

New Jersey Firemen's Home Full Board Meeting



March 14, 2026

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2026
Location: New Jersey Firemen's Home
Called to Order: 9:00 AM

Roll Call:

Managers present in person 18, present via zoom 2, (Manager Giglio excused); Superintendent John Veras; Legal Counsel Mr. Bell.

Approval of Prior Minutes:

- **February 14, 2026, Minutes** — approved

Communications:

- A thank-you letter from a resident's spouse expressing appreciation for the excellent care provided to her husband during his stay at the home. A donation was also included.

Chair's Report:

- Public participation comments will be limited to 3 minutes.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary:

- No report.

Treasurer:

- Toll expenditures need to be submitted, remaining due before next payroll. Increase will reflect in April checks.
- Budget remains stable

Superintendent:

- CNA School Program curriculum approved by Department of Health, pending inspection due to difficulty obtaining 2 items.
- Renovations for the Secretary/Treasurer office area are complete except for sprinkler alterations.
- Another positive water test result was received.
 - The water management company will disinfect faucets and shower areas locally using chlorine injection.
- Sprinkler work related to frozen pipes near the Klondike Room is pending approval.
 - The project has been submitted to the Division of Fire Safety and DCA.
 - An extension has been granted.
- FMBA Meeting scheduled for May 13 on the front lawn.
 - Approximately 120 attendees expected. A barbecue will follow the meeting.
- Sprinkler pipes froze in crawl space addressed, working with Division of Fire Safety.
- Former resident updates
 - One former resident from Essex County has expressed interest in returning.
 - One former resident from Passaic County is currently in a Care One facility costing \$14,250 monthly.
- Poland Spring acquired the previous water vendor, but pricing remains the same.
- Golf outing planning is underway with a focus on cost savings for event items.

Legal Counsel (Mr. Bell):

- Following the board's request, proposals were solicited for a computer forensic examination.
 - Only one proposal was received from Maragell Corporate Investigations (Cherry Hill, NJ). Estimated cost: \$7,500 – \$11,000.
- Continued assistance with bylaw revisions.
- No responses from the town or PBA regarding field or community garden use.
 - Mr. Veras updated that the town has abandoned the community garden project due to funding limitations.
- Legal counsel has been monitoring communications related to the chiller replacement bid.

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

- Additional water management improvements planned including boiler drain installation for hot water circulation.
- A lift is scheduled for April to repair the flagpole.
- Multiple contractors reviewed the chiller project.
- Maintenance staff were commended for snow removal and building improvements.

Applications (Freeman):

- Census (as of 2/28/26): Total 66 residents (breakdown read into record), 2 residents discharged, 1 resident answered their final alarm since prior meeting.

Employees (Miller):

- Review of the Firemen's Home Policy & Procedure Manual (last updated July 2018). Committee members asked to provide input to complete revisions.
- Employee annual reviews will be reviewed by the committee.
 - Board members will conduct the annual review of Superintendent Veras.

Finance & Budget (Keyser):

- Reviewed 2/1-2/28 operating expenses; \$512,592.04 approved in committee.

Insurance (Strube):

- Nothing new to report.

Legislative (Miller):

- 2026–2027 legislative session is active.
 - Advocacy underway for volunteer firefighter inclusion in:
 - Cancer screening legislation
 - PTSD protection programs
- Key bills:

S1343 – High school credit for county fire academy training

S1381 – Workforce recruitment for healthcare and related services

S1583 – Cancer screening access for volunteer firefighters

Everyone is asked to contact local senators to support S1583.

Bi-Laws (Joas):

- First four revised bylaws sections are being held as it has been brought up that committee(s) are still reviewing.

Museum (Hull):

- Nothing new to report.

Public Relations (Washer):

- Committee is exploring canvas tote bags with embroidered logos for the upcoming 25th anniversary and 9/11 remembrance.

Ethics & Code of Conduct (Dunn):

- Nothing new to report.

Pension (Apgar):

- Nothing new to report.

Inventory (Berckes):

- Nothing new to report.

Golf (Signorello):

- Date has been set, focus on sponsors and flyers are available.

Liaison to State Association (Hul):

- State association agreed to work together with NJFH regarding joint review.
 - Meeting to be scheduled.

Inspection (Signorello):

- Inspection will be completed at the completion of the board meeting.

Long-Term Planning (Sutphen):

- 14k proposed to put in the next budget in order to finance such planning in the future.

State Firemen's Association (Ordway):

- The State Firemen's Association is currently conducting field examinations and has five counties remaining to complete.
- The Association is also offering educational workshops for county executives and trustees, which have been well received.

Unfinished Business:

- Computer Forensic Investigation Proposal
 - Legal Counsel Mr. Bell reported that, pursuant to the board's request from the previous meeting, proposals were solicited from firms capable of performing a computer forensic analysis. A list of firms was obtained through the Lawyers Directory. All identified firms were contacted and sent proposal requests. Follow-up calls were made to confirm receipt of the request. Only one proposal was received.
 - Roll call vote taken to move forward 5 No and 12 Yes.

New Business:

- Discussion on the 14m proposal from long term planning committee.

Payment of Bills:

- \$512,592.04— Motion to approve; roll call approved.

Motions & Resolutions:

- None beyond items noted above.

Public Participation:

- Resident Sam H. commended driver Mark on informing the guests on there trip to the Liberty Science Center about the current state of our country and went over safety with the guests while there, which helped them feel safe during their outing.

Good & Welfare:

- Update on former Manager Gil Lugossy.
- Update on Manager Nicholas Giglio.

Executive Session:

- None.

Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned 9:58 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy DeVirgilio
Secretary