

# **NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**



**MAY 22, 2025  
RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP HALL  
9:30 AM  
AGENDA AND REPORTS**

**Meeting Location: Township of Randolph Municipal Building**

502 Millbrook Ave.  
Randolph, NJ 07869  
Tel: 973.989.7100  
Fax: 973.989.7096

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN BY (1) SENDING SUFFICIENT NOTICE HERewith TO THE STAR LEDGER AND THE RECORD (2) FILING ADVANCE WRITTEN NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WITH THE CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR OF EACH MEMBER MUNICIPALITY AND (3) POSTING A COPY OF THE MEETING NOTICE ON THE PUBLIC BULLETIN BOARD OF ALL MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES.

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**  
**AGENDA MEETING: MAY 22, 2025**  
**RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP HALL**  
**9:30 AM**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE READ**

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL OF 2025 FUND COMMISSIONERS**

<b>2025 Executive Committee</b>	
Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Chair	Town of Newton
Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, Secretary	Township of Hardyston
Barbara Russo	Township of Berkeley Heights
Tammy Smith	Knowlton BOE
Greg Poff	Randolph Township
Scott Heck	Borough of Ringwood
Dina Valente-Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park
<b>Executive Committee Alternates:</b>	
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale
Deb Millikin	Township of Jefferson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *March 27, 2025 & April 7, 2025, Open..... Appendix I*

**MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CLAIMS COMMITTEE** - Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Chair

**CONTRACTS COMMITTEE** - Tammy Smith, Chair

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** - Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Chair

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** - Scott Heck, Chair

*April 16, 2025, Meeting ..... Appendix II*

**WELLNESS COMMITTEE** - Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, Chair

*April 22, 2025, Meeting ..... Appendix III*

**FUND DOCUMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE** - Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Chair

**REPORTS:**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - (PERMA)**

Monthly Report.....**Page 4**

<b>PROGRAM MANAGER - (Conner Strong &amp; Buckelew)</b>	
Monthly Report.....	<b>Page 13</b>
<b>TREASURER - (Michael Soccio)</b>	
April and May 2025 Voucher List.....	<b>Page 18</b>
Confirmation of Claims Paid/Certification of Transfers	
<b>ATTORNEY - (Fred Semrau)</b>	
<b>NETWORK &amp; THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR - (Aetna – Jason Silverstein)</b>	
Monthly Report.....	<b>Page 25</b>
<b>PRESCRIPTION ADMINISTRATOR - (Express Scripts-Charles Yuk)</b>	
Monthly Report .....	<b>Page 29</b>
<b>DENTAL ADMINISTRATOR - (Delta Dental – Laura Ebarle)</b>	
Monthly Report .....	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>CONSENT AGENDA .....</b>	<b>Page 35</b>
Resolution 25-19: Approving 2024 Annual Audit .....	<b>Page 36</b>
Resolution 25-20: Closing Fund Year 2023 .....	<b>Page 39</b>
Resolution 25-21: April and May 2025 Bills List .....	<b>Page 40</b>
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	
<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION</b>	
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
MAY 22, 2025**

**FINANCE**

**PRO FORMA REPORTS**

- **Fast Track Financial Report** – as of January 31, 2025 (page 7)  
as of February 28, 2025 (page 8)

**PROGRAM MANAGER TRANSITION**

The Operations Committee has been overseeing the milestones related to the onboarding and transition of Program Manager that was effective May 1, 2025. For documentation purposes on behalf of the Fund, PERMA sent an overview letter to the Vozza Agency outlining the transition items. The letter is included in the Appendix V of the agenda.

Conner Strong & Buckelew has been keeping our office and the Operations Committee updated on progress. Majority of the transition materials and requests have been fulfilled, any outstanding items have a plan for completion within a reasonable timeline.

**2024 FUND YEAR AUDIT**

A draft of the Fund Year 2024 Audit, performed by the Fund auditor, Holman & Frenia, is attached. A Finance Committee meeting was held on May 21<sup>st</sup> to review the audit. A representative from Holman & Frenia will be in attendance to present their findings. Should there be any comments, PERMA will be prepared to answer. Resolution 25-19 approving and authorization to file with the State is included in the consent agenda, along with the affidavit to be signed by all present Commissioners.

Once this audit is filed, PERMA recommends the closure of Fund Year 2023. All IBNR has been expensed and there are no outstanding accounts receivable or payable. Resolution 25-20 allows for closing this year.

**2024 NEW MEMBER PHARMACY REBATES**

As mentioned during the March meeting, PERMA discovered an error with the Express Scripts rebate implementation on the new 2024 groups while reviewing Year End financials. Appendix IV contains a memo from Express Scripts detailing the timeline and estimated rebates.

We will be updating the year-end financials when the final number of the rebate impact is provided.

## **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES**

All Fund Commissioners should have received their financial disclosure statements on April 1, 2025. As a reminder, the role of Fund Commissioner is a separate filing from that of your municipality obligation.

As of May 19, 2025, we have been in contact with the one Fund Commissioner to assist with completing the filing. We expect full compliance.

## **MEL/MRHIF EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PRESENTATION**

At the April 25<sup>th</sup> MEL/MRHIF Educational Seminar, Conner Strong & Buckelew's Joe DiBella, Executive Partner and National Employee Benefits Practice Leader presented "Issues and Trends in Group Health Benefits." The presentation reviews some of the major challenges regarding cost and utilization drivers the Health Benefits world is dealing with. This presentation was sent as an attachment to the agenda.

As a follow up, Conner Strong & Buckelew will be hosting a second webinar presentation for our HIF broker partners and Commissioners on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. The discussion will take a deeper focus on the newer, material cost drivers for GLP-1 medications and the rising use of out-of-network providers experienced by the public sector. The speakers include Joe DiBella, Executive Partner and National Benefits Practice Leader and Tammy Brown, Executive Partner and HIF Business Leader.

A flyer/invitation was sent as an attachment to the agenda, where you can get more details and registration information.

## **PERMA, LLC NOTICE AND DISCLOSURE**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C Title 11, Chapter 15, Subchapter 5, PERMA, LLC ("PERMA"), as administrator of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund ("the Fund"), and its employees, officers and directors hereby provide notice that they have direct and indirect financial interests in Conner Strong & Buckelew Companies, LLC, which is a servicing organization for the Fund.

## **BROKER OF RECORD (BOR) DOCUMENTATION**

On the recommendation of the Fund Attorney as best practice, on behalf of the Fund we are working to collect individual group resolutions appointing their servicing broker(s). This is particularly important for those entities who have their broker compensation built into rates and paid by the Fund.

A reminder was sent out to entities that the resolutions must be submitted to the Fund. Below is the status of the resolutions received. Please send the resolutions to [HIFadmin@permainc.com](mailto:HIFadmin@permainc.com).

<b>Entity</b>	<b>BOR on FILE</b>
Andover Township	YES
Berkeley Heights	YES
Bloomington	Requested
Boonton	Requested
Byram	YES
Chatham	Requested
Dover	YES
Hanover	YES
Harding Township	YES
Hardyston	YES
Jefferson	YES
Kinnelon	Requested
Knowlton BOE	YES
Lincoln Park	YES
Madison	YES
Madison Housing Authority	YES
Montville	Requested
Mountain Lakes	YES
Mt Olive	Requested
Netcong	YES
Newton	YES
Pequannock	Requested
Prospect Park	Requested
Randolph	Requested
Ringwood	Requested
Roxbury	YES
Sparta	Requested
Vernon	Requested
Wantage	YES
West Milford	Requested
Wharton	YES
Woodland Park	Requested

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND						
FINANCIAL FAST TRACK REPORT						
			AS OF	January 31, 2025		
			THIS MONTH	YTD CHANGE	PRIOR YEAR END	FUND BALANCE
1.	UNDERWRITING INCOME		6,242,147	6,242,147	904,107,444	910,349,591
2.	CLAIM EXPENSES					
	Paid Claims		4,985,739	4,985,739	757,428,998	762,414,737
	IBNR		411,711	411,711	5,391,675	5,803,386
	Less Specific Excess		-	-	(21,890,106)	(21,890,106)
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-	-	-
	TOTAL CLAIMS		5,397,450	5,397,450	740,930,567	746,328,017
3.	EXPENSES					
	MA & HMO Premiums		319,387	319,387	29,832,098	30,151,484
	Excess Premiums		376,298	376,298	39,310,567	39,686,866
	Administrative		282,010	282,010	58,909,172	59,191,182
	TOTAL EXPENSES		977,695	977,695	128,051,837	129,029,532
4.	UNDERWRITING PROFIT/(LOSS) (1-2-3)		(132,998)	(132,998)	35,125,040	34,992,042
5.	INVESTMENT INCOME		28,866	28,866	6,076,848	6,105,713
6.	DIVIDEND INCOME		-	-	6,212,250	6,212,250
7.	STATUTORY PROFIT/(LOSS) (4+5+6)		(104,133)	(104,133)	47,414,138	47,310,005
8.	DIVIDEND		-	-	42,501,592	42,501,592
9.	Transferred Surplus IN		-	-	-	-
10.	Transferred Surplus OUT		-	-	-	-
STATUTORY SURPLUS (7-8+9)			(104,133)	(104,133)	4,912,546	4,808,413
SURPLUS (DEFICITS) BY FUND YEAR						
Closed		Surplus	(51,324)	(51,324)	11,652,116	11,600,792
		Cash	(99,237)	(99,237)	13,856,991	13,757,755
2022		Surplus	-	-	-	-
		Cash	-	-	-	-
2023		Surplus	(30,136)	(30,136)	(2,188,681)	(2,218,817)
		Cash	(30,619)	(30,619)	(2,215,001)	(2,245,620)
2024		Surplus	(500,624)	(500,624)	(4,550,891)	(5,051,515)
		Cash	(3,121,504)	(3,121,504)	(1,484,861)	(4,606,364)
LAKEWOOD		Surplus	-	-	-	-
		Cash	-	-	-	-
2025		Surplus	477,951	477,951		477,951
		Cash	1,586,465	1,586,465		1,586,465
TOTAL SURPLUS (DEFICITS)			(104,133)	(104,133)	4,912,544	4,808,412
TOTAL CASH			(1,664,895)	(1,664,895)	10,157,130	8,492,235
CLAIM ANALYSIS BY FUND YEAR						
TOTAL CLOSED YEAR CLAIMS			78,167	78,167	639,081,420	639,159,587
FUND YEAR 2023						
	Paid Claims		30,670	30,670	44,333,500	44,364,170
	IBNR		-	-	-	-
	Less Specific Excess		-	-	(81,159)	(81,159)
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-	-	-
TOTAL FY 2023 CLAIMS			30,670	30,670	44,252,341	44,283,011
FUND YEAR 2024						
	Paid Claims		3,410,673	3,410,673	52,453,922	55,864,594
	IBNR		(2,908,561)	(2,908,561)	5,391,675	2,483,114
	Less Specific Excess		-	-	(248,789)	(248,789)
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-	-	-
TOTAL FY 2024 CLAIMS			502,112	502,112	57,596,808	58,098,919
FUND YEAR 2025						
	Paid Claims		1,466,228	1,466,228		1,466,228
	IBNR		3,320,272	3,320,272		3,320,272
	Less Specific Excess		-	-		-
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-		-
TOTAL FY 2025 CLAIMS			4,786,501	4,786,501		4,786,501
COMBINED TOTAL CLAIMS			5,397,450	5,397,450	740,930,569	746,328,018

This report is based upon information which has not been audited nor certified by an actuary and as such may not truly represent the condition of the fund.

