

**MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION
OPEN MINUTES
MEETING – March 23, 2026
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
Ana Montero	Present
Alejandra M. Silva	Present
Isamar Maldonado	Present

FUND PROFESSIONALS PRESENT:

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services Joseph Hrubash
Claims Service	Inservco Insurance Services, Inc. Nancy Fowlkes
	PERMA Kerin Drumheiser
Managed Care Services	First MCO Nicole Hydock - <i>Absent</i>
NJCE Underwriting Manager	Conner Strong & Buckelew Ed Cooney - <i>Absent</i>
Risk Management Consultant	Acrisure Amy Pieroni
Treasurer	Nicola Trasente - <i>Absent</i>
Attorney	Paul Adezio, Esq.
Safety Director	J.A. Montgomery Consulting Liam Callahan

ALSO PRESENT:

Jason Thorpe, PERMA Risk Management Services
Edwin Cruz, Mercer County
Manny Montero III, Mercer County
Steve Daveggia, Inservco
Kelly Guerriero, Inservco
Amy Zeiders, Inservco
Yvonne Frey, Inservco
Suretha Hobbs, Inservco
Susan Schaefer, Susan Schaefer, LLC
Ana-Eliza Bauersachs, Esq., Capehart Scatchard
Patti Fahy, Acrisure
Cindy Villagran, Acrisure
Paul Shives, J.A. Montgomery
Kelly Royce, First MCO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2026

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Moved: Commissioner Silva
Second: Commissioner Maldonado
Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Mr. Callahan referred to the March 16, 2026 Safety and Accident Review Committee meeting report enclosed within the agenda. Mr. Callahan advised that a variety of topics were discussed including 14 claims; 9 of which were deemed to be preventable and 5 were deemed non-preventable. Mr. Callahan reported that the leading cause for the preventable claims was Housekeeping and the second most was Use of Equipment. With no questions, Mr. Callahan concluded his report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Executive Director advised his report was included in the agenda and there was one action item.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REPORTS – Executive Director referred to the certificate of insurance report from the NJCE which lists those certificates issued in the month of February. Executive Director reported that there was (1) one certificate of insurance issued during the month.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REPORTS

Moved: Commissioner Silva
Second: Commissioner Maldonado
Vote: Unanimous

INSURANCE COMMISSION FUNDING MEETING – Executive Director reported that as a follow-up to the last Insurance Commission meeting, he and his team met with the Chairman, Attorney, and Treasurer on March 18th. Executive Director noted that the RMC team was also present for the discussion. Executive Director referred to a summary of the meeting enclosed within the agenda packet. Executive Director reported that part of the discussion included the Insurance Commission’s current POL/EPL SIR structure. Executive Director explained that currently, the County is responsible for the first \$100,000 for a POL claim and the first \$175,000 for an EPL claim. The Insurance Commission is then responsible for the next \$150,000 (POL) and \$175,000 (EPL) before the claim reaches the carrier. Chairman Marion said the SIRs seemed high and asked for a list of POLEPL SIRs for the various counties. Executive Director reported that in addition, a discussion took place regarding a reduction in the County’s legal staff which has led to an increased

need for appointing outside law firms to handle cases and the cost associated with the same. Executive Director noted that although the additional costs are not currently included in the loss funding, these expenses are paid out of the individual claim files. Chairman Marion requested that the additional costs for appointment of outside counsel continued to be monitored and schedule a catchup meeting in June to discuss. Chairman Marion asked if there were any questions and/or comments. Mr. Adezio thanked Mr. Hrubash and Mr. Thorpe for putting together the funding meeting. Mr. Adezio advised that subsequent to the funding meeting, he had communications with Chubb and they are going through their approval process for outside counsel. Mr. Adezio said the list of outside counsels has been submitted to Chubb and he awaits their approval.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025 – Executive Director advised that the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission Stewardship Report as of 12/31/25 will be presented during Inservco’s report.

NEW JERSEY COUNTIES EXCESS JOINT INSURANCE FUND – Executive Director reported that the NJCE held their Reorganization Meeting on February 26, 2026. Executive Director referred to a written summary of the meeting enclosed within the agenda packet. Executive Director advised that the NJCE will meet again on Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. in person at the Forsgate Country Club, Monroe Twp., NJ.

