

**ABRIDGED REPORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
Wall TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY NOVEMBER 21, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by President Ordway at 9:00A.M in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. He stated that notice of this meeting was posted on the New Jersey State Firemen's website as required pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975). The fire exits were pointed out.

Vice President Hankins led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Ordway asked for a moment of silence. He asked everyone to remember President Emeritus Greenwald who could not be with us today, Vice President Hankins, Executive Committeeman Scheur and Mazzarella for continued recovery. For the Family of Executive Committeeman Fazekas whose father passed away, and the family of Former Executive Committeeman the late Joe Liberton on the passing of his wife Elizabeth. And all First Responders and members of the Armed Services for their safety.

Executive Committeeman Mellert gave the invocation.

**OATH OF OFFICE:** Counsel Cavallo swore in the Officers and Executive Committee for their current term.

**ROLL CALL:**

Roll call was held. First Assistant Secretary Brian Martone announced that all members were present except for Treasurer Osborn and President Emeritus Greenwald who were excused. Also present was Past Present Frank Gunson, Past Secretary Sanford Weinberger and William Smith, President of the New Jersey State Fire Chiefs Association and 9 others.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Abridged Minutes and Verbatim Minutes of the September 12, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting were approved as distributed on a motion by Executive Committeeman Handlin seconded by Executive Committeeman Scheuer. Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Secretary Pelaia said there was no current Communications other than those in your packet. A motion was made to accept the correspondence submitted, by Executive Committeeman Fazekas seconded by Executive Committeeman Kurdyla. Motion carried.

**LIFE MEMBERS:** A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Lane and seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein to grant Life Membership to all members who attained it at this year's caucuses /convention. Motion Carried. A list of those members is being prepared and will be distributed to all Associations.

**OFFICERS REPORT:**

**Vice President Hankins report:** He had no written report but reported the following:

- 1) He thanked everyone for their assistance at the caucuses this year while he was not available due to his surgery
- 2) He and Second Assistant Secretary Dreby met with Senator Singleton regarding the age bill. Senator Singleton stated that the bill will probably go to committee in December. He also mentioned that there is a report in your folder with the number of over-age applications that we received awaiting enactment of the bill.
- 3) He asked all Executives to send him the dates, time, and places for their 2021 Caucuses so that he can put them on the website.
- 4) He asked the Executives to review the pension paperwork in their folders and if there are any errors that they notify him right away.
- 5) He along with Executive Committeewoman Hollingsworth met with Barnegat Light Fire Department regarding joining the Association. It was productive. He encourages all members of the Executive Committee to seek out any Fire Department who are not members of our Association and meet with them regarding joining.
- 6) The Health Care Form 114 has been updated to include spouses. We will also be repopulating our data base to add in the deceased members Line Numbers for assisting Local Secretaries when filling out both Health Care and Relief Applications.

**Secretary's Report:** He had no written report but reported the following:

- 1) We are running out of Life Member pins. An RFQ was sent out to 5 vendors with 3 sending in quotes and a sample pin. All samples were identical, so we went with the low bidder and ordered 2500 pins.
- 2) With the requirement that certain forms only be submitted via the web site, we are putting tutorial videos on the web site to show the local officers on the proper way to submit them. The first tutorial is online which is for Quarterly Relief Reports. We anticipate having tutorials posted for Officer Listing submissions and Report of Delegates Elected posted within a week or 2.
- 3) We are working closely with Executive Committeeman Lenarski and Past President Gunson on the Hamilton Township Consolidation of Associations.

**First Assistant Secretary Report:** No Report

**Second Assistant Secretary Report:** He reported the following:

- 1) He stated that we are moving in the direction to make our Law Library digital.

2) He attended a meeting with Senator Singleton and Vice President Hankins regarding the age bill.

**Treasurer Report:** No Report

**Field Examiner Report:** His report is in your packet. He has 2 verbal items:

- 1) There is an IRS bulletin that requires Form 990 to be submitted online in 2021. Form 990EZ will be required to be submitted online in 2022.
- 2) The IRS has also sent out letters to Associations stating they have not filed their 2019 990 yet. Apparently, due to the current Covid situation the IRS is backlogged entering the receipt of those returns. A computer program then looks to see who is not entered and generates the letter. Jim spoke to the IRS and they said anyone receiving the letter should follow the instructions on the letter and forward a copy of the letter to the State Office.
- 3) He notified everyone that since we could not do Field Exams this year due to Covid, we are anticipating doing the 2020 exams in the spring and the 2021 exams in the fall. This is contingent on the status of the Covid virus.

**Counsel Cavallo reported:** No Report.

**President's Report:** He had no written report but reported the following:

- 1) He reminded everyone that the office will be closed on November 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday and will also be closed beginning December 23<sup>rd</sup> and will reopen on January 4<sup>th</sup> for the Winter Break. The office will also be closed on January 18<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King Day and February 15<sup>th</sup> for Presidents Day
- 2) All IRS 990s have been received, all Convention vouchers have been received and all 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Relief Reports have been received on time. Only 24 Local Associations did their 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Relief reports manually and each local was sent an e-mail reminder that it is mandatory online for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.
- 3) He reviewed the schedule for reports that will be mailed out and their due dates for the beginning of the year.
- 4) He then spoke about the new Computer updates: **OFFICER LISTINGS** – This report must be done online. Also, edits to existing information can be made on each line without having to enter the entire Officers information. **QUARTERLY RELIEF REPORTS** – We are in the process of restoring the detail information for members who passed away prior to 1985. This will help when reporting relief paid to widows so that relief can be entered easily on the website. **WEBSITE** – There are 2 new tabs on the website. They are Annual Memorial Service and the other is Form Submission Tutorials. The Annual Memorial Service will now be videotaped and posted on the website. This begins with the 2020 Memorial Service and will continue in the future. The Form Submission Tutorials are videos of how to submit reports online. There are presently 2 videos available and several more are planned to be available by the end of the year. **Health Care Reimbursement** – Applications are now updated to include Spouses and Qualified Surviving spouses which will begin in January. The computer system is now being upgraded to track the type of recipient ( Member or Spouse).

**Annual Financial Report** – the import of Relief Recipients is still being worked on but will probably not be available until next year. In the meantime, Treasurers should be able to print out a year to date Relief Report and attach it as Insert B.

