

**MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION
OPEN MINUTES
MEETING – May 29, 2024
Mercer County
McDade Administration Building
640 South Broad Street
Trenton, NJ 08650-0068
1:30 PM**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Marion. Mr. Thorpe read the Open Public Meetings notice into the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS:

Christopher R. Marion	Present
Alejandra M. Silva	Present

FUND PROFESSIONALS PRESENT:

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services Joseph Hrubash
Claims Service	Inservco Insurance Services, Inc. Nancy Fowlkes Amy Zeiders Richard Crooks
	Qual Lynx Chris Roselli - <i>Absent</i>
	PERMA Jennifer Conicella
Managed Care Services	First MCO Mark Liggett
NJCE Underwriting Manager	Conner Strong & Buckelew Ed Cooney - <i>Absent</i> Jonathon Tavares
Risk Management Consultant	Acrisure Amy Pieroni Patti Fahy
Treasurer	Nicola Trasente - <i>Absent</i>
Attorney	Paul Adezio, Esq.
Safety Director	J.A. Montgomery Consulting Paul Shives Liam Callahan

ALSO PRESENT:

Jackie Tolbert, MCIA
Edwin Cruz, Mercer County
Jason Thorpe, PERMA Risk Management Services
Ana-Eliza Bauersachs, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2024

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2024

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Chairman Marion
Vote:	Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE: None

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Mr. Callahan reported that the Safety and Accident Review Committee met virtually on May 14th. Mr. Callahan advised that a variety of topics were discussed including 8 claims; 4 of which were deemed to be non-preventable and 4 were deemed preventable. Mr. Callahan reported that the Committee discussed trainings, bulletins, and a variety of regulatory issues. Mr. Callahan said the next Safety and Accident Review Committee meeting is scheduled for June 11th. With no questions, Mr. Callahan concluded his report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Executive Director advised his report was included in the agenda and there were two action items.

2024 PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT – Executive Director reported that the County has informed the fund office that at the May 9th County Commissioners’ meeting, the County approved a one-year contract for Risk Management Services to Acrisure, LLC. Executive Director said Ms. Pieroni and Ms. Fahy of Acrisure were present in the meeting and introduced them to the Commissioners and Professionals.

REVISED PLAN OF RISK MANAGEMENT – Executive Director advised that a revised 2024 Plan of Risk Management, Resolution No. 24-24, was enclosed within the agenda packet. Executive Director reported that per the County’s request, the Plan was revised to include a \$25,000 care, custody, and control per horse limit.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 24-24, REVISED 2024 PLAN OF RISK MANAGEMENT

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Chairman Marion
Vote:	Unanimous

MCIC HULL POLICY RENEWAL – Executive Director reported that the Insurance Commission’s Hull Policy was scheduled to renew on May 24, 2024. Executive Director reported that the County has requested that the Underwriting Manager bind the short-term policy through December 31st and TRIA coverage to allow the Hull Policy to be coterminous with the other ancillary policies. Executive Director advised that the pro-rated premium for the short-term policy period is \$5,671 plus an additional \$450 for TRIA coverage. Executive Director noted that the cost for this coverage will be paid out of the miscellaneous and contingency budget line.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE HULL POLICY RENEWAL AND TRIA COVERAGE EFFECTIVE MAY 24, 2024.

Moved: Commissioner Silva
Second: Chairman Marion
Vote: Unanimous

MERCER COUNTY AIRPORT PROPERTY COVERAGE – Executive Director reported that the Underwriting Manager continues to be in conversations with potential carriers for the airport property insurance program. Executive Director said Mr. Tavares from the NJCE Underwriting team was present in the meeting and asked him to provide an update. Mr. Tavares reported that the Underwriting team has been in contact with 15 markets seeking property coverage for the airport that would include coverage for the EMAS blocks. Executive Director added that the NJCE currently provides property coverage for the airport but noted that the EMAS blocks are excluded from that coverage. Mr. Tavares noted that many of the markets are concerned with the loss experience associated with the EMAS blocks. Mr. Tavares added that the Underwriting team has received positive information from the County on plans to prevent losses from the EMAS blocks that should assist in the marketing efforts for coverage. Chairman Marion commented that the County will provide the manufacturer specs for the EMAS blocks as well as the capital improvement plans for the airport to assist in the marketing efforts.

NEW JERSEY COUNTIES EXCESS JOINT INSURANCE FUND – Executive Director reported that the NJCE met on April 25, 2024 and referred to the summary report of the meeting enclosed within the agenda packet. Executive Director said the next NJCE meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 9:30 AM, virtually.

MCIFC PROPERTY & CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK – Executive Director referred to the Financial Fast Track for the month of March enclosed within the agenda. Executive Director reported that as of March 31, 2024 the Commission has a surplus of \$7,621,288. Executive Director advised that line 11 of the report “Investment in Joint Venture” is Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission’s share of equity in the NJCE. Executive Director noted that MCIFC’s equity in the NJCE as of March 31, 2024 is \$1,030,876 and advised that the total cash balance is \$14,202,592.