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND						
FINANCIAL FAST TRACK REPORT						
			AS OF	February 28, 2025		
			THIS MONTH	YTD CHANGE	PRIOR YEAR END	FUND BALANCE
1.	UNDERWRITING INCOME		6,135,885	12,378,032	904,107,444	916,485,476
2.	CLAIM EXPENSES					
	Paid Claims		5,515,379	10,501,117	757,428,998	767,930,115
	IBNR		355,297	767,008	5,391,675	6,158,683
	Less Specific Excess		-	-	(21,890,106)	(21,890,106)
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-	-	-
	<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>		<b>5,870,675</b>	<b>11,268,125</b>	<b>740,930,567</b>	<b>752,198,693</b>
3.	EXPENSES					
	MA & HMO Premiums		357,711	677,097	29,832,098	30,509,195
	Excess Premiums		377,590	753,889	39,310,567	40,064,456
	Administrative		278,691	560,701	58,909,172	59,469,873
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>1,013,992</b>	<b>1,991,687</b>	<b>128,051,837</b>	<b>130,043,524</b>
4.	UNDERWRITING PROFIT/(LOSS) (1-2-3)		(748,782)	(881,781)	35,125,040	34,243,260
5.	INVESTMENT INCOME		21,446	50,311	6,076,848	6,127,159
6.	DIVIDEND INCOME		-	-	6,212,250	6,212,250
7.	STATUTORY PROFIT/(LOSS) (4+5+6)		<b>(727,336)</b>	<b>(831,469)</b>	<b>47,414,138</b>	<b>46,582,669</b>
8.	DIVIDEND		-	-	42,501,592	42,501,592
9.	Transferred Surplus IN		-	-	-	-
10.	Transferred Surplus OUT		-	-	-	-
<b>STATUTORY SURPLUS (7-8+9)</b>			<b>(727,336)</b>	<b>(831,469)</b>	<b>4,912,546</b>	<b>4,081,077</b>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICITS) BY FUND YEAR</b>						
Closed	Surplus		17,329	(33,995)	11,652,116	11,618,121
	Cash		228,363	129,126	13,856,991	13,986,117
2023	Surplus		(38,974)	(69,110)	(2,188,681)	(2,257,791)
	Cash		(31,850)	(62,469)	(2,215,001)	(2,277,469)
2024	Surplus		(498,089)	(998,713)	(4,550,891)	(5,549,604)
	Cash		(670,111)	(3,791,615)	(1,484,861)	(5,276,476)
2025	Surplus		(207,603)	270,348		270,348
	Cash		1,107,198	2,693,663		2,693,663
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS (DEFICITS)</b>			<b>(727,336)</b>	<b>(831,469)</b>	<b>4,912,544</b>	<b>4,081,075</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>			<b>633,600</b>	<b>(1,031,295)</b>	<b>10,157,130</b>	<b>9,125,835</b>
<b>CLAIM ANALYSIS BY FUND YEAR</b>						
<b>TOTAL CLOSED YEAR CLAIMS</b>			<b>464</b>	<b>78,632</b>	<b>639,081,420</b>	<b>639,160,052</b>
<b>FUND YEAR 2023</b>						
	Paid Claims		39,323	69,993	44,333,500	44,403,493
	IBNR		-	-	-	-
	Less Specific Excess		-	-	(81,159)	(81,159)
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FY 2023 CLAIMS</b>			<b>39,323</b>	<b>69,993</b>	<b>44,252,341</b>	<b>44,322,334</b>
<b>FUND YEAR 2024</b>						
	Paid Claims		1,579,519	4,990,191	52,453,922	57,444,113
	IBNR		(1,081,279)	(3,989,840)	5,391,675	1,401,835
	Less Specific Excess		-	-	(248,789)	(248,789)
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FY 2024 CLAIMS</b>			<b>498,240</b>	<b>1,000,351</b>	<b>57,596,808</b>	<b>58,597,159</b>
<b>FUND YEAR 2025</b>						
	Paid Claims		3,896,073	5,362,301		5,362,301
	IBNR		1,436,576	4,756,848		4,756,848
	Less Specific Excess		-	-		-
	Less Aggregate Excess		-	-		-
<b>TOTAL FY 2025 CLAIMS</b>			<b>5,332,648</b>	<b>10,119,149</b>		<b>10,119,149</b>
<b>COMBINED TOTAL CLAIMS</b>			<b>5,870,675</b>	<b>11,268,125</b>	<b>740,930,569</b>	<b>752,198,694</b>



NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND			
RATIOS			
		FY2025	
INDICES	2024	JAN	FEB
Cash Position	10,157,130	\$ 8,492,235	\$ 9,125,835
IBNR	5,391,675	\$ 5,803,386	\$ 6,158,683
Assets	13,023,401	\$ 13,136,548	\$ 12,738,269
Liabilities	8,110,857	\$ 8,328,137	\$ 8,657,194
Surplus	4,912,544	\$ 4,808,411	\$ 4,081,075
Claims Paid -- Month	5,111,699	\$ 4,985,739	\$ 5,515,379
Claims Budget -- Month	4,451,674	\$ 5,120,906	\$ 5,145,574
Claims Paid -- YTD	58,619,830	\$ 4,985,739	\$ 10,501,117
Claims Budget -- YTD	52,838,030	\$ 5,120,906	\$ 10,266,480
RATIOS			
Cash Position to Claims Paid	1.99	1.70	1.65
Claims Paid to Claims Budget -- Month	1.15	0.97	1.07
Claims Paid to Claims Budget -- YTD	1.11	0.97	1.00
Cash Position to IBNR	1.88	1.46	1.48
Assets to Liabilities	1.61	1.58	1.47
Surplus as Months of Claims	1.10	0.94	0.79
IBNR to Claims Budget -- Month	9 1.21	1.13	1.20

**North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund**  
**2025 Budget Report**  
**AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

				Cumulative	\$ Variance	% Variance
	Cumulative	Annual	Latest Filed	Expensed		
<b>LINE ITEMS</b>						
Medical Claims Aetna	9,147,949	55,119,193	54,973,097			
Medical Claims Aetna BOEs	117,050	425,948	765,250			
Subtotal Medical Claims	9,264,999	55,545,141	55,738,347	9,006,511	258,488	3%
Prescription Claims	1,041,194	6,002,750	6,294,793			
Prescription Rebates	(333,182)	(1,920,880)	(2,014,334)			
Subtotal Rx Claims	708,012	4,081,870	4,280,459	810,126	(102,114)	-14%
Dental Claims	293,469	1,778,367	1,756,672	302,512	(9,043)	-3%
Subtotal	10,266,480	61,405,378	61,775,478	10,119,149	147,331	1%
Medicare Advantage - United	109,596	535,426	686,131	Included in Medicare Advantage-Aetna below		
Medicare Advantage - Aetna	664,896	4,227,400	3,990,711	677,097	97,395	13%
Reinsurance						
Specific	753,757	4,522,327	4,494,560	753,889	(132)	0%
Wellness	36,667	220,000	220,000	36,666	1	0%
Total Loss Fund	11,831,395	70,910,532	71,166,880	11,586,801	244,594	2%
Expenses						
Legal	3,483	20,900	20,900	3,334	149	4%
Treasurer	3,829	22,974	22,974	3,829	-	0%
Administrator	91,468	550,142	545,654	91,713	(245)	0%
Program Manager -	122,293	245,037	729,452	120,699	1,594	1%
Program Manager - Brokerage	119,375	(1,066,225)	720,446	119,451	(76)	0%
TPA - Aetna	165,277	992,928	1,036,763	165,475	(198)	0%
Claims Contingency	47,893	287,360	287,360	0	47,893	100%
Dental TPA	13,133	79,485	77,956	13,176	(43)	0%
Actuary	2,165	12,989	12,989	2,167	(2)	0%
Auditor	2,333	14,000	14,000	2,334	(1)	0%
Subtotal Expenses	571,250	1,159,591	3,468,493	522,178	49,072	9%
Miscellaneous and Special Services						
Misc/Cont(incl. A4 surcharge)	7,083	42,500	42,500	407	6,676	94%
Claims and Service Audits	6,667	40,000	40,000	0	-	0%
Affordable Care Act Taxes	2,391	14,364	14,284	0	2,391	100%
Subtotal Misc/Sp Svcs	16,141	96,864	96,784	407	9,067	56%
Total Expenses	587,391	1,256,455	3,565,277	522,585	58,139.33	10%
Total Budget	12,418,786	72,166,987	74,732,157	12,109,386	302,733	2%

# North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2025

BY FUND YEAR

	NJMEB 2025	NJMEB 2024	NJMEB 2023	CLOSED YEAR	FUND BALANCE
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash & Cash Equivalents	2,693,663	(5,276,476)	(2,277,469)	13,986,117	9,125,835
Assesmtments Receivable (Prepaid)	1,623,116	745	(1,881)	(3,147)	1,618,833
Interest Receivable	3,077	(1,463)	(11)	7,888	9,490
Specific Excess Receivable	-	133,650	80,642	-	214,292
Aggregate Excess Receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend Receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid Admin Fees	1,083	-	-	-	1,083
Other Assets	739,858	1,028,879	-	-	1,768,736
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,060,796</b>	<b>(4,114,666)</b>	<b>(2,198,720)</b>	<b>13,990,858</b>	<b>12,738,269</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Accounts Payable	-	(0)	-	-	(0)
IBNR Reserve	4,756,848	1,401,835	-	-	6,158,683
A4 Retiree Surcharge	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Payable	-	-	-	241,665	241,665
Retained Dividends	-	-	-	2,131,073	2,131,073
Accrued/Other Liabilities	33,600	33,103	-	-	66,703
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,790,448</b>	<b>1,434,938</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,372,737</b>	<b>8,598,123</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>					
Surplus / (Deficit)	270,348	(5,549,604)	(2,198,720)	11,618,121	4,140,145
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>270,348</b>	<b>(5,549,604)</b>	<b>(2,198,720)</b>	<b>11,618,121</b>	<b>4,140,145</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>5,060,796</b>	<b>(4,114,666)</b>	<b>(2,198,720)</b>	<b>13,990,858</b>	<b>12,738,269</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

This report is based upon information which has not been audited nor certified  
by an actuary and as such may not truly represent the condition of the fund.  
Fund Year allocation of claims have been estimated.

# **NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**

**Year: 2025**

<b><u>Monthly Items</u></b>	<b><u>Filing Status</u></b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Actuarial Certification</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Reinsurance Policies</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Fund Commissioners</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Fund Officers</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Renewal Resolutions</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Indemnity and Trust</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>New Members</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Risk Management Plan and By Laws</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Cash Management Plan</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Unaudited Financials</b>	<b>9/30/2023 Filed</b>
<b>Annual Audit</b>	<b>To be Filed</b>
<b>Budget Changes</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Transfers</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Additional Assessments</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Professional Changes</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Officer Changes</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>RMP Changes</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Bylaw Amendments</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Filed</b>
<b>Benefit Changes</b>	<b>N/A</b>

North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund  
Program Manager  
May 2025 Program Manager: Conner Strong & Buckelew

**Agenda**

- Program Manager Transition
- Fund Performance/Observations
- Client Services/Eligibility/Enrollment
- Meet and Greet – Professionals & Vendors

**Conner Strong & Buckelew Team**

**Tammy Brown**

Executive Partner, Public Entity and HIF Business, Training and Technology Leader

Direct: 856-552-4694

Email: [tbrown@connerstrong.com](mailto:tbrown@connerstrong.com)

**John Lajewski**

Senior Partner, HIF Business Leader

Direct: 856-552-4922

Email: [jlajewski@connerstrong.com](mailto:jlajewski@connerstrong.com)

**Melissa Appleby**

Associate Consultant

Direct: 732-736-5268

Email: [mappleby@connerstrong.com](mailto:mappleby@connerstrong.com)

**Program Manager Transition**

Conner Strong and Buckelew is excited to assume the role of Program Manager for the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund (NJMEBF). We have made substantial progress toward the full transition of services from the previous program manager and have prioritized the following items based on the feedback and direction received during the program manager procurement process.