- 5) He reminded Secretaries to notify the office promptly of any changes to local officers information especially change in phone numbers and E-Mail addresses.
- 6) A reminder that anyone having a problem with submitting reports on-line should call the State Office so that we can identify the problem and get it corrected.
- 7) A reminder that the following reports will become mandatory to submit them online as of January 2021. THEY ARE: Officer Listing, Quarterly Relief Report, Initial Notice of Death (Form 300), Maintenance Forms and Report of Convention Delegates Elected (both Relief and Exempt). He also reminded everyone that on the Officer Listing Reports and Report of Delegates Elected, that a member's line number should only appear once on these reports ( Delegate, Alternate and Chief).
- 8) He mentioned the following statistics: Special Relief increased 100%, Supplemental Relief increased 12.36%and Healthcare is up 366%.
- 9) He reminded everyone that last November it was mentioned that we probably will have to change the Insurance check percentage split this May. We will keep everyone advised as we get closer to the date.
- 10) Based on the current vaccine reports for Covid 19, we are anticipating that we will have a normal Caucus season and Convention in 2021. As things develop, we will keep everyone informed. Dates for the 2021 Convention will be September 17-18. 2021.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ADVISORY/ SPECIAL / SUPPLEMENTAL COMMITTEE:** Executive Committeeman Mellert stated that a change in the relief scale will be voted on under new Business.

**COMPENDIUM COMMITTEE:** Executive Committeeman Lane reported the committee met and the minutes are in everyone's packet and will be attached to these minutes Executive Committeeman Naylis then said that he was disappointed that the committee did not increase the amount of drills allowed on the Membership Report percentages. He feels that training is an important part of the Fire Service and that he feels that they should be recognized

**DELEGATE AND LIFE MEMBER COMMITTEE:** No Report

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** The Finance Committee Report has been submitted (attached to the minutes)

**HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE:** The Report has been submitted. We have received many cards and letters of appreciation from the members and families involved.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:** President Ordway formed this new committee in response to questions asked at the last meeting during the Public Session. Executive Committeeman Handlin is the chairman. Executive Committee Handlin said that the committee did not meet yet but will be meeting soon. Executive Committeeman Otterbein asked what the difference is in the Finance Committee and the Investment Committee. President Ordway explained that the Finance Committee reviews the Payments made and to whom. The Investment Committee will review where our money is invested and make recommendations accordingly. Executive Committeeman Kurdyla inquired if the Executive Committee will get a report from the investment committee. President Ordway said "ABSOLUTELY".

**LEGISLATIVE:** The Junior Firefighters Bill was signed by the Governor, As reported previously, we are meeting with legislators regarding the age bill. The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee will be meeting on December 10, and we are pushing that the bill be heard in committee that day. There will be a Legislative Committee Meeting on December 3 via Zoom. The link to the meeting will be posted on our website. Vice President Hankins mentioned that there is a report in your folders with the number of over-age applications that we have received awaiting the enactment of the bill. Executive Committeeman Naylis asked what happens to a member whose application that has been received and waiting for the Statute to be changed. Is there any issue with the physical expiring? President Ordway responded that the date the application was stamped received by our office is the date that the member will be admitted to the Association. Executive Committeeman Scheuer inquired how the percentages will be calculated while the applications are being held for these members. President Ordway responded that the secretaries should keep track of those percentages and hold them until the statute is passed. At that time, they will be notified to send us their percentages via a Maintenance Form.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE:** Chairman Spiegel reported. that there will be a meeting within the next month on some issues that he received,

**PENSION COMMITTEE:** Vice President Hankins reported for Treasurer Osborn that the committee met this morning, and they issued to the Executive Committee, Officers and employees their pension information. They are to review them and get back to him or Treasurer Osborn with any mistakes that need to be corrected.

**RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:** No Report

**SALARY COMMITTEE:** No Report

**FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION** – Chairman Naylis reported that all DFS meetings are cancelled for the time being due to Covid 19. CEU Classes are being given online. He also stated that the Division is still requiring that Life Hazard Uses (LHU) must be inspected by the end of the year. The State will withhold funding if these inspections are not completed

**FIREMEN’S HOME COMMITTEE** – Chairman Otterbein reported that although he has no written Report, he has some verbal items. A new Chairman of the Board of Managers was elected. The new Chairman of the full Board of Managers is Anthony Frato from Sussex County and the new Vice Chairman is Anthony Greci from Essex County. The Budget for the 2021-2022 year was passed at their November meeting. Executive Committeeman Handlin who was on the meetings conference call reported that there has been some new legislation passed which affects the Home. He asked Superintendent Veras for a copy of them and he said he will forward them to him. He said that President Ordway who was also on the call asked a question regarding the surplus. It was mentioned that is retained for the following years budget. The current census at the Home is 42 guests and there are 8 people on the waiting list for the Memory Care Unit. He then brought the members up to date regarding the resignation of Manager Oser from Hudson County. He stated that he received a call that Manager Oser was resigning from the Board. Executive Committeeman Handlin reached out to Manager. He then notified President Ordway of Manager Oser’s resignation and President Ordway asked Committeeman Handline to see if anyone from his County would be interested in the position. Committeeman Handlin sent an E-mail to all 12 of his Associations, He received a response from Past President Heflich who said he was interested. He did receive a call from a Jersey City member and Committeeman Handlin reached out to him and he received no response back. Committeeman Handlin then talked with Past President Heflich several times and then sent President Ordway an e-mail stating that the only person interested was George Heflich. Committeeman Handlin then recommended that President Ordway appoint George Heflich as the interim Manager. President Ordway then appointed George Heflich as interim Manager. Prior to the Board of Managers Meeting of October 12, the Home received a letter from Manager Oser rescinding his resignation. Much discussion followed.

