

New Jersey Firemen's Home Full Board Meeting



May 9, 2026

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2026

Location: New Jersey Firemen's Home

Called to Order: 9:00 AM

Roll Call:

Managers present 17, (Managers Dutch, Washer and Abgar excused); Superintendent John Veras; Legal Counsel Mr. Bell.

Manager Oath of office:

- Monmouth appointed manager, John Beslanovitz oath given by Mr. Bell.

2nd Roll Call:

Managers present 18, (Managers Dutch, Washer and Abgar excused); Superintendent John Veras; Legal Counsel Mr. Bell.

Approval of Prior Minutes:

- **April 11, 2026, Minutes** — approved

Communications:

- Letter from the President Ordway received regarding the Monmouth Board Manager appointment.

Chair's Report:

- No report.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary:

- No report.

Treasurer:

- Current budget line items are being reviewed in preparation for the next budget cycle.
- Managers were reminded to clearly sign the attendance book for recordkeeping purposes.

Superintendent:

- Outdoor landscaping and lawn reseeding are underway.
- Sprinkler system repairs completed.
- New resident chairs and auditorium chairs received.
- Sussex County pig roast canceled due to weather.
- Recent Legionella water tests came back negative.
 - Shower mixing valve cartridges were replaced to eliminate bacteria buildup.
- Daisy, Bee and Owl awards given to staff
- Historic 1870s grandfather clock placed in lobby on loan from a family.
- Residents and activity staff formed a group to maintain and beautify the cemetery.
- NJ Department of Health requires facilities to accept residents with Candida Auris (highly contagious fungal infection).
 - Enhanced PPE and infection control measures will be necessary.

Legal Counsel (Mr. Bell):

- Presented resolution regarding chiller installation project bid award.
- Continued work on bylaws revisions.
- Addressed personnel-related matter.

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

- Lawn and landscaping improvements.
- Replacement of garage door and concrete repairs under review.
- Brick façade repair near loading dock needed due to winter damage.
- Cemetery headstone restoration project in development.
- Morris County Fire Chiefs Association approved purchase of a new cemetery bench.
- Lincoln Park Fire Company #2 also donating a bench.

Applications (Freeman):

- Census (as of 4/30/26): Total 67 residents (breakdown read into record). Two residents answered their final alarm since prior meeting.

Employees (Miller):

- Job descriptions and organizational structure to be reviewed including payroll.
- Review of Superintendent annual evaluation completed, and Superintendent received overall "Very Good" rating.

Finance & Budget (Keyser):

- Reviewed 4/1-4/30/26 operating expenses; \$570,690.75 approved in committee.

Insurance (Strube):

- No report.

Legislative (Miller):

- Continued advocacy regarding:
 - Cancer screening legislation.
 - PTSD treatment legislation.
- Advocate Matt McDermott coordinating legislative outreach.
- Tracking:
 - 159 Fire & Emergency Services bills
 - 59 Firemen's Home bills
 - 50 Pension bills

Bi-Laws (Joas):

- Continued revisions with legal counsel.
- First four policies/procedures expected for committee review shortly.

Museum (Hull):

- Received auxiliary uniform donation from Pennington Road Fire.
- Additional donations received from Nutley Fire Department.

Public Relations (Wilson):

- Preparing for convention should have sample for next meeting.

Ethics & Code of Conduct (Dunn):

- No report.

Pension (Miller):

- Several managers are eligible to begin pension benefits July 1, 2026.

Inventory (Wilson):

- Nothing new to report.

Golf (Signorello):

- Approximately 100 golfers registered.
- Even polos to be delivered within a week.
- Managers to be in attendance discussed.

Liaison to State Association (Hul):

- Awaiting State approval of joint financial study.
 - Study would evaluate expenditures between organizations.

Inspection (Mitch):

- Kitchen noted as clean, emergency exits cleared, minor corrected noted (see report).

Long-Term Planning (Mitch):

- Committee recommending advancement of Option 2A (remove one dorm; construct five-story addition).
 - Bid package preparation phase.
 - Discussion of potential building fund.

State Firemen's Association (Ordway):

- Discussed proposed addition to Firemen's Home.
 - Clarified no formal vote has occurred on expansion proposal.
- Joint committee exploring efficiency study with consulting firms.

Unfinished Business:

- Motion approved to send a condolence card to Senator Bucco following the passing of his mother.
- Mr. Signorello reported:
 - Assemblywoman Linda Carter toured the facility.
 - Discussions included possible future state funding support.

New Business:

- Revised bylaws adopted via roll call vote.
- Motion by Manager Keyser and motion approved by voice vote to establish a policy to lower the flag to half-staff upon the death of any current manager until completion of funeral services.
- Managers advised review the "County Based Cost Sheet".

Payment of Bills:

- \$570,690.75— Motion to approve; roll call approved.

Motions & Resolutions:

- Board approved resolution awarding contract for installation of air-cooled scroll water chillers to:
 - Unitemp Mechanical Degrees LLC Bid Amount: \$149,500; Approved by roll call vote.

Public Participation:

- None.

Good & Welfare:

- President Ordway confirmed State Association funding was received May 1, 2026.
- Update provided on Manager Dutch's recovery; he is reportedly progressing well in rehabilitation.

Executive Session:

- Tabled further budget discussion until employee committee gets more information.

Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned 10:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy DeVirgilio
Secretary