**Communications:**

- Developed program manager onboarding plan which has been provided to the Fund Operations Committee on a weekly basis (Attachment to Agenda)
- Announcement to all Fund members and brokers announcing the CSB appointment
- Announcement to all Fund professionals announcing the CSB appointment

**Client Services:**

- Announcement to Fund members and broker addressing the CSB client service team and contact information
- Coordinated the transition of open client service issues to the CSB client service team

**Data Integration:**

- Secure data feeds from Fund vendors and initiated data mapping process to begin program analytics

**Plan Documents:**

- Constructed project plan to reinstate Fund member plan documents which have been shared with the Operations Committee (Attachment to Agenda)
- Process includes review of all existing plan documents, prioritizing, and production of restated plan documents
- Anticipated completion date of the project is November 1<sup>st</sup>

**Wellness:**

- All Fund wellness materials transitioned to CSB
- All wellness vendors contacted and advised of the program manager transition
- There was no disruption to current Fund wellness services
  - May Fund wellness newsletter delivered
  - May Fund wellness schedule of webinars delivered

**On Going Litigation:**

- Coordinated the transition of open litigation issues to the CSB client service team
- Meeting with Fund attorney scheduled to review all open litigations and assess the next steps for Program Manager

**Field Service:**

- For those Fund members who will be serviced directly by CSB, a specific communication has been sent out advising the respective Fund member of the program manager change and field service contacts
- Additional outreach is scheduled for late May to assess any assistance needed during the current program year

## **Fund Performance/Observations**

### **Medical – Aetna**

- Secure data feeds from Fund vendors and initiated data mapping process to begin program analytics
- The first Fund program analytics report is scheduled to be distributed to the Operations Committee and subsequently to the Fund Executive Committee prior to the next Fund meeting
- Aetna and Atlantic Health System have reached a multi-year agreement, ensuring that Aetna patients can maintain in-network access to Atlantic Health facilities and providers.

### **Pharmacy – Express Scripts**

- ESI rebates erroneously excluded for new Fund member in 2024 have been paid in March
- CSB has engaged our in-house pharmacy consultant to assist with the recommendation of firms who can perform the audit to be funded by ESI

### **2025 National Preferred Formulary (NPF) – Effective 7/1/25 (Attachment to Agenda)**

NPF Exclusions List, please note the following:

- Humalog - excluded for members with a new prescription as of 1/1/25, members currently taking the drug will be excluded effective 1/1/26
  - Members should share the covered preferred alternatives provided in the list with their providers
  - Fund members impacted will be identified in the fourth quarter 2025
- Humira - excluded for members with a new prescription as of 1/1/25, members currently taking the drug will be excluded effective 7/1/25
  - Members should share the covered preferred alternatives provided in the list with their providers
  - Fund members impacted by the change (3) will be notified by ESI

### **SaveOn (applies to all members) – Effective 7/1/25**

SaveOn List effective July 1, 2025, on May 7, 2025. (Attachment to Agenda)

- Drugs highlighted in green (21) were added to the list effective July 1, 2025
- Drugs highlighted in red (5) were removed from the list effective July 1, 2025
  - There is one member impacted by the drugs added to the list

### **SaveOn Program Performance (1/1/2024 through 12/31/24)**

In program year 2024, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund saved \$381,021 for members enrolled in SaveOn. There are currently 81 participants in the program. (Attachment to Agenda)

## Top Five Therapeutic Categories by Claims Count:

- Inflammatory Conditions - 46 members, totaling \$215,913 in savings
- Asthma & Allergy - 17 members, totaling \$79,283 in savings
- Miscellaneous Diseases - 5 members, totaling \$11,885 in savings
- Cancer - 3 members, totaling \$23,554 in savings
- Multiple Sclerosis - 3 members, totaling \$34,542 in savings

## Encircle Program (GLP-1 Weight Loss)

### Effective September 1, 2024:

- Members with new prescriptions, including renewal prescriptions for expired prior authorizations (PA), will need to meet the following criteria to be approved for a GLP-1 weight loss medication:
  - BMI  $\geq 32$  OR
  - BMI between  $27 \leq 32$  WITH 2 or more documented comorbidities
- Members with an active approved PA prior to 9/1/2024 will be grandfathered
  - Upon renewal of their PA, members will need to meet the above BMI requirements to be considered for approval
- PA renewals will need to include documentation to support the above BMI requirements for all members, regardless of members having been approved in the past.

### Effective January 1, 2025:

Members who have an approved PA (active and new) will need to meet the following guidelines:

- Members will receive a welcome kit from Omada free of charge. The kit includes a digital scale and information on downloading the mobile app and/or using the web browser. The scale is programmed to the member's ESI active account prior to delivery. The scale will record each weigh-in and will update the member's file automatically. Members must weigh-in a minimum of 4 times a month
- Members must engage with an assigned online Omada coach via a mobile application or web browser a minimum of 4 times a month

If members do not adhere to both of the requirements outlined above, the following month in which they are non-compliant, they will not be able to refill their weight loss prescription. Members will be required to complete the missing weigh-ins and/or online coaching engagement in order to refill their prescription.



### **Client Services/Eligibility/Enrollment**

Please direct any claims, eligibility, enrollment, or system related questions to your CSB-assigned Client Services team.

- Victoria Friday, [vfriday@permainc.com](mailto:vfriday@permainc.com), 856-552-4748
- Alex Koch, [akoch@permainc.com](mailto:akoch@permainc.com), 856-552-4778

System training (new and refresher) is provided to all contacts with WEX access every 3rd Wednesday at 10AM. Please contact [HIFtraining@permainc.com](mailto:HIFtraining@permainc.com) for additional information or to request an invite.

In the subject line of the email, please include Training – Fund Name and Client Name. Please be sure to add the date of the training you would like to attend in your email so an invitation can be sent.

### **Meet and Greet - Professionals & Vendors**

The Executive Director's office has reached out on our behalf to the various Fund Professionals and Vendors extend the invite for a brief meet and greet following this meeting in this room. We look forward to meeting and hearing feedback from our peers. We will also be reaching out to the brokers separately to gain their perspective. We thank Commissioner Poff and the Township of Randolph for allowing us additional time and space.

# NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND BILLS LIST

**APRIL 2025**

**Resolution No.**

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer has certified that funding is available to pay the following bills:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that that North JerseyMunicipal Employee Benefit Fund’s Executive Board,  
hereby  
authorizes the Fund treasurer to issue warrants in payment of the following claims; and

**FURTHER**, that this authorization shall be made a permanent part of the records of the Fund.

**FUND YEAR 2024**

<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
ATLANTIC CORPORATE HEALTH	SLEEP COACH- LINC. PK. INV 709560 12/24	151.00
ATLANTIC CORPORATE HEALTH	SLEEP COACH- HANOVER-709526 11/24	302.00
		<b>453.00</b>
	<b>Total Payments FY 2024</b>	<b>453.00</b>

**FUND YEAR 2025**

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
	AETNA HEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE 04/25	324,362.51
			<b>324,362.51</b>
	UNITED - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE 04/25	29,604.52
			<b>29,604.52</b>
	DELTA DENTAL OF NEW JERSEY INC	DENTAL TPA 04/25	6,436.18
			<b>6,436.18</b>
	AETNA	MEDICAL TPA 04/25	82,954.92
			<b>82,954.92</b>
	INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	CHATHAM HSA 156514-2051646 03/25	3.00
	INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	WOODLAND PK HSA 156496-2053278 3/25	18.00
	INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	RANDOLPH HSA- 150688-2054562 03/25	9.00
	INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	KINNELON HSA- 156486-2052258 03/25	3.00
	INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	RINGWOOD-HSA 156488-2054430 03/25	9.00
			<b>42.00</b>
	PERMA	POSTAGE 03/25	73.59
	PERMA	ADMIN FEES 04/25	45,789.12
			<b>45,862.71</b>
	ACTUARIAL SOLUTIONS, LLC	ACTUARY FEES Q2 2025	3,250.00
			<b>3,250.00</b>
	KORE INSURANCE HOLDINGS, LLC	BROKER FEES 04/25	1,816.08
	KORE INSURANCE HOLDINGS, LLC	BROKER FEES 03/25	1,816.08
			<b>3,632.16</b>
	MICHAEL J. SOCCIO	TREASURER FEES 04/25	1,914.50
			<b>1,914.50</b>
	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PROGRAM MANAGER 04/25	56,819.92
	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS 04/25	-173.27
	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	BROKER FEES 04/25	27,221.83
			<b>83,868.48</b>

DORSEY & SEMRAU	ATTORNEY MONTHLY RETAINER 04/25	1,667.00
DORSEY & SEMRAU	SPECIAL LITIGATION INV 22235 FOR 3/25	2,898.50
		<b>4,565.50</b>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING	BROKER FEES 04/25	2,436.00
		<b>2,436.00</b>
CORPORATE BENEFIT SOLUTIONS	BROKER FEES 04/25	2,323.64
		<b>2,323.64</b>
SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	BROKER FEES 04/25	9,806.37
		<b>9,806.37</b>
BROWN AND BROWN METRO LLC	BROKER FEES 04/25	4,900.15
BROWN AND BROWN METRO LLC	MARCH ADJ.- KNOWLTON BOE 04/25	-1,816.08
		<b>3,084.07</b>
WORLD INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, LLC	BROKER FEES 04/25	1,365.35
		<b>1,365.35</b>
ACRISURE NJ PARTNERS INS SERVICES, LLC	BROKER FEES 04/25	10,208.74
		<b>10,208.74</b>
THE CANNING GROUP LLC	QPA FEES NJMEBF 2025-04	166.67
		<b>166.67</b>
ACCESS	INV 11420429 DEPT 421 2/28/25	223.90
		<b>223.90</b>
MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE H.I.F.	SPECIFIC REINSURANCE 04/25	378,028.38
		<b>378,028.38</b>
	<b>Total Payments FY 2025</b>	<b>994,136.60</b>
	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS</b>	<b>994,589.60</b>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Attest:

Dated:\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify the availability of sufficient unencumbered funds in the proper accounts to fully pay the above claims.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

# NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND BILLS LIST

MAY 2025

**Resolution No.**

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer has certified that funding is available to pay the following bills:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that that North JerseyMunicipal Employee Benefit Fund’s Executive Board,  
hereby  
authorizes the Fund treasurer to issue warrants in payment of the following claims; and

**FURTHER**, that this authorization shall be made a permanent part of the records of the Fund.

**FUND YEAR 2024**

<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
HFA	PROG BILL-AUDIT Y/E 2024 INV 71963 4/25	12,000.00
		<b>12,000.00</b>
	<b>Total Payments FY 2024</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>