**APPLICATIONS:** President Ordway received a call from Executive Committeeman Badger stating that Fire Department in Estelle Manor is up and running again. He will be entertaining a motion under new business to reinstate them on January 1, 2021 provided that their paperwork is in order.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) President Ordway informed everyone that under New Business we will be voting on the consolidation of the Hamilton Township's Relief Associations.
- 2) President Ordway also mentioned that Vice President Hankins and Executive Committeewoman Hollingsworth met with Barnegat Light FD to hopefully begin the process of that Department joining our Association.
- 3) President Ordway informed everyone that we will probably be voting at our next meeting for the removal of a member.
- 4) There is also an investigation ongoing about 2 members who received payment for attending the convention who did not actually attend.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Otterbein, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Scheuer Handlin to have the Secretary cast 1 ballot for the election of Executive Committeeman John Lane as Chairman of the Executive Committee.  
**Passed 21-0**
- 2) ) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Lenarski, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Handlin to have the Secretary cast 1 ballot for the election of Committeeman Robert Kelly as Secretary of the Executive Committee. **Passed 21-0**
- 3) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Kelly seconded by Executive Committeeman Fazekas to accept Resolutions 1 and 2 which call for Associations to elect Delegates and Alternates to the Convention and Exempt Associations to Elect a Delegate and Alternate to the 2021 Convention. **Passed 21-0**
- 4) A motion by Executive Committeeman Naylis, seconded by Executive Committeeman Spiegel to have the President and Vice President attend the 2021 CFSI Dinner in Washington, DC and the 2021 League of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City **On a Roll Call Vote Passed 21-0**
- 5) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Spiegel, seconded by Committeeman Florio to accept the recommendation from the Compendium Committee that no member can hold 2 Local Officer Positions in an Association. **Passed 21-0**
- 6) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Spiegel, seconded by Committeeman Roemmich to accept the recommendation from the Compendium Committee that 9999 Chiefs and Exempt Delegates receive credit towards Life Membership **Passed 21-0**
- 7) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Walker, seconded by Executive Committeeman Florio to accept the Advisory Committee's recommendation to increase the Relief Scale effective January 1, 2021. **On a Roll Call Vote Passed 21-0**
- 8) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Fazekas, seconded by Executive Committeewoman Hollingsworth to reinstate Estelle Manor Relief Association provided that their Application and Paperwork are in order. **Passed 21-0**

9) A statement (attached) was made by Executive Committeeman Lenarski regarding the Consolidation of Fire Companies in Hamilton Township. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Lenarski seconded by Executive Committeeman Phillips to accept 2 new Companies into the Hamilton Township Relief Association #186 and the consolidation of the remaining 4 Associations. The new Career Company will be Company 5 and the New Volunteer Company will be Company 6. **Passed 21-0**

10) President Ordway advised the Executive Committee that Field Examiner Kenny is not a Life Member. Mr. Kenny has attended over 20 conventions as a worker or as Field Examiner but was never a Delegate. The Compendium Committee recommends that Mr. Kenny be awarded Life Membership similar to the way Officers and Members of the Executive Committee who are not Life Members get awarded Life Membership upon taking office. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Mellert, seconded by Executive Committeeman Spiegel to grant Life Membership to Field Examiner Kenny. **Passed 21-0**

11) Executive Committeeman Naylis stated that he has received calls from Associations informing him that due to Covid they could not hold 5 meetings. President Ordway informed everyone that if an Association cannot meet due to Covid that the Local Secretary enter into the Secretary's Minutes Book that the meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

President Ordway opened the meeting to public comment and asked First Assistant Secretary Martone to read the following: The New Jersey State Firemen's Association welcomes comments from the members of the audience. He further stated the secretary will note all comments and that because of this he asked anyone speaking to state their name and address before speaking and to keep their comments to a 3-minute time limit. Concerns stated or actions requested by the public will be taken under advisement by the Executive Committee for investigation, discussion and possible action or disposition at a later time.

Michael Cleary, Treasurer of the Jersey City Firemen's Relief Association inquired why the abridged minutes of the last Executive Committee was not on the website. This was overlooked and the minutes will be put on the website on Monday.

James Bainbridge of the Pennington Firemen's Relief Association asked if a generic letter was going out regarding overage applications. These were sent out and we will send him another copy. He also asked if they should write in the names and percentages of overage members whose applications are being held in the office on the Active Membership Reports. The answer is **NO**. Local Secretaries should keep the records internally and when the statute is passed and becomes law, we will issue them a Line Number and at that time the Local Secretaries can forward that information to us,



# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, NJ 07727

DATE OF MEETING: November 21, 2020

PAGE: 1 of 1

PRES    ABS

ROBERT F. ORDWAY	PRESIDENT	X		Vote #1 - Approval for CFSI & League of Municipalities Attendance.	Vote #2- Increase for Relief Scale as Proposed.				
JOSEPH T. HANKINS	VICE PRESIDENT	X							
THOMAS J. PELAI	SECRETARY	X							
BRIAN E. MARTONE	1ST ASS'T SECY	X							
RICHARD K. DREBY	2ND ASS'T SECY	X							
BARRY J. OSBORN	TREASURER		X						
JAMES J. KENNY	FIELD EXAMINER	X							
ERNEST J. GREENWALD, SR.	PRES. EMERITUS		X						
FRANK P. CAVALLO, JR.	COUNSEL	X							
GEORGE M. MORRIS	ASS'T COUNSEL	X		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
CINDY L. BADGER	ATLANTIC	X		X		X			
GERARD J. NAYLIS	BERGEN	X		X		X			
STEPHEN C. FAZEKAS	BURLINGTON	X		X		X			
NORMAN F. FIGUEROA, JR.	CAMDEN	X		X		X			
DANIEL F. SPEIGEL	CAPE MAY	X		X		X			
JAMES F. REEVES	CUMBERLAND	X		X		X			
RICHARD C. OTTERBEIN	ESSEX	X		X		X			
GLENN D. ROEMMICH	GLOUCESTER	X		X		X			
LAWERENCE J. HANDLIN	HUDSON	X		X		X			
JOHN R. PHILLIPS	HUNTERDON	X		X		X			
JOSEPH M. LENARSKI	MERCER	X		X		X			
ANDREW MAZZARELLA	MIDDLESEX	X		X		X			
ROBERT J. KELLY	MONMOUTH	X		X		X			
EUGENE T. MINELL	MORRIS	X		X		X			
JENNIE M. HOLLINGSWORTH	OCEAN	X		X		X			
JOHN V. LANE	PASSAIC	X		X		X			
FRANCIS X. WALKER, JR.	SALEM	X		X		X			
ALLEN F. KURDYLA	SOMERSET	X		X		X			
DANIEL L. SCHEUER	SUSSEX	X		X		X			
NICHOLAS J. FLORIO	UNION	X		X		X			
KONRAD A. MELLERT	WARREN	X		X		X			
TOTALS		29	2	21	0	21	0		

