters to the State's congressional delegation encouraging them to pass the Report and Recommendations. Commissioner Young then discussed several additional legislative priorities, which included: prohibiting the imposition of unfunded State mandates, restricting businesses from abusing the Open Public Records Act (OPRA), authorizing local governments to opt-out of civil service by referendum; equalizing the bid, pay-to-play, and prevailing wage thresholds, and more. The Board unanimously approved NJAC's legislative goals on a Cape May/Cumberland motion.
5. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS – None.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 24th at 10:00 a.m. virtually.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 by President O'Connor.

Respectfully submitted by:



John G. Donnadio, Esq.
NJAC Executive Director