

New Jersey Firemen's Home Full Board Meeting



June 13, 2026

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026
Location: New Jersey Firemen's Home
Called to Order: 9:00 AM

Roll Call:

Managers present 19, (Managers Dutch and Freeman excused); Superintendent John Veras;
Legal Counsel Mr. Bell.

Approval of Prior Minutes:

- May 9, 2026 Minutes — approved

Communications:

- New Jersey State Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association thank you card.
- Thank you card from Mrs. Giglio.
- Letter from Sussex County regarding funding for the home.
- Letter from Ocean County regarding funding for the home.

Chair's Report:

- Reading of the communication from chairmen to the NJSFA regarding the long term planning committee suggestion.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary:

- Caucus report being completed and asked for feedback from the managers.

Treasurer:

- Sign in if going to golf outing.

Superintendent:

- Renewed both Residential and Long-Term Care licenses with the New Jersey Department of Health, effective July 1.
- CNA School successfully passed the Department of Health inspection and will begin the student recruitment process.
- A commemorative plaque recognizing donations from the Lacey Elks has been installed near the pavilion.
- Handicap ramp in front of the museum has been repaired by in-house maintenance staff.
- Planned repairs include the dining room ramp and emergency exit staircase.
- Planter program continues to expand, with residents adopting planters to grow flowers and vegetables.
- The home's psychiatrist has agreed to perform follow-up psychological evaluations, at no additional cost, when outside evaluations are insufficient for admission decisions.
- Ongoing efforts to resolve a resident non-payment matter.
- Bergen County Picnic scheduled for the day, resulting in increased activity at the facility.
- Two consecutive negative water quality tests have been received.
 - If the next test is also negative, the Home plans to request state approval.

Legal Counsel (Mr. Bell):

- Deferred comments regarding matters of potential litigation until Executive Session.

Committee Reports:**Buildings & Grounds (Keyser):**

- Spring maintenance projects continue.
- Cemetery improvements are underway.
- Delivery truck damaged the pull box while avoiding another vehicle; insurance claim is in process and security video is available.

Applications (Cunningham):

- Census (as of 5/31/26): Total 70 residents (breakdown read into record).

Employees (Miller):

- Superintendent was formally notified that his employment contract expires July 10, 2028.
- Committee held two Zoom meetings and one in-person meeting to review:
 - Employee salaries
 - Performance evaluations
 - Potential salary adjustments

Finance & Budget (Keyser):

- Reviewed 5/1-5/31/26 operating expenses; \$508,652.56 approved in committee.

Insurance (Strube):

- No report.

Legislative (Miller):

- No updates since the previous meeting.

Bi-Laws (Joas):

- First group of revised policies and procedures has been distributed for review.
- Board expects to vote on three revised policies at the July meeting.
- Additional policies remain under legal review.
- Discussion included:
 - Making language gender-neutral.
 - Revising the Liaison Committee policy to align with other committee policies.
 - Removing duplicate Code of Conduct language.
- First four policies/procedures expected for committee review shortly.

Museum (Hull):

- Museum is unable to accept an additional die-cast collection due to space limitations.
 - Donor was referred to another New Jersey museum.
- Received a firefighter helmet from New South Wales, Australia.
- Received historical information from the museum's Oldsmobile fire vehicle in its March 2026 publication.

Public Relations (Wilson):

- Preparing for convention should have sample for next meeting.

Ethics & Code of Conduct (Dunn):

- No report.

Pension (Miller):

- No report.

Inventory (Wilson):

- Nothing new to report.

Golf (Signorello):

- Weather forecast favorable for tournament.
- Final preparations completed.
- All golfers will receive commemorative shirts donated through the Flemington Department Store.

Liaison to State Association (Hul):

- Joint committee continues seeking qualified consulting firms.
- Two previously recommended firms declined the project.
- Meeting scheduled with another firm to review scope of work.
- Goal remains obtaining three proposals before moving forward.

Inspection (Sutphen):

- To be completed after meeting.

Long-Term Planning (Mitch):

- Reviewed responses to Requests for Proposals from architectural firms.
- Only Meyer Design remains interested in preparing conceptual plans.
- Letter regarding the proposed facility addition will be sent to county organizations for distribution.

State Firemen's Association (Ordway):

- Candidate information for State offices is available on the Association website.
- Caucus dates and locations have been posted
- Preparations continue for the upcoming State Convention.

Unfinished Business:

- None.

New Business:

- Appreciation expressed to Whippany Fire Department regarding placing of American and State Exempt flags at the cemetery for Memorial Day.
- Insurance policy covering volunteer managers was discussed and will be filed appropriately.

Payment of Bills:

- \$508,652.56— Motion to approve; roll call approved.

Motions & Resolutions:

- None.

Public Participation:

- Request for later food services start after golf outing by Executive Committeeman Otterbein.

Good & Welfare:

- None.

Executive Session:

- Discovery for further information to be gathered by Mr. Bell regarding potential litigation was approved by board.
- Employee Salary discussion and approval.

Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy DeVirgilio
Secretary