**FUND YEAR 2025**

<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
EBIX INC	VOID AND REISSUE	-5,400.00
		<b>-5,400.00</b>
AETNA HEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE 05/25	558,548.85
		<b>558,548.85</b>
UNITED - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE 05/25	42,583.00
		<b>42,583.00</b>
DELTA DENTAL OF NEW JERSEY INC	DENTAL TPA 05/25	6,843.66
		<b>6,843.66</b>
AETNA	MEDICAL TPA 05/25	83,864.34
		<b>83,864.34</b>
INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	CHATHAM- HSA 156514-2059738 04/25	3.00
INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	WOODLAND PK HSA 156496-2060312 4/25	18.00
INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	RANDOLPH HSA - 150688-2060972 04/25	9.00
INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	KINNELON-HSA- 156486-2058960 04/25	3.00
INSPIRA FINANCIAL HEALTH, INC	RINGWOOD-HSA 156488-2059114 04/25	9.00
		<b>42.00</b>
PERMA	POSTAGE 04/25	180.86
PERMA	ADMIN FEES 05/25	46,229.40
		<b>46,410.26</b>
CONNER STRONG & BUCKELEW	PROGRAM MANAGER 05/25	26,074.00
		<b>26,074.00</b>
KORE INSURANCE HOLDINGS, LLC	BROKER FEES 05/25	1,816.08
		<b>1,816.08</b>
MICHAEL J. SOCCIO	TREASURER FEE 05/25	1,914.50
		<b>1,914.50</b>
JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	WELLNESS 04/25	3,426.26
JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	BROKER FEES 05/25	27,562.93
JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PROGRAM MGR ADJ FOR 04/25	146.59
		<b>31,135.78</b>

DORSEY & SEMRAU	ATTORNEY MONTHLY RETAINER 05/25	1,667.00
DORSEY & SEMRAU	SPECIAL LITIGATION INV 22316 FOR 4/25	3,255.00
		<b>4,922.00</b>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING	BROKER FEES 05/25	2,517.15
		<b>2,517.15</b>
CORPORATE BENEFIT SOLUTIONS	BROKER FEES 05/25	2,429.26
		<b>2,429.26</b>
SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	BROKER FEES 05/25	10,167.44
		<b>10,167.44</b>
BROWN AND BROWN METRO LLC	BROKER FEES 05/25	4,985.37
		<b>4,985.37</b>
WORLD INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, LLC	BROKER FEES 05/25	1,282.30
		<b>1,282.30</b>
ACRISURE NJ PARTNERS INS SERVICES, LLC	BROKER FEES 05/25	10,430.24
		<b>10,430.24</b>
ATLANTIC CORPORATE HEALTH	SLEEP ASSESSMENTS-PEQ. TWP 4/29/25	1,661.00
		<b>1,661.00</b>
EBIX INC	2025 ONLINE NEWSLETTER INV 637415	5,400.00
		<b>5,400.00</b>
THE CANNING GROUP LLC	QPA FEES -,NJMEBF 2025-05	166.67
		<b>166.67</b>
SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY REG EBF	COOP PRICING SYS. TPA/RFP- LEGAL 04/25	546.19
		<b>546.19</b>
GANNETT NEW YORK NJ LOCALIQ	A# 1509786 INV 7066707-11234336 4/18/25	44.96
GANNETT NEW YORK NJ LOCALIQ	A# 1509786 INV 7066707-1120115 4/7/25	39.68
GANNETT NEW YORK NJ LOCALIQ	A# 1509786 INV 7066707-11220607 4/13/25	183.56
		<b>268.20</b>
ACCESS	INV 11475325 DEPT 421 3/31/25	213.24
		<b>213.24</b>
MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE H.I.F.	SPECIFIC REINSURANCE 05/25	382,462.85
		<b>382,462.85</b>
	<b>Total Payments FY 2025</b>	<b>1,221,284.38</b>
	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS</b>	<b>1,233,284.38</b>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Attest:

Dated:\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify the availability of sufficient unencumbered funds in the proper accounts to fully pay the above claims.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund										
SUMMARY OF CASH TRANSACTIONS - ALL FUND YEARS COMBINED										
Current Fund Year: 2025 Month Ending: February										
	Medical	Dental	Rx	Reinsurance	Dividend Reserve	LFC	Admin	0	0	TOTAL
OPEN BALANCE	8,851,071.62	284,239.76	(2,683,215.54)	(51,800.01)	2,100,475.30	0.00	(8,544.97)	0.00	0.00	8,492,226.16
RECEIPTS										
Assessments	5,607,476.51	137,983.85	530,381.93	374,658.12	0.00	0.00	161,360.60	0.00	0.00	6,811,861.01
Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Invest Pymnts	256,811.98	962.51	0.00	1,297.34	44,553.08	0.00	3,622.07	0.00	0.00	307,246.98
Invest Adj	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Invest	256,811.98	962.51	0.00	1,297.34	44,553.08	0.00	3,622.07	0.00	0.00	307,246.98
Other *	288,907.62	0.00	67,973.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	75,500.00	0.00	0.00	432,381.58
TOTAL	6,153,196.11	138,946.36	598,355.89	375,955.46	44,553.08	0.00	240,482.67	0.00	0.00	7,551,489.57
EXPENSES										
Claims Transfers	5,141,264.19	131,002.78	603,260.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,875,527.41
Expenses	357,710.77	0.00	0.00	377,590.46	0.00	0.00	267,893.50	0.00	0.00	1,003,194.73
Other *	24,166.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,166.67
TOTAL	5,523,141.63	131,002.78	603,260.44	377,590.46	15,000.00	0.00	267,893.50	0.00	0.00	6,917,888.81
END BALANCE	9,481,126.10	292,183.34	(2,688,120.09)	(53,435.01)	2,130,028.38	0.00	(35,955.80)	0.00	0.00	9,125,826.92

CERTIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION OF CLAIMS PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES									
North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund									
Month		February							
Current Fund Year		2025							
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
Policy		Calc. Net	Monthly	Monthly	Calc. Net	TPA Net	Variance	Delinquent	Change
Year	Coverage	Paid Thru	Net Paid	Recoveries	Paid Thru	Paid Thru	To Be	Unreconciled	This
		Last Month	February	February	February	February	Reconciled	Variance From	Month
2025	Medical	1,390,275.94	3,527,402.63	0.00	4,917,678.57	0.00	4,917,678.57	1,390,275.94	3,527,402.63
	Dental	100,823.80	125,473.55	0.00	226,297.35	0.00	226,297.35	100,823.80	125,473.55
	Rx	298,943.94	603,225.17	0.00	902,169.11	0.00	902,169.11	298,943.94	603,225.17
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	1,790,043.68	4,256,101.35	0.00	6,046,145.03	0.00	6,046,145.03	1,790,043.68	4,256,101.35
2024	Medical	3,097,428.81	1,573,954.06	0.00	4,671,382.87	0.00	4,671,382.87	3,097,428.81	1,573,954.06
	Dental	36,617.86	5,529.23	0.00	42,147.09	0.00	42,147.09	36,617.86	5,529.23
	Rx	276,626.04	35.27	0.00	276,661.31	0.00	276,661.31	276,626.04	35.27
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	3,410,672.71	1,579,518.56	0.00	4,990,191.27	0.00	4,990,191.27	3,410,672.71	1,579,518.56
2023	Medical	30,431.35	39,323.06	0.00	69,754.41	0.00	69,754.41	30,431.35	39,323.06
	Dental	430.80	0.00	0.00	430.80	0.00	430.80	430.80	0.00
	Rx	(192.00)	0.00	0.00	(192.00)	0.00	(192.00)	(192.00)	0.00
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	30,670.15	39,323.06	0.00	69,993.21	0.00	69,993.21	30,670.15	39,323.06
2022	Medical	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rx	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closed Year	Medical	78,227.40	584.44	0.00	78,811.84	0.00	78,811.84	78,227.40	584.44
	Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rx	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	78,227.40	584.44	0.00	78,811.84	0.00	78,811.84	78,227.40	584.44
0	Medical	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rx	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	Medical	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rx	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	5,309,613.94	5,875,527.41	0.00	11,185,141.35	0.00	11,185,141.35	5,309,613.94	5,875,527.41

SUMMARY OF CASH AND INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS					
North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund					
ALL FUND YEARS COMBINED					
CURRENT MONTH	February				
CURRENT FUND YEAR	2025				
Description:		CASH MANAGEMENT FUND	TD BANK ASSET MANAGEMENT	CITIZENS	
ID Number:					
Maturity (Yrs)					
Purchase Yield:					
TOTAL for All Accts & instruments					
Opening Cash & Investment Balance	\$8,492,226.15	21,337.84	7,106,205.97	1,364,682.34	
Opening Interest Accrual Balance	\$292,232.55	-	292,232.55	-	
1	Interest Accrued and/or Interest Cost	\$24,102.36	\$0.00	\$24,102.36	\$0.00
2	Interest Accrued - discounted Instr.s	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	(Amortization and/or Interest Cost)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	Accretion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5	Interest Paid - Cash Instr.s	\$8,934.56	\$69.98	\$138.12	\$8,726.46
6	Interest Paid - Term Instr.s	\$306,653.93	\$0.00	\$306,653.93	\$0.00
7	Realized Gain (Loss)	-\$8,341.50	\$0.00	-\$8,341.50	\$0.00
8	Net Investment Income	\$24,695.42	\$69.98	\$15,898.98	\$8,726.46
9	Deposits - Purchases	\$10,205,075.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,205,075.91
10	(Withdrawals - Sales)	-\$9,878,722.14	\$0.00	-\$3,000,000.00	-\$6,878,722.14
Ending Cash & Investment Balance		\$9,125,826.91	\$21,407.82	\$4,404,656.52	\$4,699,762.57
Ending Interest Accrual Balance		\$9,680.98	\$0.00	\$9,680.98	\$0.00
Plus Outstanding Checks		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
(Less Deposits in Transit)		-\$1,188,392.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,188,392.00
Balance per Bank		\$7,937,434.91	\$21,407.82	\$4,404,656.52	\$3,511,370.57





**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL  
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**

**Monthly Claim Activity Report**

***May 22, 2025***



## NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

	<b>MEDICAL CLAIMS PAID 2024</b>	<b># OF EES</b>	<b>PER EE</b>	<b>MEDICAL CLAIMS PAID 2025</b>	<b># OF EES</b>	<b>PER EE</b>
JANUARY	\$3,931,217	1,920	\$ 2,048	\$4,047,634	2,090	\$ 1,937
FEBRUARY	\$3,769,432	1,881	\$ 2,004	\$4,492,106	2,100	\$ 2,139
MARCH	\$2,964,735	2,084	\$ 1,423	\$4,136,850	2,102	\$ 1,968
APRIL	\$4,417,158	2,094	\$ 2,109			
MAY	\$4,419,584	2,098	\$ 2,107			
JUNE	\$3,489,075	2,091	\$ 1,669			
JULY	\$4,264,290	2,087	\$ 2,043			
AUGUST	\$3,899,598	2,086	\$ 1,869			
SEPTEMBER	\$3,622,277	2,076	\$ 1,745			
OCTOBER	\$4,935,236	2,079	\$ 2,374			
NOVEMBER	\$3,436,587	2,073	\$ 1,658			
DECEMBER	\$4,506,772	2,075	\$ 2,172			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$47,655,960</b>			<b>\$12,676,590</b>		
				<b>2025 Average</b>	<b>2,097</b>	<b>\$2,015</b>
				<b>2024 Average</b>	<b>2,054</b>	<b>\$1,935</b>

## Large Claimant Report (Drilldown) - Claims Over \$100000

**Plan Sponsor Unique ID :** All  
**Customer:** North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund  
**Group / Control:** 00727848,00866355,SI220763

