

**PUBLIC ENTITY JOINT INSURANCE FUND  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 24, 2026, at 10:00 AM  
Via – MS Teams FOR ALL MEMBERS  
FOR PUBLIC ONLY 609-246-5769; Passcode 551 124 119#**

**MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ENTITY JOINT INSURANCE FUND CALLED TO ORDER  
AT 10:02 AM**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL OF FUND COMMISSIONERS**

City of East Orange – A. McCall  
City of Orange – L. Copeland  
City of Passaic – R. Fernandez  
City of Perth Amboy – I. Jimenez  
City of Plainfield – L. Carden  
Borough of Roselle – C. Laba  
Township of Teaneck – Absent  
Town of West New York – Absent

**APPROVAL OF 2/24/2026 MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commr. McCall  
**SECOND:** Commr. Jimenez  
**ABSTAIN:** None

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

- **Resolution 12-26 – Approving Certain Disbursements – \$2,787,864.68 (February)**
- **Resolution 13-26 – Approving Claims Payments – \$2,789,894.95 (February)**
- **Resolution 14-26 – Approving Certain Disbursements – \$ 408,313.67**
- **Resolution 15-26 – Approving Claims Payments – \$1,397,213.78**

**MOTION:** Commr. Carden  
**SECOND:** Commr. McCall  
**ABSTAIN:** None

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – J. Hall – NIP Mangement Services

- **December 2025 and January 2026 Financial Overview** - Mr. Hall presented the updated December 2025 FastTrack, reflecting the inclusion of the Year-End Reserve Study. Mr. Hall then presented the January FastTrack report.
- **Year-End 2025 Audit Status** - The December 31, 2025, financial statements will be finalized once the independent audit is completed by Mercadieu. The 2025 audit is expected to be completed prior to the June 30, 2026, regulatory deadline.
- **Indemnity & Trust Agreements for 2026** - The Administrator's office requests that renewing members please return the Indemnity & Trust Agreements as soon as they are executed.
- **Risk Manager & Service Provider Agreements for 2026** - The Administrator's office requests that all Risk Managers and Service Providers send copies of the fully executed agreements as soon as practicable. As a reminder, the Fund cannot pay service providers until we receive the agreements.

## TREASURY REPORT – P. DeBlasio – Fund Treasurer

- **Investment Overview** - Mr. DeBlasio presented an overview of the investment balance, noted a book yield of 4.3%, and a YTD interest earned of \$5K.
- **Accounts Receivables** - Receivable balances decreased slightly through February as regular assessments were collected. Mr. DeBlasio noted that members owe the Fund \$4.2 million in past due assessments. As a reminder, 10% interest will be charged on any balances over 90 days past due.

## CLAIMS REPORT – R. Persico – NIP Mangement Services

- **Claims KPI Report for December and January 2026** – Overall, the data reflects improving claims performance and a declining workload trend. Claims activity remains strong, with more claims closed (102) than reported (95), producing a 107% closing ratio and a net reduction in inventory, though 954 claims remain open. January claim volume has steadily decreased over the past five years, dropping from a high of 143 in 2022 to 95 in 2026. Open claims are heavily concentrated in Workers' Compensation, which accounts for more than half of all open claims, while Auto, General Liability, and other lines of business make up smaller, more evenly distributed portions of the total.
- **Claims Spotlight** – New Jersey enacted two laws in 2025–2026 aimed at improving mental health support for first responders. One expands workers' compensation coverage for first responder counseling, and the other provides protections related to post traumatic stress disorder. Together, these laws are intended to reduce stigma, remove barriers to care, and strengthen mental well being support for first responders.

## RISK CONTROL REPORT – A. Ven Graitis – NIP Management Services

- **Safety Webinar: ADA Title II Compliance Training recap** – Slips, Trips and Falls prevention recap: Held on 3/19/26, Mary Ann Bubka from PMA Companies presented on Slips, Trips and Falls prevention. In the Workers' Compensation coverage area, Slips, Trips and Falls are the second leading claims occurrence for most industries. For some members, it may even be their number one claim type, supplanting strains as the typical loss leader. But

when you think of slip, trips and falls, most lines of insurance coverage can be impacted. This session will bring an opportunity to bring insights and solutions that can help reduce the frequency of claims and the total cost of risk associated with General Industry Slips, Trips and Falls.

- **Risk Control Report Card** – Claims frequency trends were discussed by line of coverage, with risk control identified for negative trends identified.
- **No Accidents Today** – 2025 results were announced, awarding members \$5,000 by line of coverage for 20% frequency reductions or having a normalized frequency rate in the top quartile of the JIF. 3 Members received awards for workers’ compensation, 4 members qualified for general liability awards, 5members qualified for Auto awards, and 6 members qualified for property awards.
- **Upcoming Events** – Tree Care Safety Seminars (late April, early May), Distracted Driving Awareness Challenge (April 1st -30th ), Drive to Survive Seminar (April 20th , Hamilton Township-Fire), Drive to Survive Seminar (May 11th , Monroe Township-DPW) Safety Webinar: Work Zone Safety (April 16th ) OPRA for Professionals (April 30th Ocean County Police Academy) Cyber Webinar (April 16th ),When Words Fail (as needed)
- **Ongoing Initiatives** –Telematics pilot program has final members identified and Workplace Impairment is being rolled out across the JIF.

**UNDERWRITING REPORT – R. Smith – NIP Management Services**

- **Important Coverage Reminder** – Underwriting does not update schedules—only the member’s Risk Manager can add or revise values. Items not scheduled are not covered. Coverage is limited by scheduled values (max recovery up to 130%). Members attest that all submitted values are accurate via signed application. Reported values drive pricing and are submitted to excess insurance markets.

**MEMBER UPDATES**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OPEN FORUM**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Commr. McCall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 AM, and Commr. Carden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Prepared by M. Delgado

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Madeline Delgado

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**ALSO, PRESENT:**

A. Arevalo  
A. Best  
A. Levenson  
A. Ven Graitis  
D. Feuerstein  
D. Springer  
E. Bonanno  
G. Crosby  
J. Brown  
J. Hall  
K. Correa Faro  
K. Guerriero  
K. Larkin  
K. Skeba  
L. DAlessio  
M. Delgado  
M. Markulec  
M. Sweisfort  
M. Tufaro  
N. Hydock  
P. DeBlasio  
P. Fahy  
R. Hope  
R. Persico  
R. Ruiz  
R. Smith  
S. Edwards  
S. Hobbs  
S. Molfetas  
T. Fragoso  
T. Hudanish  
W. Dietz