

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

County Government with a Unified Voice!

SHANEL Y. ROBINSON
NJAC President
Somerset County Commissioner

JOHN G. DONNADIO, ESQ.
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 27, 2025

Virtual Meeting

10:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- NJAC President Shanel Robinson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Executive Director John Donnadio took roll call with a quorum present.

2. ROLL CALL

Shanel Y. Robinson, NJAC President & Somerset County Commissioner
Alexander Mirabella, NJAC 2nd Vice President & Union County Commissioner
Shaun Van Doren, NJAC Immediate Past President & Hunterdon County Commissioner
John W. Risley, Atlantic County Commissioner
Thomas Duch, Esq., Bergen County Administrator & County Counsel
Jonathan L. Young, Sr., Camden County Commissioner
Kevin Smaniotto, Cumberland County Administrator
Abe Antun, Hudson County Administrator
John Cimino, Mercer County Commissioner
Dan Benson, Mercer County Executive
Teri O'Connor, Monmouth County Administrator
Douglas R. Cabana, Morris County Commissioner
Deena Leary, Morris County Administrator
Virginia Haines, Ocean County Commissioner
Michael Fiure, Ocean County Administrator
Matt Jordan, Esq., Passaic County Administrator
Mary Melfi, Hunterdon County Clerk
Claribel Cortes, Middlesex County Surrogate
Joseph Hannon, Esq., NJAC Labor Relations Counsel
Bob Werkmeister, NJAC Transportation Consultant
John Donnadio, Esq., NJAC Executive Director
Loren Wizman, NJAC Business Development Director
Kim Nolan, NJAC Office Manager

3. DOUGLAS LEMANOWICZ, MAJOR & COMMANDING OFFICER, NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE

- President Robinson Introduced Douglas Lemanowicz, Major & Commanding Officer with the New Jersey State Police.
- Major Lemanowicz also serves as the Assistant Director for the State's Office of Emergency Management, which is responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating emergency operations in the State.
- Major Lemanowicz discussed the steps taken to ensure that the FIFA soccer games taking place this spring and summer along with next year's World Cup run smoothly, safely, and securely.

4. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

- A. Executive Director Donnadio presented the meeting minutes for NJAC's March 21, 2025 Board of Directors meeting. The Board unanimously approved the minutes on a Union County/Middlesex County Surrogate motion with Ocean County abstaining.
- B. Executive Director Donnadio also presented the NJAC Financials dated May 31, 2025 of which the Board unanimously approved on a Bergen County/Ocean County motion.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. President Robinson encouraged members to attend NACo's annual conference in Philadelphia set for 7/11 – 7/14 where NJAC is hosting a Multi-State Delegation Reception from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on 7/14 at the Midnight & the Wicked with additional details to follow.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Executive Director Donnadio led his report by thanking counties for holding NJAC Foundation scholarship presentations at board meetings throughout the summer. The NJAC Foundation is awarding \$110,000.00 in scholarships this year.
- B. The Executive Director thanked Hudson and Mercer counties for recently hosting successful regional meetings and enjoyed the event hosted by Cape May earlier in the week. Union and Morris counties are hosting county regional luncheons in October.
- C. Mr. Donnadio encouraged board members to attend NJAC's upcoming virtual workshop on SNAP and Medicaid set for 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday 7/9. This event is free for all public officials, but registration is required.
- D. The Executive Director closed his report by sharing that the topic for this year's Year-End Summit set for Friday 12/18 at the Trenton Country Club is on Domestic Violence.

7. STATE HOUSE NEWS *Executive Director Donnadio* provided the following legislative update.

- A. ONLINE LEGAL NOTICES: NJAC is optimistic that the Legislature will pass legislation, which would allow local governments to post legal notices on their own government websites as budget committees in both houses passes S-4654/A-5878 (Scutari D-22/Bucco E-25)(Schnall D-30) the night before.
- B. JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES: Based on the recommendations made by NJAC's Juvenile Detention Facility Working Group, Senator Linda Greenstein recently introduced S-4625, which would establish a "Youth Detention Task Force" to review and make recommendations on the current structure of youth detention in this State. The Senator also introduced S-4662, which would revise the laws governing juvenile justice to implement a hearing process for individuals that reach the age of 18 under certain circumstances along with expediting case processing times.
- C. PRIVATIZATION CONTRACTS: NJAC opposes A-919 (Jackson D-15/Wimberly D-35), which would effectively prohibit the use of privatization contracts by requiring county governments to pay new employees' wages and benefits at a rate not less than the wages and benefits paid to displaced employees.
- D. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING: At the request of Mercer County Executive Dan Benson, NJAC formed a Working Group on Transitional Housing to share resources and ideas, and make recommendations on how counties may provide vital housing services, temporary shelters, and permanent placement for those in need. With this in mind, NJAC is advocating for the Fiscal Year 2026 State budget to include new grant funding for emergency shelters and transitional housing.
- E. FISCAL YEAR 2026 STATE BUDGET: Commissioner Young questioned whether the Legislature planned on restoring the \$5.0 million cut to county 9-1-1 centers proposed by Governor Murphy in his FY 26 state budget. The Executive Director did not believe so, but was optimistic about new funding to combat homelessness and resorting operational aid to county colleges. Budget committees were scheduled to meet late Friday evening to introduce the final budget bill.
- F. NJAC's Legislative Affairs Committee is meeting over the summer to discuss and make recommendations about NJAC's legislative goals for the lame-duck session and new Administration.

8. OLD & NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURNMENT *The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.*