**Paid Dates:** 02/01/2025 - 02/28/2025  
**Service Dates:** 01/01/2011 - 02/28/2025  
**Line of Business:** All

	<b>Paid Amt</b>	<b>Diagnosis/Treatment</b>
	\$206,311.44	SPINAL STENOSIS, LUMBAR REGION WITHOUT
	\$196,446.25	COMPLETE LESION AT C4 LEVEL OF CERVICAL SPINAL
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$402,757.69</b>	

---

## Large Claimant Report (Drilldown) - Claims Over \$100000

**Plan Sponsor Unique ID :** All  
**Customer:** North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund  
**Group / Control:** 00727848,00866355,SI220763

**Paid Dates:** 03/01/2025 - 03/31/2025  
**Service Dates:** 01/01/2011 - 03/31/2025  
**Line of Business:** All

	<b>Paid Amt</b>	<b>Diagnosis/Treatment</b>
	\$152,911.92	SECONDARY MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF BRAIN
	\$143,967.25	SPINAL STENOSIS, LUMBAR REGION WITHOUT
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$296,879.17</b>	



**Medical Claims Paid:  
January 2025- March 2025**

Total Medical Paid per EE: **\$2,015**

**Network Discounts**

Inpatient: **62.6%**  
Ambulatory: **69.2%**  
Physician/Other: **67.5%**  
**TOTAL: 67.2%**

**Provider Network**

% Admissions In-Network: **96.4%**  
% Physician Office: **93.0%**

**Aetna Book of Business:**  
Admissions 98.4%; Physician 91.0%

**Top Facilities Utilized (by total  
Medical Spend)**

- Morristown Medical Center
- Chilton Medical Center
- Newton Medical Center
- MSK
- Saint Clare's Hospital

**Catastrophic Claim Impact  
January 2025- March 2025**

Number of Claims Over \$50,000: **29**  
Claimants per 1000 members: **5.4**  
Avg. Paid per Claimant: **\$103,654**  
Percent of Total Paid: **25.6%**  
• Aetna BOB- HCC account for an  
average of 45.1% of total Medical Cost

**Aetna One Flex Member Outreach:  
thru March 2025**

Total Members Identified: **1,179**  
Members Targeted for 1:1 Nurse  
Support : **268**  
Members Targeted for digital activity:  
**911**  
Member 1:1 outreach completed:  
**256**  
Member 1:1 Outreach in Progress: **12**

**CVSHealth. CVS Virtual Care**

**January 2025 – March 2025**

Completed Visits in March: **8**  
Unique Patients in March: **8**  
Completed Visits in 2025 : **23**  
Unique Patients in 2025: **22**  
Total Scheduled Visits in 2025: **25**  
Average visit duration: **7 Minutes**  
BoB: Average First Available: **54**  
minutes  
BoB: Average First Available (6am-6pm)  
**38 Minutes**

**Service Center Performance Goal  
Metrics YTD 2024**

**Customer Service Performance**

1<sup>st</sup> Call Resolution: **93.88%**  
Abandonment Rate: **0.45%**  
Avg. Speed of Answer: **15.2 sec**

**Claims Performance**

Financial Accuracy: **98.68%\***  
\*Q1 2025

90% processed w/in: **7.2 days**  
95% processed w/in: **14.9 days**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Claims Performance (Monthly)  
(March 2025)**

90% processed w/in: **8.4 days**  
95% processed w/in: **16.8 days**  
(Note: This is not a PG metric)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Performance Goals**

1<sup>st</sup> Call Resolution: **90%**  
Abandonment Rate less than: **3.0%**  
Average Speed of Answer: **30 sec**

Financial Accuracy: **99%**

**Turnaround Time**

90% processed w/in: **14 days**  
95% processed w/in: **30 days**



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### North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund

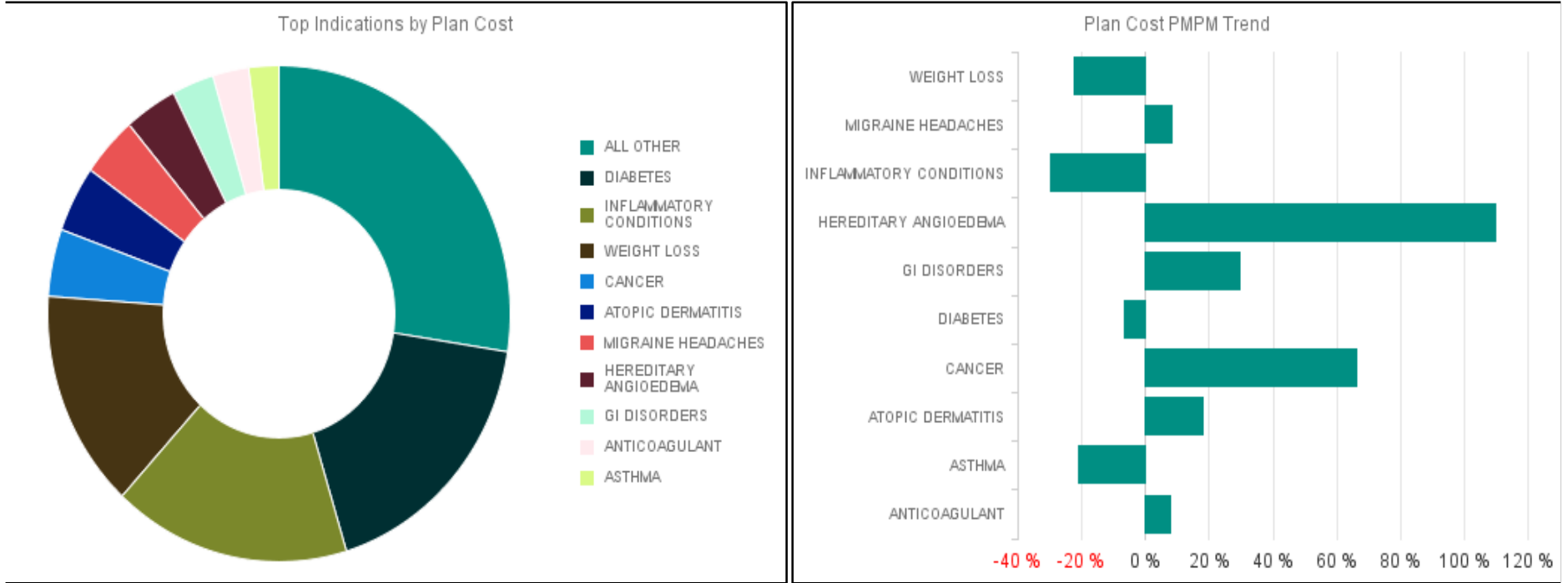
Total Component/Date of Service (Month)	2024 01	2024 02	2024 03	2024 Q1	2024 04	2024 05	2024 06	2024 Q2	2024 07	2024 08	2024 09	2024 Q3	2024 10	2024 11	2024 12	2024 Q4
Membership	4,905	4,873	5,422	5,067	5,440	5,436	5,427	5,434	5,406	5,395	5,382	5,394	5,402	5,387	5,382	5,390
Total Days	203,129	186,437	209,955	599,521	224,419	220,536	206,816	651,771	238,244	212,391	215,612	666,247	231,275	209,076	225,116	665,467
Total Patients	1,970	1,908	2,198	3,207	2,174	2,117	2,096	3,246	2,164	2,062	2,105	3,202	2,270	2,187	2,259	3,348
Total Plan Cost	\$865,276	\$792,398	\$1,083,188	\$2,740,862	\$1,119,123	\$1,186,041	\$1,238,550	\$3,543,714	\$1,182,586	\$1,304,102	\$1,314,231	\$3,800,919	\$1,289,845	\$1,162,456	\$1,316,182	\$3,768,483
Generic Fill Rate (GFR) - Total	86.0%	87.0%	86.5%	86.5%	85.9%	85.8%	84.9%	85.5%	84.4%	83.7%	81.7%	83.3%	81.8%	83.8%	84.4%	83.3%
Plan Cost PMPM	\$176.41	\$162.61	\$199.78	\$180.32	\$205.72	\$218.18	\$228.22	\$217.37	\$218.75	\$241.72	\$244.19	\$234.87	\$238.77	\$215.79	\$244.55	\$233.04
Total Specialty Plan Cost	\$308,439	\$274,926	\$466,401	\$1,049,766	\$481,465	\$510,693	\$521,653	\$1,513,811	\$354,254	\$525,688	\$522,866	\$1,402,808	\$489,981	\$428,573	\$464,731	\$1,383,285
Specialty % of Total Specialty Plan Cost	35.6%	34.7%	43.1%	38.3%	43.0%	43.1%	42.1%	42.7%	30.0%	40.3%	39.8%	36.9%	38.0%	36.9%	35.3%	36.7%

Total Component/Date of Service (Month)	2025 01	2025 02	2025 03	2025 Q1	2025 04	2025 05	2025 06	2025 Q2	2025 07	2025 08	2025 09	2025 Q3	2025 10	2025 11	2025 12	2025 Q4
Membership	5,396	5,412	5,303	5,370												
Total Days	232,631	199,551	217,712	649,894												
Total Patients	2,292	2,146	2,170	3,371												
Total Plan Cost	\$1,091,763	\$1,114,770	\$1,241,595	\$3,448,129												
Generic Fill Rate (GFR) - Total	85.9%	85.4%	85.1%	85.5%												
Plan Cost PMPM	\$202.33	\$205.98	\$234.13	\$214.02												
% Change Plan Cost PMPM	14.7%	26.7%	17.2%	18.7%												
Total Specialty Plan Cost	\$369,247	\$454,191	\$475,569	\$1,299,006												
Specialty % of Total Specialty Plan Cost	33.8%	40.7%	38.3%	37.7%												

Encircle Reporting (Jan 2025 to March 2025)	
Total rejects due to Omada	218
Total rejects due to prior authorization rule	51
Members engaged in Omada	153

## Top Indications

N. JERSEY MUNI EMPLOY BNFT FD (Current Period 01/2025 - 03/2025 vs. Previous Period 10/2024 - 12/2024) Peer = Government - National Preferred Formulary



			Current Period						Previous Period						Trend
Rank	Peer Rank	Indication	Market Share	Adjusted Rxs	Plan Cost	Plan Cost PMPM	GFR	Peer GFR	Market Share	Adjusted Rxs	Plan Cost	Plan Cost PMPM	GFR	Peer GFR	Plan Cost PMPM
1	1	DIABETES	24.6 %	1,799	\$610,323	\$37.88	32.0 %	24.4 %	23.8 %	1,929	\$655,307	\$40.52	30.9 %	25.0 %	-6.5 %
2	2	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	22.8 %	181	\$567,186	\$35.20	42.0 %	31.1 %	29.5 %	188	\$811,793	\$50.20	38.3 %	30.7 %	-29.9 %
3	4	WEIGHT LOSS	19.6 %	489	\$487,715	\$30.27	3.3 %	4.5 %	22.9 %	584	\$630,892	\$39.01	1.2 %	4.0 %	-22.4 %
4	3	CANCER	6.0 %	119	\$149,944	\$9.31	93.3 %	76.2 %	3.3 %	121	\$90,461	\$5.59	96.7 %	75.7 %	66.4 %
5	5	ATOPIC DERMATITIS	6.0 %	240	\$147,978	\$9.18	76.3 %	80.7 %	4.6 %	240	\$126,026	\$7.79	82.1 %	80.7 %	17.9 %
6	6	MIGRAINE HEADACHES	5.4 %	192	\$135,308	\$8.40	39.6 %	52.0 %	4.6 %	186	\$125,326	\$7.75	39.2 %	52.4 %	8.4 %
7	10	HEREDITARY ANGIOEDEMA	5.1 %	2	\$125,892	\$7.81	0.0 %	7.9 %	2.2 %	1	\$60,207	\$3.72	0.0 %	11.5 %	109.9 %
8	9	GI DISORDERS	4.0 %	123	\$99,946	\$6.20	46.3 %	58.7 %	2.8 %	147	\$77,374	\$4.78	53.7 %	56.5 %	29.7 %
9	8	ANTICOAGULANT	3.5 %	188	\$86,243	\$5.35	10.6 %	18.5 %	2.9 %	175	\$80,393	\$4.97	12.6 %	17.9 %	7.7 %
10	7	ASTHMA	2.9 %	829	\$72,193	\$4.48	87.7 %	88.5 %	3.3 %	888	\$91,571	\$5.66	86.6 %	88.7 %	-20.9 %
Total Top 10				4,162	\$2,482,728	\$154.10	44.2 %	44.5 %		4,459	\$2,749,351	\$170.02	43.3 %	44.5 %	-9.4 %