GUESTS: Past President, Frank Gunson  
 Past Secretary, Sanford Weinberg  
 President NJ State Chief's Assoc., William Smith

There were no further public comments.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- 1) President Ordway thanked all committees and the Executive Committee for their participation today. We got a lot accomplished. He hopes that future meetings will be held here at the office. He then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays.
- 2) He mentioned that all the current State Officers will be running for reelection this year
- 3) Executive Committeeman Fazekas thanked everyone for their condolences on the passing of his father .
- 4) Executive Committeeman Otterbein asked if we could ask for CORRECT E-MAIL addresses when we send out the Officer Listings. President Ordway responded to him saying that we are aware of the problem issue and we will be asking for CORRECT E-MAILS.
- 5) Executive Committeeman Kelly remarked that what makes this Association great is how the Officers and Executive Committee come together and can discuss, disagree, and resolve issues together.
- 6) Vice President Hankins mentioned that the Officers Listings can now be edited line by line rather than having to enter everything again for a simple change

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Executive Committeeman Florio seconded by Executive Committeeman Kurdyla the meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

**Respectfully submitted,**



**Thomas J. Pelaia**  
**Secretary**

REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
QUARTER ENDING: SEPTEMBER, 30 2020

PAGE NUMBER: 1

CHECKS ISSUED IN VARIOUS AMOUNTS

1 @	\$1,910.00	\$1,910.00
2 @	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
4 @	\$3,200.00	\$12,800.00
1 @	\$3,346.00	\$3,346.00
2 @	\$3,399.25	\$6,798.50
1 @	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
4 @	\$4,000.00	\$16,000.00
1 @	\$4,300.00	\$4,300.00
1 @	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
1 @	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00
1 @	\$5,201.50	\$5,201.50
4 @	\$6,000.00	\$24,000.00
1 @	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
6 @	\$7,000.00	\$42,000.00
1 @	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00
2 @	\$7,400.00	\$14,800.00
1 @	\$7,700.00	\$7,700.00
1 @	\$7,837.00	\$7,837.00
1 @	\$8,404.00	\$8,404.00
1 @	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
3 @	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1 @	\$9,300.00	\$9,300.00
1 @	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00
1 @	\$9,700.00	\$9,700.00
7 @	\$10,000.00	\$70,000.00
1 @	\$10,090.00	\$10,090.00
3 @	\$10,500.00	\$31,500.00
1 @	\$10,540.25	\$10,540.25
5 @	\$10,750.00	\$53,750.00
2 @	\$11,250.00	\$22,500.00
1 @	\$11,318.00	\$11,318.00
4 @	\$11,500.00	\$46,000.00
2 @	\$11,750.00	\$23,500.00
208 @	\$12,000.00	\$2,496,000.00
1 @	\$21,500.00	\$21,500.00
		<hr/>
		\$3,048,695.25

REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
QUARTER ENDING: SEPTEMBER, 30 2020

PAGE NUMBER: 2

CLAIMS FILED BETWEEN JULY 01, 2019 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2019	290	
CLAIMS FILED BETWEEN JULY 01, 2020 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2020	287	
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD JULY 01, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019	273	
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD JULY 01, 2020 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2020	270	
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD JULY 01, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019	273	\$3,001,927.06
CLAIMS PAID FOR PERIOD JULY 01, 2020 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2020	270	\$3,048,695.25
1 - WIDOW	126	\$1,478,800.00
2 - DAUGHTER	63	\$668,796.25
3 - SON	53	\$544,000.00
4 - MOTHER	3	\$27,399.25
5 - FATHER	5	\$47,803.25
6 - UNDERTAKER	11	\$109,946.50
7 - STEP-DGT	1	\$7,700.00
N - CAREGIVER	12	\$140,250.00
R - SON-IN-LAW	2	\$24,000.00
	<hr/> 270	<hr/> \$3,048,695.25

EXPLANATION - NO CLAIMS

1 NO CLAIMS WERE FILED

1 FILED NO CLAIM WAS OVER AGE AT TIME OF ADMITTANCE

# New Jersey State Firemen's Association

1711 Route 34 • Wall Township, New Jersey 07727-3934

Telephone: (732) 798-8137 • (800) 852-0137

Fax: (732) 938-2580

## RELIEF ASSISTANCE SCALE - EFFECTIVE 01/01/2021

LOCAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION PRIOR Y/E ASSET RANGE (DOLLARS)				*	**	*
				LOCAL RELIEF LIMIT	SPECIAL RELIEF FUND LIMIT	SUPPLEMENTARY RELIEF LIMIT
				STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3
\$ 0 TO \$ 10,000				\$ 1,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
\$ 10,001 TO \$ 20,000				\$ 1,250.00	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 5,000.00
\$ 20,001 TO \$ 50,000				\$ 1,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,000.00
\$ 50,001 TO \$ 80,000				\$ 1,750.00	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 7,000.00
\$ 80,001 TO \$ 120,000				\$ 2,250.00	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 9,000.00
\$ 120,001 TO \$ 160,000				\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 10,000.00
\$ 160,001 TO \$ 200,000				\$ 2,750.00	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 11,000.00
\$ 200,001 TO \$ 250,000				\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
\$ 250,001 TO \$ 350,000				\$ 3,250.00	\$ 4,750.00	\$ 13,000.00
\$ 350,001 TO \$ 500,000				\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
\$ 500,001 TO \$ 750,000				\$ 3,750.00	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 15,000.00
\$ 750,001 TO \$ 1,000,000				\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
\$ 1,000,001 TO \$ ABOVE				\$ 5,250.00	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 21,000.00

\* Funded and paid by the Local Relief Association.

\*\* Funded and paid by the N.J.S.F.A. office.

ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION ON 11/21/2020

### EFFECTIVE STARTING JANUARY 1, 2021

Special Relief Fund Application (Form 113) must be completed after Local Relief Payment Scale (Step 1) has been fully paid and PRIOR TO or AT THE SAME TIME AS Application for Supplementary Relief (Form 102) being submitted. Special Relief is paid by the State Office after approval by the Advisory Committee.

Supplementary Relief must be approved by the State Office Advisory Committee prior to being paid by the Local Association.

Relief is calculated on a calendar year basis and applications for Special and Supplementary Relief must be received in the State Office by December 1st in order to be considered for the current calendar year.

LOCAL RELIEF LEVELS FOR A GIVEN YEAR ARE CALCULATED BASED ON YOUR PRIOR YEAR DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> ASSOCIATION BALANCE AND DO NOT CHANGE DURING THE YEAR EVEN IF YOUR ASSOCIATION BALANCE CHANGES WITHIN THE YEAR.

# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Report on increased payments as a result of Executive Committee decisions as of 10/31/2020

<u>JANUARY - JUNE</u>	<u>1/1/2019</u> <u>thru 6/30/2019</u>		<u>1/1/2020</u> <u>thru 6/30/2020</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
Healthcare	\$109,765.31	43	\$478,836.69	80	\$369,071.38	336.24%	State Office
Special Relief	\$140,567.91	66	\$362,157.00	86	\$221,589.09	157.64%	State Office
Subtotal - State	\$250,333.22		\$840,993.69		\$590,660.47	235.95%	
Supplemental Relief	\$365,045.05	53	\$425,432.66	42	\$60,387.61	16.54%	Local Assoc.
TOTAL - COMBINED	\$615,378.27		\$1,266,426.35		\$651,048.08	105.80%	COMBINED

<u>JULY - OCTOBER</u>	<u>7/1/2019</u> <u>thru 10/31/2019</u>		<u>7/1/2020</u> <u>thru 10/31/2020</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
Healthcare	\$142,126.45	53	\$695,137.46	79	\$553,011.01	389.10%	State Office
Special Relief	\$153,207.00	71	\$227,150.00	57	\$73,943.00	48.26%	State Office
Subtotal - State	\$295,333.45		\$922,287.46		\$626,954.01	212.29%	
Supplemental Relief	\$383,400.05	55	\$417,432.63	45	\$34,032.58	8.88%	Local Assoc.
TOTAL - COMBINED	\$678,733.50		\$1,339,720.09		\$660,986.59	97.39%	COMBINED

<u>CONSOLIDATED</u> <u>JANUARY - OCTOBER</u>	<u>1/1/2019</u> <u>thru 10/31/2019</u>		<u>1/1/2020</u> <u>thru 10/31/2020</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
Healthcare	\$251,891.76	64	\$1,173,974.15	111	\$922,082.39	366.06%	State Office
Special Relief	\$293,774.91	137	\$589,307.00	143	\$295,532.09	100.60%	State Office
Subtotal - State	\$545,666.67		\$1,763,281.15		\$1,217,614.48	223.14%	
Supplemental Relief	\$748,445.10	108	\$842,865.29	87	\$94,420.19	12.62%	Local Assoc.
TOTAL - COMBINED	\$1,294,111.77		\$2,606,146.44		\$1,312,034.67	101.38%	COMBINED

# **New Jersey State Firemen's Association**

## **Compendium Committee Meeting Minutes**

### **10/22/2020**

The meeting of the Compendium Committee was called to order at 9:00am by Chairman John Lane:

**Roll Call:** Chairman John Lane, President Robert Ordway, Vice President Joseph Hankins, Secretary Thomas Pelaia, First Assistant Secretary Brian Martone, Second Assistant Secretary Richard Dreby, Executive Committeeman Frank Walker, Executive Committeeman Daniel Spiegel, Executive Committeeman Eugene Minnell, Executive Committeeman Konrad Mellert, Executive Committeeman Daniel Scheuer and Executive Committeeman Glenn Roemmich. President Emeritus Ernest Greenwald was excused.

**Item #1:** The Committee discussed the increase in the maximum number of drills allowed per year reported on the Annual Membership report . This was discussed at the last meeting and more information was requested and would be further discussed at this meeting. Executive Committeeman Naylis submitted a proposal which included the following:

<u>Calls Responded to by Fire Company</u>	<u>Number of Drills Allowed</u>
Up to 50 calls	10
51 calls to 100 calls	20
101 calls to 150 calls	30
151 calls to 200 calls	40
Over 200 calls	50

Executive Committeeman Mellert stated that this chart can be confusing, so he made a motion that we increase the number of drills allowed to 30. He received no second to his motion. Executive Committeeman Scheuer stated that he feels that 24 calls are sufficient. Executive Committeeman Spiegel then commented that using the above chart if a Fire Company had 50 runs and the member made 10 drills, he would only have to make 3 fire calls to make his 25%. He also said that we have lowered the percentages over the past 10 years from 60%, first to 50% and then to the current 25% to help our members in receiving their qualification. President Ordway then said that he knows the intention of Executive Committeeman Naylis, which is we want firefighters to respond to fires, but they also need to knowledge to do their job properly. But he also said that we need to balance drills and responses, that is why at our last meeting it was discussed that credit for additional drills could be handled by the Company in house, such as LOSAP or an increase in clothing allowance etc. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Spiegel, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Roemmich to keep the drills at 24. **PASSED.**

**Item #2:** There was discussion on Local Officers holding 2 positions such as Secretary and Treasurer that was continued from the last meeting. Chairman Lane asked President Ordway if he knew the number of Associations that have this being done. He stated that it is approximately 5- 10 Associations. President Ordway then stated that one of his concerns is that Officers sign the checks which need 3 signatures. If a person holds 2 positions and someone is out of town and a check needs to be signed, there are not enough signers. With 4 Officers, if one is away, you can always go to the fourth officer. Executive Committeeman Walker stated that the compendium states that there will be 4 officers, why is not it enforced. President Ordway responded that it says 4 officers but does not say 4 different people. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Spiegel, seconded by Executive Committeeman Walker that effective 2021 there must be 4 separate members as Officers. **PASSED.**

**Item #3:** Vice President Hankins started a discussion if the Local Officers should have a Primary Address in New Jersey. There are several Local Officers who live out of State and if that person becomes ill or dies, how does the Local Association get the records. President Ordway mentioned that he has a concern that there are some officers that live in a contiguous county to their Association, but it is the next State. He mentioned that those officers can be in the county of the Local Association in 10 minutes and we have officers whose Association is in Northern New Jersey and they live for example Ocean County. Their travel time is at least 1 hour. It was decided that we will monitor this and if we notice any issues that we bring it back to the committee for further review.