2026 RENEWAL OVERVIEW WEBINAR – Executive Director reported that the NJCE Underwriting Manager held a webinar on Tuesday, February 24 at 11 a.m. Executive Director said the webinar was well attended and referred to a copy of the renewal presentation enclosed within the agenda packet. Executive Director added that a recording of the webinar has been posted to njce.org.

2026 MEL, MRHIF & NJCE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – Executive Director reminded the Commissioners that the 16th annual seminar will be conducted virtually on 2 half-day sessions: Friday, April 24th and Friday, May 1st from 9AM to 12PM. Executive Director then referred to a copy of the invitation enclosed within the agenda packet.

MCIFC PROPERTY & CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK – Executive Director referred to the Financial Fast Track for the month of December enclosed within the agenda. Executive Director reported that as of December 31, 2025 the Commission has a surplus of \$6,712,734. 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 December 31, 2025 is \$1,609,632 and advised that the total cash balance is \$13,721,752.

NJCE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY FINANCIAL FAST TRACK – Executive Director referred to the NJCE Financial Fast Track for the month of December. Executive Director reported that as of December 31, 2025 the NJCE has a surplus of \$18,861,992. Executive Director advised that Line 7 of the report, “Dividend” represents the dividend figure released by the NJCE of \$7,207,551 and noted that the NJCE cash balance is \$38,891,840.

CLAIMS TRACKING REPORTS – Executive Director advised the Claim Tracking reports as of December 31, 2025, 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 also referred to a separate Claims Management Report Expected Loss Ratio Analysis report focusing on Workers’ Compensation claims that was distributed to the Commissioners prior to the start of the meeting. 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 two informational items for his report.

2026 NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES CONFERENCE: Mr. Thorpe reported that the 75th Annual Conference is scheduled from May 6th to May 8th at Caesar’s in Atlantic City. Mr.

Thorpe advised that the New Jersey Counties Excess Joint Insurance Fund will be exhibiting at the conference.

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE – Mr. Thorpe advised that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2026 at 1:30 PM.

With no questions, Mr. Thorpe concluded his report.

Executive Director's Report Made Part of Minutes.

TREASURER REPORT: Chairman Marion advised the March Bill List, Resolution 21-26 was included in the agenda. Chairman Marion said a motion was needed to approve the bills list.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-26: THE MARCH BILL LIST

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Commissioner Maldonado
Roll Call Vote:	Unanimous

ATTORNEY: Mr. Adezio reported that he spoke with the RMC prior to the meeting regarding the Mercer County Youth House claims. Mr. Adezio advised that the RMC has an update. Ms. Pieroni reported that she spoke with the policy archivist, Policy Find, and they have provided a “not-to-exceed” fee proposal to the County. Ms. Pieroni advised that the representative from Policy Find will also be providing a potential fee schedule, and once she has it, she will share the information with the Commission Chair, Attorney, and Executive Director.

CLAIMS SERVICE: CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Thorpe advised Resolution 22-26, Disclosure of Liability Claims Check Registers, was included in the agenda along with a copy of the check register for February 1, 2026 to February 28, 2026.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 22-26 AUTHORIZING DISCLOSURE OF LIABILITY CLAIMS CHECK REGISTER

Moved:	Commissioner Silva
Second:	Commissioner Maldonado
Roll Call Vote:	Unanimous