## Top Drugs

N. JERSEY MUNI EMPLOY BNFT FD (Current Period 01/2025 - 03/2025 vs. Previous Period 10/2024 - 12/2024) Peer = Government - National Preferred Formulary

					Current Period				Previous Period				Trend
Rank	Peer Rank	Brand Name	Indication	Specialty Drug	Adjusted Rx	Patients	Plan Cost	Plan Cost PMPM	Adjusted Rx	Patients	Plan Cost	Plan Cost PMPM	Plan Cost PMPM
1	8	ZEPBOUND	WEIGHT LOSS	N	284	106	\$271,739	\$16.87	287	105	\$280,608	\$17.35	-2.8 %
2	16	WEGOVY	WEIGHT LOSS	N	177	69	\$212,785	\$13.21	275	107	\$345,377	\$21.36	-38.2 %
3	1	MOUNJARO	DIABETES	N	211	66	\$206,866	\$12.84	201	69	\$198,919	\$12.30	4.4 %
4	4	OZEMPIC	DIABETES	N	154	60	\$138,196	\$8.58	186	63	\$164,205	\$10.15	-15.5 %
5	346	RUCONEST	HEREDITARY ANGIOEDEMA	Y	2	1	\$125,892	\$7.81	1	1	\$60,207	\$3.72	109.9 %
6	7	STELARA	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	15	5	\$109,360	\$6.79	15	5	\$147,023	\$9.09	-25.3 %
7	30	TALTZ AUTOINJECTOR	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	18	5	\$88,917	\$5.52	14	5	\$85,323	\$5.28	4.6 %
8	9	DUPIXENT PEN	ATOPIC DERMATITIS	Y	28	11	\$85,873	\$5.33	22	8	\$73,250	\$4.53	17.7 %
9	17	SKYRIZI PEN	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	13	5	\$76,337	\$4.74	18	5	\$112,018	\$6.93	-31.6 %
10	134	CABOMETYX	CANCER	Y	3	1	\$74,033	\$4.60	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
11	484	RUBRACA	CANCER	Y	4	1	\$70,027	\$4.35	2	1	\$35,013	\$2.17	100.7 %
12	23	ENBREL SURECLICK	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	11	4	\$59,942	\$3.72	11	4	\$71,950	\$4.45	-16.4 %
13	29	ELIQUIS	ANTICOAGULANT	N	107	38	\$55,531	\$3.45	104	37	\$55,629	\$3.44	0.2 %
14	26	FARXIGA	DIABETES	N	97	28	\$52,163	\$3.24	85	27	\$45,069	\$2.79	16.2 %
15	13	JARDIANCE	DIABETES	N	88	29	\$49,657	\$3.08	89	28	\$49,631	\$3.07	0.4 %
16	24	HUMIRA (CF) PEN	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	6	2	\$45,855	\$2.85	6	2	\$53,999	\$3.34	-14.8 %
17	39	DUPIXENT SYRINGE	ATOPIC DERMATITIS	Y	19	6	\$45,620	\$2.83	16	5	\$41,841	\$2.59	9.4 %
18	365	LIVDELZI	GI DISORDERS	Y	3	1	\$39,208	\$2.43	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
19	51	UBRELVY	MIGRAINE HEADACHES	N	25	12	\$33,724	\$2.09	17	10	\$23,245	\$1.44	45.6 %
20	46	QULIPTA	MIGRAINE HEADACHES	N	31	12	\$31,891	\$1.98	30	9	\$31,063	\$1.92	3.0 %
21	48	XARELTO	ANTICOAGULANT	N	61	18	\$30,095	\$1.87	49	16	\$24,531	\$1.52	23.1 %
22	35	NURTEC ODT	MIGRAINE HEADACHES	N	20	13	\$28,729	\$1.78	26	12	\$37,017	\$2.29	-22.1 %
23	20	RINVOQ	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	6	2	\$28,316	\$1.76	13	4	\$85,031	\$5.26	-66.6 %
24	33	OTEZLA	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	Y	7	3	\$28,049	\$1.74	6	3	\$29,106	\$1.80	-3.3 %
25	34	TRULICITY	DIABETES	N	30	10	\$27,005	\$1.68	28	10	\$25,042	\$1.55	8.2 %
Total Top 25					1,420		\$2,015,809	\$125.12	1,501		\$2,075,096	\$128.32	-2.5 %





## Claims Summary

### Cost Containment

Claims	Dollars	Definition
<b>Submitted Claims</b>	<b>\$4,533,034</b>	Claims submitted by participating and non-participating dentists
<b>(-) Savings</b>		
(-)Network Discount	\$1,371,256	Savings from network participating dentist discounts
(-)Administrative	\$564,378	Contract limits, non-covered, non-billable services, optional services
(-)Dental Consultant	\$24,783	Clinical claim review by dental consultants
(-)Eligibility Verification	\$27,304	Claims for in-eligible members
(-)COB	\$165,963	Coordination of benefits
(-)Other	\$789,001	Deductibles, patient coinsurance
<b>(=)Total Savings</b>	<b>\$2,942,685</b>	
<b>Delta Dental Paid</b>	<b>\$1,590,348</b>	Amount paid by Delta Dental

### Network Discount

Network	Submitted Claims	Paid Claims	Network Discount	Network Discount / Submitted Claims
Total Network Discount	\$4,247,951	\$1,530,696	\$1,371,256	32.28%
Out of Network	\$285,083	\$59,652		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,533,034</b>	<b>\$1,590,348</b>	<b>\$1,371,256</b>	

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**  
**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**MAY 22, 2025**

The following Resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda will be enacted in one motion. Copies of all Resolutions are available to any person upon request. Any Commissioner wishing to remove any Resolution(s) to be voted upon, may do so at this time, and said Resolution(s) will be moved and voted separately.

**Resolutions**

**Subject Matter**

**Motion**\_\_\_\_\_ **Second**\_\_\_\_\_

Resolution 25-19: Approving 2024 Annual Audit .....	Page <b>36</b>
Resolution 25-20: Closing Fund Year 2023 .....	Page <b>39</b>
Resolution 25-21: April and May 2025 Bills List .....	Page <b>40</b>

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-19**

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND  
CERTIFICATION OF ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT FOR  
PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

**WHEREAS**, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2024 has been filed by the appointed Fund Auditor with the Secretary of the Fund as per the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6 and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36, and a copy has been received by each Fund Commissioner, and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey is authorized to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs, as per R.S. 52:27BB-34, and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Finance Board has promulgated a regulation requiring that the Fund Commissioners of the Fund shall, by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all Fund Commissioners have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled:

General Comments  
and  
Recommendations

, and

**WHEREAS**, the Fund Commissioners have personally reviewed, as a minimum, the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled:

General Comments  
and  
Recommendations

as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the Fund Commissioners.

**WHEREAS**, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Fund Commissioners no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, as per the regulations of the Local Finance Board, and

**WHEREAS**, all Fund Commissioners have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board, and

**WHEREAS**, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the Fund Commissioners to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52 - to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 - "A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor

and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee hereby states that they have complied with the promulgation of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, dated July 30, 1968, and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

**ADOPTED: MAY 22, 2025**

**BY:**

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**CHAIRPERSON**

**ATTEST:**

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**SECRETARY**

**GROUP AFFIDAVIT FORM**  
**CERTIFICATION OF FUND COMMISSIONERS**  
**Of the**  
**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**

We, the Fund Commissioners of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund, of full age, being duly sworn according to law, upon our oath depose and say:

1. We are duly elected members Fund Commissioners of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund.
2. In the performance of our duties, and pursuant to the Local Finance Board Regulation, we have familiarized ourselves with the contents of the Annual Fund Audit filed with the Secretary of the Fund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6 and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 for the year 2022
3. We certify that we have personally reviewed and are familiar with, as a minimum, the sections of the Annual Report of Audit entitled:

**GENERAL COMMENTS - RECOMMENDATIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_(L.S.)

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Fund

The Secretary of the Fund shall set forth the reason for the absence of signature of any members of the Executive Committee.

Important: This certificate must be sent to the Division of Local Government Services, CN 803, Trenton, NJ 08625.

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-20**

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND  
APPROVAL TO CLOSE FUND YEAR 2023**

**WHEREAS**, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund held a Public Meeting on May 22, 2025, for the purposes of conducting the official business of the Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

**WHEREAS**, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2023 has been filed by the appointed Fund Auditor with the Secretary of the Fund as per the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6 and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36, and a copy has been received by each Fund Commissioner, and

**WHEREAS**, the Fund Treasurer confirmed that the Fund outstanding receivables and payables of Fund Year 2023 have been satisfied;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the of the Central Jersey Health Insurance Fund hereby close Fund Year 2023 into its Closed Year Accounting.

**ADOPTED: MAY 22, 2025**

**BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SECRETARY**

<b>RESOLUTION NO. 25-21</b>
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**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND  
APPROVAL OF THE APRIL AND MAY 2025 BILLS LISTS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund held a Public Meeting on May 22, 2025, the purposes of conducting the official business of the Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, The Treasurer for the Fund presented bills lists to satisfy outstanding costs incurred for operating the Fund during the months April and May 2025 for consideration and approval of the Executive Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, The Treasurer for the Fund presented a Treasurers Report which detailed the claims payments and imprest transfers for the Fund for the Month of February for all Fund Years for consideration and approval of the Executive Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, a quorum of the Executive Committee was present thereby conforming with the By-laws of the Fund to conduct official business of the Fund,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Commissioners of the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund hereby approve the Bills List for April and May 2025 prepared by the Treasurer of the Fund and duly authorize and concur said bills to be paid expeditiously, in accordance with the laws and regulations promulgated by the State of New Jersey for Municipal Health Insurance Funds.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Commissioners of the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund hereby approve the Treasurers Report as furnished by the Treasurer of the Fund and concur with actions undertaken by the Treasurer, in accordance with the laws and regulations promulgated by the State of New Jersey for Municipal Health Insurance Funds.

**ADOPTED: MAY 22, 2025**

**BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SECRETARY**



# APPENDIX I

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**  
**OPEN MINUTES**  
**March 27, 2025**  
**RANDOLPH MUNICIPAL HALL- 9:30 AM**

Meeting of Fund Commissioners called to order by Executive Director, Mr. Lodics. Open Public Meetings notice read into record.