**Item #4:** The office received a request from the Fairview Firemen's Relief Association to investigate On-line checking. This was first discussed at the last meeting and the State Officers were asked to check with our Auditors and Bonding Company for guidance. We received a response from our Auditors that they do not advise that we use Electronic Signatures for checking. Their primary reason is that it will be a higher risk for fraud. They based their decision on another client who used electronic signatures and lost approximately \$700,000.00 through Spoofing and E-Mails. The Bonding Company did not directly respond yet, but Mr Lutz who handles our relationship with the bonding company said that the Bonding Company will also agree. President Ordway also mentioned that he had experience whereby one of the signers gave his password to another employee and the one employee handled all the transactions. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Roemmich, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Scheuer not to allow Electronic Checking. **PASSED**

**Item #5:** As a follow-up to the discussion at the last meeting regarding making the Active Membership Reports be filed on-line, it was decided that we would encourage Associations to do it on-line but it will **not** be mandatory next year. President Ordway wants to make sure that there are no problems with the 5 reports than are mandatory in 2021.



**Item #6:** Chairman Lane stated that he received a letter from Mercer County Executive Committeeman Lenarski bring forth an inquiry by 2 of his Associations asking why they can't use Local funds to pay for a plaque or memento, for instance a retiring officer of the Association. President Ordway started the discussion by saying that presently the Associations can use funds for Relief, Convention Allowance and Administrative Expenses. If we were to allow the purchasing of these items with Local funds, what is going to happen in the future, Will they come back and ask for something else and state to us you said OK for Plaques, why not for what we are asking for. Also, there was discussion if approved, what kind of safeguards should be put into place. Such as a limit on what can be spent etc. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Scheuer, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Walker that we do not change our policy regarding these items. **PASSED**

**Item #6:** President Ordway distributed a list of thoughts on the caucuses and voting this year. He asked the committee to read it and if they have any further thoughts to notify him or Chairman Lane for discussion at a future meeting.

**Item #7:** A letter was received from Kevin Stout who is a member of the Howell Firemen's Relief Association. In addition to being a member of Howell, he is also a Career Fire Fighter in the Long Branch FD. He attended 10 sessions of the convention as the Chief or Chief's Alternate in Long Branch. He is appealing that he should be a Life Member. Currently, a member of one Association who becomes a Chief Delegate or an Exempt Delegate of another Association does not receive credit towards their Life Membership. President Ordway and Secretary Pelaia then explained to the Committee that if the Chief or Exempt Delegate are not members of the Association that they represent, they have voting privileges at the convention and receive their Convention allowance from the Association that they represent. President Ordway stated that he surmises that in the past, these delegates would represent one Association and after the member receives his Life Membership, the Association that he belongs to must pay his Life Member allowance whenever he attends a Convention in the future. Much discussion then ensued. Most of the committee members were discussing how we can change it, if past members who did not receive credit can get the credit now. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Speigel and Seconded by Executive Committeeman Roemmich that:

- 1) Kevin Stout receive his Life Membership,
- 2) All Exempt Delegates and Chief's Delegates who are delegates to the Annual Convention for an Association that they are not a member, be granted credit towards their Life Membership in the future.
- 3) That the State Secretary notify all Local Association secretaries that any member who attended as an Exempt Delegate or Chief Delegate in the past, who was not a member of their Association and has a line number in another Association may submit a letter to the State Secretary stating the years he attended the convention, will receive credit for those sessions towards their Life Membership after the years attended are verified. **PASSED**

**Item #8:** President Ordway informed the Committee that Field Examiner Kenny is not a Life Member. He noted that the Compendium states that All Officers, members of the Executive Committee and members of the Board of Managers of the Firemen's Home, upon taking office shall be granted Life Membership, The Field Examiner who is appointed by the Executive Committee is not included. Mr. Kenny has attended the Convention for the past 19 years. 10 as a member of the Registration Committee and 9 as the Field Examiner. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Mellert and Seconded by Executive Committeeman Speigel to grant Field Examiner Kenny Life Membership and further discuss future requirements . **PASSED**

**With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00am**

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Pelaia  
Secretary

# ***NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION***

1711 Route 34 South • Wall Township, New Jersey 07727

Telephone: (800) 852 0137

Robert F. Ordway, President  
Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President  
Barry J. Osborn, CPA, Treasurer  
Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary  
Brian R. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

November 21, 2020

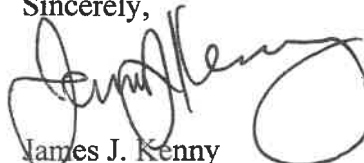
## **FIELD EXAMINERS REPORT**

September 1, 2020 to November 19, 2020

During the period covered by this report the following applications for Supplementary Relief were processed.

	Applications Received	Approved	Returned/Denied	Amount
September	15	15	0 0	\$132,732.63
October	6	6	0 0	\$40,600.00
November	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>\$213,617.42</u>
Total Supplementary	43	43	0 0	\$386,950.05
Special Relief	66	66	0 0	\$269,933.00

Sincerely,



James J. Kenny  
Field Examiner

JJK:dp

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Brian R. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

November 16, 2020

Robert F. Ordway, President  
New Jersey State Firemen's Assoc.  
1711 Route 34 South  
Wall Township, NJ 07727

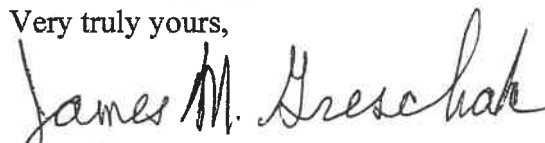
Dear Mr. President:

A regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on November 16, 2020 at the office of the Association. At that time, the accounts of the Association were audited for the quarter ending September 30, 2020. Treasurer Barry Osborn was available as needed and cooperated fully with the Committee in providing satisfactory answers to questions that arose during the audit.