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025 – Executive Director advised that the Mercer County Insurance Fund Commission Stewardship Report as of 12/31/25 was distributed via email ahead of the meeting. Executive Director asked Ms. Guerriero to review the report for the Commissioners. Ms. Guerriero advised she would provide a high-level review of the liability and worker compensation stewardship reports that were distributed prior to the meeting. Ms. Guerriero referred to page 6 of the report “Claim Summary by Policy Period” for the past 3 years (2023, 2024, & 2025). Ms. Guerriero noted that the total number of claims are up for the 2025 fund year over the 2024 fund year but noted that the number of claims in 2025 is less than 2023. Ms. Guerriero reported that the 2025 net incurred was less than the previous year. Ms. Guerriero then referred to page 8 of the report “Loss Summary by Location” for the past 3 years. Ms. Guerriero reported that Correction Center had the highest net incurred amount over the past 3 years with \$4,284,341.99 and the Sheriff Department had the second highest net incurred amount with \$1,353,055.63. Chairman Marion requested that a summary of the “Loss Summary by Location” exhibit be prepared to share with the various county department heads. Executive Director advised that the summary will be ranked highest net incurred to the lowest. Ms. Guerriero then proceeded to review pages 13-19 of the report “Timely Reporting – Average Days to Receive Indemnity vs Medical Only by Location” for the past 3 years and reviewed the averages by year. Ms. Guerriero reported that the average days fluctuated over the last 3 years. Vice-Chair Montero asked what the ideal number of days for claim reporting should be. Ms. Guerriero advised that 1-2 days after the claim would be ideal. Ms. Guerriero proceeded to review pages 20-25 of the report “Top 5 – Cause of Injury – Frequency and Net Incurred; Top 5 – Type of Injury – Frequency and Net Incurred; and Top 5 – Part of Body – Frequency and

Net Incurred Reporting” for the past 3 years. Vice-Chair Montero asked what types of injuries would fall into the Miscellaneous-Other Miscellaneous category. Ms. Guerriero advised that the 17 claims for exposure to chemical odor are an example of the type of claim that would fall into that category. Ms. Guerriero further advised that chest pain, stress, and exposure to bodily fluids would also fall under the Miscellaneous-Other Miscellaneous category. Mr. Cruz advised that when he is inputting a claim that does not have a specific category, he chooses one of the various miscellaneous categories. Commissioner Maldonado asked who provides Mr. Cruz with the categories to choose from. Ms. Fowlkes advised that the categories are provided by the state. Vice-Chair Montero asked if it is possible to separate the Report Only claims from the Medical Only & Lost Time claims within the Cause of Injury Report. Ms. Guerriero said she would speak with her IT department to see if the types of claims can be separated. Chairman Marion commented that there is a lot of useful data within the Stewardship Report and asked for suggestions on how to communicate the information to department heads throughout the county. Commissioner Silva said that this information will be communicated to department heads as part of the Safety Committee initiative being developed by the RMC. Commissioner Silva added that the Safety Committee initiative is separate and apart from the Safety and Accident Review Committee that is already in place. With no further questions and/or comments, Ms. Guerriero concluded her report.

MANAGED CARE: Ms. Royce advised she would review First MCO’s report, which was included in the agenda for the month of February. Ms. Royce provided the below information:

Month	Provider Bill Amount	Repriced Amount	Savings	Percentage of Savings	Number of Bills	In Network Bills	Net Savings	PPO %
Feb-26	\$ 94,287	\$ 53,253	\$ 41,034	44%	73	73	\$ 32,827	100%

With no questions, Ms. Royce concluded her report.

RISK/LOSS CONTROL SERVICES: Mr. Callahan referred to the Safety Director’s report for late February and March enclosed within the agenda, which included all risk control and safety activities. Mr. Callahan then referred to the listing of all training opportunities that are scheduled through the end of May. With no questions, Mr. Callahan concluded his report.

Correspondence Made Part of Minutes.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT: Ms. Pieroni reported that her team continues to work on various initiatives with Vice-Chair Montero and Commissioner Silva. Ms. Pieroni advised that her team is also working with Mr. Montero on inventory, asset reconciliation, and the day-to-day needs of the county. With no questions, Ms. Pieroni concluded her report.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CLOSED SESSION: Executive Director requested a motion to approve Resolution 23-26 authorizing a Closed Session to discuss PARs and SARs.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-26 FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved: Commissioner Silva
 Second: Commissioner Maldonado
 Vote: Unanimous

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved: Commissioner Silva

Second: Commissioner Maldonado
Vote: Unanimous

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

Moved: Commissioner Silva
Second: Commissioner Maldonado
Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Moved: Commissioner Silva
Second: Commissioner Maldonado
Vote: Unanimous

MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:40 PM

Minutes prepared by:
Jason Thorpe, Assisting Secretary