**MOTION TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER SCOTT HECK FOR ACTING CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER BARBARA RUSSO FOR ACTING SECRETARY:**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Mayers  
**SECOND:** Commissioner Sondermeyer

**ROLL CALL OF 2025 FUND COMMISSIONERS**

<b>2025 Executive Committee</b>		<b>Attendance</b>
Thomas S. Russo Jr., Chair	Town of Newton	Absent
Carrine Piccolo- Kaufer, Secretary	Township of Hardyston	Absent
Barbara Russo, Executive Committee	Township of Berkeley Heights	Present
Tammy Smith, Executive Committee	Knowlton BOE	Absent
Silvio Esposito, Executive Committee	Township of Hanover	Absent
Greg Poff, Executive Committee	Randolph Township	Absent
Scott Heck, Executive Committee	Borough of Ringwood	Present
<b>Executive Committee Alternates:</b>		
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park	Absent
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale	Present
Deb Millikin	Township of Jefferson	Present
<b>Fund Commissioners &amp; Alternate</b>		
Jennifer Dodd, Alternate	Town of Newton	Absent
Dana Vitz, Alternate	Township of Hardyston	Absent
Deborah Bonanno, Alternate	Randolph Township	Absent
Perry Mayers, Alternate	Borough of Lincoln Park	Present
Jasmin Azcona, Alternate	Township of Bloomingdale	Absent
William Egan, Alternate	Township of Jefferson	Absent
Karen Fornaro	Borough of Chatham	Present
Stephen Williams, Alternate	Borough of Chatham	Absent
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover	Absent
Andrew Fiore	Township of Harding	Absent
Craig Ambrosio	Borough of Kinnelon	Absent

James Freda, Alternate	Borough of Kinnelon	Absent
James Burnett	Borough of Madison	Absent
Sandra Emmerich, Alternate	Borough of Madison	Absent
Katie Yanke	Borough of Montville	Absent
Ralph Blakeslee	Borough of Netcong	Absent
Gabby Evangelista	Borough of Wharton	Present
Joseph Kovalcik, Alternate	Borough of Wharton	Absent
Samuel Yodice	Borough of Woodland Park	Absent
Sandra Olivola	Borough of Woodland Park	Absent
Claudia Quinn	Mount Olive	Absent
Andrew Tatarenko, Alternate	Mount Olive	Absent
Mitchell Stern	Mountain Lakes	Absent
Shawn Bennett, Alternate	Mountain Lakes	Absent
Joe Sabatini	Township of Byram	Absent
Ashleigh Frueholz, Alternate	Township of Byram	Absent
Victoria Dobrusin	Township of Dover	Present
Adam Cruz, Alternate	Township of Dover	Absent
Julie McIver	Township of Pequannock	Absent
Adam Brewer, Alternate	Township of Pequannock	Present
John Shepherd	Township of Roxbury	Absent
Lisa Spring, Alternate	Township of Roxbury	Absent
James Zepp	Township of Sparta	Present
Michele Lantau, Alternate	Township of Sparta	Absent
Tina Kraus	Township of Vernon	Present
Michael Restel	Township of Wantage	Present
Nancy VanHorn, Alternate	Township of Wantage	Absent
Michele Dale	Township of West Milford	Present
Cathy Shanahan, Alternate	Township of West Milford	Absent

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services	<b>Brandon Lodics Emily Koval Caitlin Perkins</b>
Program Manager	Vozza Agency	<b>David Vozza Randi Gerber</b>
Attorney	Dorsey & Semrau	<b>Fred Semrau</b>
Claims Administrator	Aetna	<b>Absent</b>
Dental Administrator	Delta Dental	<b>Laura Ebarle</b>
Prescription Administrator	Express Scripts	<b>Charles Yuk</b>
Treasurer	Michael Soccio	<b>Present</b>
Auditor	Holman & Frenia	<b>Absent</b>
Actuary	John Vataha	<b>Absent</b>
Wellness Coordinator	Cavitas	<b>Absent</b>

**PRESENT FUND PROFESSIONALS:**

Renee Gear, World Insurance  
Frank Covelli, World Insurance  
Joe Rude, EBCSG  
Diana DiRezze, Randolph Township  
Meghan Lynch, Boonton  
Staci Grant, Henry O Baker  
Candy Bronco, Skylands  
Ernie Reigstad, Skylands  
Lindsay Klein, Acrisure

**FLAG SALUTE**

**MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CALLED TO ORDER BY ACTING CHAIR**

**APPROVAL OF OPEN MINUTES:**

**MOTION TO APPROVE OPEN MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2025 AND FEBRUARY 11, 2025:**

<b>MOTION:</b>	Commissioner Millikin
<b>SECOND:</b>	Commissioner B. Russo
<b>VOTE:</b>	All in favor

**MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CLAIMS COMMITTEE-** No Report, Chair Russo was absent.

**CONTRACTS COMMITTEE-** Commissioner Mayers reported that a meeting was held regarding the Program Manager RFP to be reissued, and an executive session will be held later in this meeting for Program Manager interviews.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE-** In Chair Russo absence, Executive Director noted the meeting minutes is in the agenda and PowerPoint presentation that was reviewed during the finance committee meeting was sent out as an attachment to the agenda.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE-** No Report

**WELLNESS COMMITTEE-** Commissioner Sondermeyer noted the meeting minutes are in the agenda for review.

**PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**FAST TRACK FINANCIAL REPORT** – Mr. Lodics reviewed the financial fast track through December 2024, noting there will be some amendments made as the surplus position will improve due two components. First, the Fund Actuary noted the Incurred But Not Report (IBNR) the Fund is carrying is more than necessary, so some will be transferred into surplus. Second, there was an implementation error with Express Scripts for any new groups that joined the Fund in 2024, which caused the Fund to be underpaid. Mr. Lodics noted if there are any questions, they can be directed at Express Scripts, but they are committed to reimbursing all the Funds and sponsoring an external audit of MRHIF.

**QPA RFP** – Mr. Lodics recommended a motion for PERMA to go out for QPA services for 2025 due to the cost of the QPA being under the threshold and will seek competitive quotes.

**MOTION TO ALLOW PERMA TO GO OUT FOR QUOTES FOR QPA SERVICES:**

<b>MOTION:</b>	Commissioner Sondermeyer
<b>SECOND:</b>	Commissioner Mayers
<b>VOTE:</b>	All in favor

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** – Mr. Lodics noted this was discussed during the committee reports.

**FUND DOCUMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE** – Mr. Lodics listed the committee members for the Fund Document Review Committee, with the addition of Fund Commissioner Karen Fornaro from Borough of Chatham. The reason for this committee is to review the plan documents, as a lot of the Fund documents and Bylaws have not been reviewed since 2006. The review will be focused

on accuracy and opportunities for improvement. In response to Commissioner Heck, the members were notified they are part of this committee.

**Hi FUND MARKETING UPDATE** – Mr. Lodics mentioned the information included in the agenda helps outline the relationship between MRHIF and the marketing vendor, Princeton Public Affairs and the Hi Fund brand.

**MEDICAL TPA AND PBM RFPS** – Mr. Lodics commented that PERMA continues to work with the Fund Attorney and third-party councils to get the Cooperative RFP approved. At this time, it is recommended that each Fund provide approval to release the Medical Third-Party RFP and Pharmacy Benefit Manager RFP at the local level, if the authority of the Co-Op RFP is not approved in a timely manner for January 1, 2025.

**COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM TPA RFP – LEGAL BILLING** – Mr. Lodics noted the Fund Attorney of SNJHIF, the lead agent of the Cooperative Pricing System, will be submitting bills for his contributions and efforts in the Third-Party Administrator RFPs that require Comptroller Review and Approval. These invoiced amounts will be included on the bills list moving forward.

**VOUCHERS** – Mr. Lodics noted that both vouchers and backup exclusively through DocuSign as of April.

**GASB 75** – Mr. Lodics stated any requests for GASB 75 should be directed to Jordyn Robinson ([jrobinson@permainc.com](mailto:jrobinson@permainc.com)) and that reports can take up to six weeks to turn around during the busy season.

**BROKER RESOLUTIONS** – Mr. Lodics reminded that resolutions of appointments brokers must be submitted to the Fund. Broker fees will be dependent upon these submissions.

**2025 MEL, MR HIF & NJCE JIF Educational Seminar** – Mr. Lodics announced the 15th annual seminar will be conducted virtually on 2 half-day sessions: Friday April 25th and Friday May 2nd and there is a flyer attached to the agenda with more information.

#### **PRORAM MANAGER REPORT:**

The Program Manager reviewed the following report:

#### **TOWN VISITS/MEETINGS/PLAN CHANGE REQUESTS**

Our office frequently works with towns for review of plan options for union negotiations. If anyone is entering union negotiations and needs assistance, please feel free to contact our office directly to discuss.

#### **ENROLLMENT, ELIGIBILITY, BILLING**

Our office has been receiving calls regarding billing errors for both our groups and our direct bill retirees for the 2025 plan year. We have been working with the enrollment team to have errors corrected.

*The notification below was distributed to all of our groups upon our notification to our office:*

Our office has been notified that the enrollment team mailboxes are being reassigned to better service our groups. All inquiries/ concerns will be acknowledged within 24 hours of receipt. We have been advised that the new dedicated resource model *will result in improved response times and increased client satisfaction*. The existing operational mailboxes (Broker Services and Enrollment) are no longer being monitored. If you have any outstanding issues that have not yet been resolved, please reach out to one of the new contacts for review and response.

*Please start using the new contacts listed below immediately for any / all enrollment / eligibility questions or issues.*

Alex Koch	<a href="mailto:akoch@connerstrong.com">akoch@connerstrong.com</a>	856-552-4778
Victoria Friday	<a href="mailto:vfriiday@connerstrong.com">vfriiday@connerstrong.com</a>	856-552-4748

The funds policy is to limit retro corrections, including terminations to 60 days. Please check your monthly invoice for accuracy. If you find a discrepancy, please report it immediately to the NJHIF enrollment Team at [northernnjenrollments@permainc.com](mailto:northernnjenrollments@permainc.com)

*Use of the WEX (formerly Benefits Express) enrollment system is mandatory.*

**Online Enrollment System Training Schedule – 2025**

PERMA offers virtual training and a refresher class of the online enrollment system the third Wednesday of each month. The session provides an overview of the Fund’s enrollment system and shows HR users how to perform tasks in the system. To gain access to the Fund’s enrollment system, each HR user must complete a system access form.

Email: [HIFTraining@permainc.com](mailto:HIFTraining@permainc.com)

In the subject line of the email, please include *Training - Fund Name and Client Name*. Please be sure to add the date of the training you would like to attend to your email so an invite can be sent.

**NEW PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

The Borough of Chatham, Twp of Vernon and the Borough of Kinnelon added two new plans each to plans offered to their employee population, a 2035 plan (which does not mirror the SHBP) and a HDHP 3000. All plans were successfully implemented for a January 1, 2025, effective date.

The Twp of Jefferson completed union negotiations with White Collar and added a new dental

plan increasing the annual maximum to \$3000 and adding coverage for implants. The new plan was effective on 3/1/2025.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Dave Vozza met with the finance committee and presented a detailed report of Year End findings and recommendations. The power point covered year over year claims results ending in plan year 2024. A copy of the power point presentation is being distributed with the agenda and will be reviewed in more detail at the meeting.