NJCE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK – Executive Director referred to the NJCE Financial Fast Track for the month of March. Executive Director reported that as of March 31, 2024 the Commission has a surplus of \$8,785,465. Executive Director advised that Line 7 of the report, “Dividend” represents the dividend figure released by the NJCE of \$6,707,551 and noted that the NJCE cash balance is \$22,591,111.

CLAIMS TRACKING REPORTS – Executive Director advised the Claim Tracking reports as of March 31, 2024, were included in the agenda. Executive Director referred to a copy of the Claims Management Expected Loss Ratio Analysis Report. Executive Director advised this report measured how the losses were running compared to the actuary’s projections. Executive Director reviewed the Fund Years with the Commission.

With no questions, Executive Director concluded his report.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS REPORT: Mr. Thorpe advised that he had four informational items for his report.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REPORTS – Mr. Thorpe referred to the certificate of issuance report from the NJCE which lists those certificates issued in the month of April. Mr. Thorpe reported that there were six (6) certificates of insurance issued during the month.

2024 MEL, MRHIF & NJCE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – Mr. Thorpe reported that the 14th Annual Educational Seminar was held virtually via 2 sessions on April 19th and April 26th. Mr. Thorpe noted that both sessions were well attended with over 200 attendees participating in each. Mr. Thorpe advised that the seminar qualified for Continuing Education Credits which are being distributed by May 31st to the applicable attendees.

2024 NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES CONFERENCE – Mr. Thorpe reported that the 73rd Annual Conference was held from May 1st to May 3rd at Caesar’s in Atlantic City. Mr. Thorpe advised that New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund had an exhibit the conference and J.A. Montgomery conducted a presentation on First Amendment Audits that was well received.

2024 MEETING SCHEDULE – Mr. Thorpe advised that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 1:30 PM. Chairman Marion advised that he had a conflict for the June 26th meeting and asked that it be canceled. Mr. Thorpe advised that he would cancel the June meeting and the next Insurance Commission will be held Monday, July 22, 2024 at 1:30 PM.

Executive Director's Report Made Part of Minutes.

TREASURER REPORT: Chairman Marion advised the May Bill List, Resolution 25-24 was included in the agenda. Chairman Marion said a motion was needed to approve the various bills lists.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 25-24: THE MAY BILL LIST

Moved: Commissioner Silva
 Second: Chairman Marion
 Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

ATTORNEY: Mr. Adezio advised that he did not have a report for the month but thanked Inservco for their continuous help on tort claim notices and litigation notices that are sent to the County.

CLAIMS SERVICE: Mr. Thorpe advised Resolution 26-24, Disclosure of Liability Claims Check Registers, was included in the agenda along with a copy of the check registers for April 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 26-24 AUTHORIZING DISCLOSURE OF LIABILITY CLAIMS CHECK REGISTER

Moved: Commissioner Silva
 Second: Chairman Marion
 Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

MANAGED CARE: Mr. Liggett advised he would review First MCO’s report, which was included in the agenda for the month of April. Mr. Liggett provided the below information:

Month	Provider Bill Amount	Repriced Amount	Savings	Percentage of Savings	Number of Bills	In Network Bills	Net Savings	PPO %
Apr-24	\$ 100,081	\$ 55,292	\$ 44,790	45%	94	93	\$ 35,832	99%

With no questions, Mr. Liggett concluded his report.

RISK/LOSS CONTROL SERVICES: Mr. Callahan referred to the Safety Director’s report enclosed within the agenda, which included all risk control and safety activities for April and May. Mr. Callahan then referred to the listing of all training opportunities that are scheduled, including the upcoming Safety Expos. Mr. Callahan reported that the J.A. Montgomery team members are in the process of scheduling audits for written health & safety programs for the various County facilities. Mr. Callahan said the team members will contact the golf courses first. Mr. Callahan asked if there were any questions. Executive Director asked if the former

warden hired by J.A. Montgomery has made any visits to the correctional facilities. Mr. Shives said the former warden has come up with a plan for each of the visits she will conduct for the 8 counties that have a correctional facility. Mr. Shives added that the Mercer County Corrections Facility is the priority. Chairman Marion commented that once the County completes its budget process, he will be revisiting the claims with regards to corrections.

Correspondence Made Part of Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CLOSED SESSION: Chairman Marion requested a motion to approve Resolution 27-24 authorizing a Closed Session to discuss PARs and SARs.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 27-24 FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Chairman Marion
Vote:	Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PARS/SARS AS REVIEWED DURING CLOSED SESSION

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Chairman Marion
Roll Call Vote:	Unanimous

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Chairman Marion
Vote:	Unanimous

MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:04 PM

Minutes prepared by:
Jason Thorpe, Assisting Secretary