The audit reconciled the cancelled checks for operating expenses, burial fund, pension and Special Relief payments with the authorizing vouchers, the ledger entries, and the bank statements. The income of the Association was found to be recorded accurately in the journal as verified by the bank statements and their associated credit and debit documents.

The Committee considers the accounts of the Association to be in satisfactory condition and has no recommendation to make at this time.

Very truly yours,

  
JAMES M. GRESCHAK, CHAIRMAN



EDWARD PETTIT, JR.

  
ROBERT C. KEPLER, JR.

# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, New Jersey 07727-3934  
Telephone: (800) 852-0137

Robert F. Ordway, President  
Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President  
Barry J. Osborn, CPA, Treasurer  
Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary  
Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Konrad Mellert  
Francis X. Walker  
James F. Reeves  
Barry J. Osborn, CPA, Secretary-Treasurer  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner  
Gary D. Schwartz, M.D. Consultant

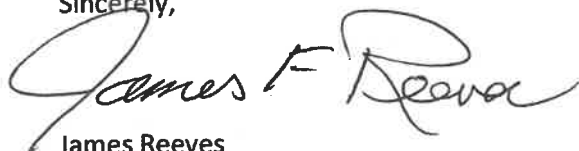
DATE: November 21, 2020

To: Executive Committee

### The Health Care Committee Report:

- Date November 21, 2020
- Home Care Applications Approved: 60
- Assisted Living/Long Term Care Applications Approved: 12
- Total Applications Approved: 72
- Total Paid to Date: 1,313,343.77
- 2019 Home Care Applications Approved: 28
- 2019 Assisted Living/Long Term Care Applications Approved: 16
- 2019 Total Applications Approved: 44
- 2019 Total Paid to Date: \$160,416.99

Sincerely,



James Reeves  
Health Care Committee

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Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary  
Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

## **Legislative Committee Report November 21, 2020**

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

The 2020-2021 Legislative Session has been continuing with the virtual meetings and virtual voting sessions they started to do some in person meetings, but they have not opened them up to the public yet. The total of bills to date are up to 8,789 as of this report. The Governor has signed 128 bills to date with most of them being associated with the current state of emergency.

The Legislative Committee is currently tracking 107 bills which are broken down into two categories, Fire & Emergency Services and Pensions. Only one of our tracked bills has been signed into law by the Governor, A-3945 so far for this Legislative Session.

We are still working on the Age Bills, Both A3835 & S1634 Raises the Maximum Eligibility Age for Membership in our Association. We currently have the verbiage changed on both bills and are just waiting for the bills to be heard in their committees. The Legislative Committee has sent numerous support letters for both bills to the list of Sponsors, Co-Sponsor, and list of committee members for both committees that the bills are assigned to. I have been in contact with both offices of both Chairpersons for the Senate & Assembly Law & Public Safety Committee trying to have these bills place on the scheduled so they can be heard.

The Juvenile Firefighter Bill was passed by both the Senate and the Assembly and has been sent to the Governor. Bill S-238, Revises law governing training and duties of Junior Firefighter's Auxiliary Members, is currently sitting on the Governors Desk waiting to be signed. The two other Juvenile Firefighter Bills (A-1106 & A2899) were both Substituted by S-238 (both merged into this one).

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian E. Martone  
Legislative Committee Chairman  
First Assistant Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting  
November 21, 2020

RESOLUTION re: EXEMPT DELEGATE

WHEREAS, a local Relief Association which has within its jurisdiction, an Exempt Association organized within the municipality, **DULY INCORPORATED UNDER N.J.S.A. TITLE 15-A NON-PROFIT CORPORATIONS** and who have elected representatives to serve on the local relief board, and are so recorded on the annual report made by the Treasurer; are entitled to elect an Exempt Delegate to serve at the Annual Convention; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that notice is hereby given through the Secretary of the local relief association, to authorize the Exempt Association, provided the local Exempt Association has complied with N.J.S.A. TITLE 15-A, to elect before May 1st, one Delegate and one Alternate, one of whom is to serve at the 2021 Convention, credentials to be certified by the Secretary of the Exempt Association, and such credentials shall be returned to this office on or before **May 1, 2021** for certification as to the eligibility of the delegate or alternate elected to serve.

Any Association which may fail in filing its credentials by **May 1, 2021** shall be notified by the State Association in writing, to its local officers within fifteen days and a copy mailed to the respective Executive Committeeman, that they will, **Not Be Seated**.

11/21/2020  
DATE

  
SECRETARY

Executive Committee Meeting  
November 21, 2020

RESOLUTION re: DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

BE IT RESOLVED, that an invitation to elect delegates and alternates shall be extended to all Relief Associations in accord with this State Association by **January 31, 2021**; and it further be:

RESOLVED, that the credentials of the delegates and alternates elected shall be filed in the Association office not later than **May 1, 2021** for certification of delegates and alternates as to their eligibility to serve at the 2021 Convention. Copy of the resolution to be made part of the invitation and recorded in the abridged report of this meeting.

Any Association which may fail in filing its credentials by **May 1, 2021**, shall be notified by the State Association in writing, to its local officers within fifteen days and a copy mailed to the respective Executive Committeeman, that they will **Not Be Seated**.

11/21/2020  
DATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY



# ***NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION***

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Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary  
Brian R. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2021**

January	<u>14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup></u>
February	4 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup>
March	4 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup>
April	1 <sup>st</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup>
May	6 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>st</sup>
June	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup>
July	1st and <u>22<sup>nd</sup></u>
August	5 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup>
September	2 <sup>nd</sup> and <u>23<sup>rd</sup></u>
October	7 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup>
November	4 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup>
December	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup>

## **PENSION COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2020**

**MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE SAME DAY AS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

February	27th	8:30 am
May	15 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am
July	17 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am
September	16 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am
November	20 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2020**

**MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON DATE NOTED**

February	1 <sup>st</sup>
May	3 <sup>rd</sup>
August	2 <sup>nd</sup>
November	1 <sup>st</sup>

# NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Telephone: (800) 852-0137

Robert F. Ordway, President  
Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President  
Barry J. Osborn, CPA, Treasurer  
Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary  
Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary  
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Konrad Mellert  
Francis X. Walker  
James F. Reeves  
Barry J. Osborn, CPA, Secretary-Treasurer  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner  
Gary D. Schwartz, M.D. Consultant

Date: November 21, 2020

To: Executive Committee

From: Special Relief Committee

The Special Relief Committee Report,

- November 21, 2020
- Applications Approved: 174
- For a total of \$ 689,127.00

Last year for the same period we approved 171 applications for a total of \$339,389.21

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SUMMARY</u> <u>APPROVED</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYOUT</u>
2011	155	\$177,774.00
2012	172	\$197,225.86
2013	117	\$140,500.00
2014	133	\$146,516.34
2015	138	\$143,550.00
2016	135	\$131,000.00
2017	180	\$396,632.00
2018	168	\$357,819.13
2019	197	\$400,192.69

Respectfully Submitted,



Konrad Mellert,  
Chairman

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Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary  
James J. Kenny, Field Examiner

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2021**

<b>February 27 (Sat.)</b>	<b>NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ</b>	<b>@9AM</b>
<b>May 15 (Sat.)</b>	<b>NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ</b>	<b>@9AM</b>
<b>July 17 (Sat.)</b>	<b>NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ</b>	<b>@9AM</b>
<b>September 16 (Thu.)</b>	<b>Wildwood Convention Center</b>	<b>@9AM</b>
<b>November 20 (Sat.)</b>	<b>NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ</b>	<b>@9AM</b>

# ***NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION***

1711 Route 34 South • Wall Township, New Jersey 07727-3934

Telephone: (732) 798-8137 • (800) 852-0137

Fax: (732) 938-2580

**Robert F. Ordway, President**  
**Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President**  
**Barry J. Osborn, CPA, Treasurer**  
**Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel**

**Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary**  
**Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary**  
**Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary**  
**James J. Kenny, Field Examiner**

September 21, 2020

To: Executive Committee

From: Thomas Pelaia, Secretary

Re: Hamilton Township

Effective January 1, 2021 the 5 Fire Districts in Hamilton Township will cease to exist and will be combining into 1 Fire Department. Currently there are 5 Associations within these districts. They are:

#050 – Broad St. Park  
#142 - Hamilton  
#186 – Hamilton Township  
#211 – Mercerville  
#398 – White Horse

The Associations listed are now going to be combined and will be a part of #186 Hamilton Township. They have made an application for 2 new Fire Companies in their Association. Company 5 will be the Career Company and Company 6 will be the Volunteer Company which we will be voting on today. All members in the Associations who are career are in the process of submitting applications transferring to Company 5. All members in the Associations who are Volunteers and unqualified will be transferring to Company 6. All qualified volunteer members will remain members in an inactive company.

The State Office is working with the current officers of these associations with the assistance Of Executive Committeeman Lenarski and Past President Gunson to make this a seamless transfer.

Over the course of the past twenty plus years, consolidation of the Hamilton Township, Mercer County, Fire & Emergency Services, has been a talked about topic. Especially in the last five (5) years and during the last two (2) Township Mayoral Administrations, did it gain momentum to the point, that now, on January 1, 2021, the Fire & Emergency Services forces, will move away from the current nine (9) autonomous Fire Districts, with its ten (10) Fire Companies, Fire Service model, which has faithfully served the citizens of Hamilton Township for well over the last one hundred years. It will emerge as a municipally operated force, as the Hamilton Township Fire Division, in the Township's Department of Public Safety, headed up by Fire Chief Richard Kraemer. It will be a Combination Fire Department, made up of both Career and Volunteer Firefighters.

With this change, also comes a change to the Hamilton Township Fire Services affiliation with the New Jersey State Firemen's Association. At present, one of only two (2) municipalities within our State, that has more than one (1) Local Firemen's Relief Association, its current five (5) Local Associations, will be contracting down to one (1) Local Association, and we will be forming two (2) new Companies within that Local; a Career Component Company and a Volunteer Component Company, where the present and future serving Firefighters will be contained. We will also be moving the existing Companies to the "Closed Company" ranks, to continue to administer the benefits and privileges earned by those Qualified Members. We look forward to their continued involvement at the Local and State Association level.

With our vote today, we will be bringing task work to our State Association Office staff, to accomplish this transition. We will be calling upon Secretary Pelaia, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Secretary Martone, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Secretary Dreby, Field Examiner Kenny and our Administrative Assistant staff. I feel confident that they will complete this work for the rank and file Firefighters of Hamilton Township, in their usual thorough and efficient manner and offer them our wholehearted thanks.

The words "*THANK YOU*" somehow do not seem to be enough, when I look back upon the countless individuals who have served these respective Local Associations as Officers, Representatives, Trustees and Delegates, through the years with honor, dignity and respect. I look to the individuals from Hamilton Township who have served this great organization at the state level, representing Mercer County; Executive Committeepersons – Charles Sherman, Jacob J. Genovay & Frank B. Gunson III. Members of the Board of Managers – New Jersey Firemen's Home – John Steiner, Samuel F. Layton Jr., Thomas J. Innes and the current, active, sitting Manager – Gilbert W. Lugossy. Rising to the level of State Association leadership, filling the officer ranks; Immediate Past President Frank B. Gunson III, Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Secretary Jacob J. Genovay. I stand in awe, for all of the accomplishments of these dedicated men and women, through these so many, many years. I am proud to say, that many I call, friend, and I thank them for all the courtesies that they have shown to me.

I must also offer a wholehearted word of personal thanks to Immediate Past State Association President and current sitting Secretary of the Hamilton Firemen's Relief Association, Frank B. Gunson III, for all of his efforts he has put in on this, including his counsel, guidance and suggestions to me.

I wish nothing but the best, to Chief Kraemer, his staff and the Firefighters of the Hamilton Township Fire Division, as they embark upon this new chapter in the delivery of fire protection services to the citizens of Hamilton Township, Mercer County. I feel confident that we will weather any inconveniences that may come our way, as we launch into the reconfiguration of the Hamilton Township Firemen's Relief Association, and I look forward to working with the officers and members, in doing anything I can, to assist them in any way. I look forward to our Executive Committee sessions in 2021, to provide updates to you, on the progress and how this process is going.