## **EXPRESS - SCRIPTS**

### **GLP1 Coverage:**

As we previously advised and discussed at the January meeting, we are pleased to report that all issues for GLP1 coverage that was provided in towns where coverage should not have been provided have now been resolved. As you are aware, our office identified an issue with Express-Scripts allowing coverage for GLP1 for towns that specifically excluded weight loss drugs. All affected towns and members were notified of coverage options and provided with a grace period of coverage. Express-Scripts has agreed to reimburse the fund for all costs associated with the error, including through the grace period.

## ***REMINDER - ENCIRCLE RX PROGRAM - GLP-1 DRUGS Update***

**Members must qualify and adhere to the program in order to continue to receive their GLP1 medications.**

As presented in our May report, the Encircle / Omada Program establishes specific criteria that must be met for the approval of a GLP-1 drug being prescribed for weight loss such as BMI and enrollment in a lifestyle modification program.

### **Effective January 1, 2025,**

Any new members or members who already have an approved PA for one of the GLP-1 weight loss medications will need to engage in the mandatory guidelines of the program.

- Members will receive a welcome kit from Omada free of charge. The kit includes a digital scale and information on downloading the mobile app and/or using the web browser. The scale is Pre-programmed to the member's ESI account prior to delivery. The scale will record each weigh-in by the member automatically – the member does not need to upload the data into their ESI account.

### **Members must weigh-in a minimum of 4 times per month.**

- Members must engage with an assigned online Omada coach via a mobile application or web browser a minimum of 4 times per month.
- If members do not adhere to the mandatory requirements of the program following the month in which they are noncompliant, they will not be able to refill their weight loss medication. Members will be required to complete the missing weigh-ins and / or



online coaching engagement(s) in order to refill their medication.

## **ESI Formulary List - Changes for 7/1/2025**

The 2025 Formulary Guide and Exclusion List of changes effective 7/1/2025 was sent as an attachment with the agenda for your reference.

## **WELLNESS**

**2025 Committee meeting:** The Wellness Committee met via conference call on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to discuss new members joining in 2026, the minutes are in Appendix III. The Wellness committee is recommending the new member application process be started and they be included in the projected wellness budget for 2026. The wellness committee will meet again to review the overall program components and potential changes needed to continue the program with growth. Ultimately, the finance committee will need to review the proposed budget before we can determine the details of the 2026 program for members.

**2025 Vendor Scheduling:** The 2025 program is underway for the 14 participating municipalities. I have had several conference calls with the vendors and members to get started on the scheduling for this year.

**Dental Action Report** - The Wellness program added a dental component in 2020, and we are pleased to report that our 2024 Dental Action report shows we have 1,648 healthy members and our “no visit” continues to decrease. We will be providing more handouts on Dental Hygiene and the importance of preventative screenings in hopes of engaging some of the 683 members who have not seen a dentist for two years to schedule a routine exam. Item of concern - 175 of our new enrollees have no visits which has increased YOY.

**Education** Valley Health Systems aired five webinars with over 80 people watching so far. See below survey results and comments.

**New member interest** -We have had a preliminary request from Kinnelon for membership in 2026. The committee requires a letter of intent to join and resolution with an estimated number of participants. Any new members must submit this information prior to 7/1/2025 for 1/1/2026 membership.

**Newsletter**- The EBIX newsletter and seminar links were sent to all participating towns. We encourage non- participating members to take advantage of the wellness resources included in your HIF membership.

In response to Commissioner Heck, Ms. Vozza confirmed that part of the Wellness Committee discussion was a potential get an increase of municipalities level programs as the vendors are increasing their prices. Ms. Vozza noted that the next step would be to meet with the Finance Committee to provide more information on the current monies' status and how we can continue to improve the wellness portion of the Fund.

**TREASURER:** Mr. Soccio reviewed the February and March 2025 bills list, and the dividend for Kinnelon Borough. He noted the summary of cash transactions report for all Fund years combined, certification and reconciliation of claims and payments, and the allocation of the cash.

**ATTORNEY:** Mr. Semrau briefly discussed that a special meeting will be required in regards to the Program Manager contract within the next couple weeks. Commissioner Heck requested that Chair Russo should be in attendance to make that discussion. Mr. Lodics noted that Ms. Perkins will reach out to the Executive Committee for dates to ensure there is a quorum.

**AETNA:** Mr. Lodics reviewed the Aetna report in the agenda on behalf of Mr. Silverstein’s absence. Mr. Vozza commented that it is his understanding that the contract negotiation with Atlantic Health System was resolved.

**EXPRESS SCRIPTS:** Mr. Yuk reviewed the monthly utilization tracking report for the month of January, nothing there was a 13% change plan cost PMPM but there was an increase in members within the Fund. He noted the top cost drivers are Diabetes and Inflammatory Conditions. Mr. Yuk stated out of the top three drugs, two of them are for Weight Loss. Mr. Yuk verbally provided an update on the Omada program, highlighting that 45 members were rejected and 52% of members are engaged in Omada. Those members who are not engaged will receive notification from Express Scripts. Commissioner Heck requested more information on how to avoid the discounts not being provided appropriately and what steps Express Scripts are taking to ensure this happens moving forward. Mr. Yuk agreed he will bring back this information at the next meeting.

**DELTA DENTAL:** Ms. Ebarle reviewed the report in the agenda, highlighting that the preventative claims continue to be consistent over the past three years.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Resolution 25-15: Medical & PBM Approval to Release RFP
- Resolution 25-16: February, March 2025 and Dividend Bills List

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

- |                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>MOTION:</b> | Commissioner Mayer    |
| <b>SECOND:</b> | Commissioner B. Russo |
| <b>VOTE:</b>   | All in Favor          |

Mr. Lodics thanked the Fund Commissioners who stepped up today as alternatives, as there were some action items that needed to be approved at this meeting. Additionally, he recognized the Fund Attorney and Contracts Committee for their assistance in the Program Manager RFP process.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

<b>MOTION:</b>	Commissioner Mayers
<b>SECOND:</b>	Commissioner Sondermeyer
<b>VOTE:</b>	All in Favor

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 2:00pm**

**NEXT MEETING: May 22, 2025, 9:30 am**  
**RANDOLPH MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

---

Caitlin Perkins  
For

**Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, Secretary**

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**  
**OPEN MINUTES**  
**April 7, 2025**  
**ZOOM – 11:00 AM**

Meeting of Fund Commissioners called to order by Thomas S. Russo Jr., Chair. Open Public Meetings notice read into record.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL**

<b>2025 Executive Committee</b>		<b>Attendance</b>
Thomas S. Russo Jr., Chair	Town of Newton	Present
Carrine Piccolo- Kaufer, Secretary	Township of Hardyston	Present
Barbara Russo, Executive Committee	Township of Berkeley Heights	Present
Tammy Smith, Executive Committee	Knowlton BOE	Absent
Greg Poff, Executive Committee	Randolph Township	Present
Scott Heck, Executive Committee	Borough of Ringwood	Present
<b>Executive Committee Alternates:</b>		
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park	Present
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale	Present
Deb Millikin	Township of Jefferson	Present
<b>Fund Commissioners &amp; Alternate</b>		
Jennifer Dodd, Alternate	Town of Newton	Absent
Dana Vitz, Alternate	Township of Hardyston	Absent
Deborah Bonanno, Alternate	Randolph Township	Absent
Perry Mayers, Alternate	Borough of Lincoln Park	Present
Jasmin Azcona, Alternate	Township of Bloomingdale	Absent
William Egan, Alternate	Township of Jefferson	Absent
Karen Fornaro	Borough of Chatham	Absent
Stephen Williams, Alternate	Borough of Chatham	Present
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover	Present
Andrew Fiore	Township of Harding	Absent
Craig Ambrosio	Borough of Kinnelon	Present
James Freda, Alternate	Borough of Kinnelon	Absent
James Burnett	Borough of Madison	Absent
Sandra Emmerich, Alternate	Borough of Madison	Absent
Katie Yanke	Borough of Montville	Absent
Ralph Blakeslee	Borough of Netcong	Absent

Gabby Evangelista	Borough of Wharton	Present
Joseph Kovalcik, Alternate	Borough of Wharton	Present
Samuel Yodice	Borough of Woodland Park	Present
Sandra Olivola	Borough of Woodland Park	Absent
Claudia Quinn	Mount Olive	Absent
Andrew Tatarenko, Alternate	Mount Olive	Present
Mitchell Stern	Mountain Lakes	Absent
Shawn Bennett, Alternate	Mountain Lakes	Absent
Joe Sabatini	Township of Byram	Absent
Ashleigh Frueholz, Alternate	Township of Byram	Absent
Victoria Dobrusin	Township of Dover	Absent
Adam Cruz, Alternate	Township of Dover	Absent
Julie McIver	Township of Pequannock	Absent
Adam Brewer, Alternate	Township of Pequannock	Present
John Shepherd	Township of Roxbury	Absent
Lisa Spring, Alternate	Township of Roxbury	Absent
James Zepp	Township of Sparta	Present
Michele Lantau, Alternate	Township of Sparta	Absent
Tina Kraus	Township of Vernon	Present
Michael Restel	Township of Wantage	Present
Nancy VanHorn, Alternate	Township of Wantage	Absent
Michele Dale	Township of West Milford	Present
Cathy Shanahan, Alternate	Township of West Milford	Absent

#### APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services	<b>Brandon Lodics</b> <b>Emily Koval</b> <b>Caitlin Perkins</b>
Program Manager	Vozza Agency	<b>David Vozza</b> <b>Randi Gerber</b>
Attorney	Dorsey & Semrau	<b>Fred Semrau</b> <b>Ed Pasternak</b> <b>Tammy Probst-Smith</b>

#### PRESENT FUND PROFESSIONALS:

Renee Gear, World Insurance  
 Lisa Sabato, World Insurance  
 Frank Covelli, World Insurance  
 Staci Grant, Henry O Baker

Joe Rude, Employee Benefits Consulting  
 Ernie Reigstad, Skylands  
 Brittany Vozza, The Vozza Agency  
 Mike Soccio, Fund Treasurer

Jordyn Robinson, PERMA  
Sean Canning, Fund QPA  
John Lajewski, Conner Strong & Buckelew

Laura Andersen  
Jason Silverstein, Aetna  
Tammy Brown, Conner Strong & Buckelew

Chair Russo opened the meeting, thanking everyone for joining.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** Mr. Semrau reported that Mr. Canning, the Fund QPA, and himself worked in conjunction with the Contracts Committee at the direction of the Fund. The Board of Fund Commissioners and Executive Board put together a request for proposal under competitive contracting, in a fair and open manner. The responses were received on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in which the Contracts Committee requested interviews and scoring be conducted by the Board of Fund Commissioners at the NJHIF March meeting.

Mr. Canning certified the scoring and process, with an overall recommendation of the highest scoring vendor, Conner Strong and Buckelew. Mr. Semrau ended his report by thanking the Contracts Committee for working diligently to come up with updated specifications that reflect the work of the Fund and their diligence in going through the process.

Mr. Canning commented that the process is clearly outlined in the New Jersey Local Public Law and administrative code and confirms that this process was adhered to in accordance to both the law and administrative code.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 25-18, AWARDING THE PROGRAM  
MANAGER CONTRACT TO CONNER STRONG AND BUCKELEW:**

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Kovalchik

**SECOND:**

Commissioner Heck

Before the Fund Commissioners vote, Chair Russo provided time for engaging in discussion via the chat feature or raising the hand feature in Zoom. Chair Russo provided instructions on how to raise the hand in Zoom for those who may not be familiar with the application.

In response to Commissioner Sondermeyer, Mr. Semrau stated that a quorum is not required under competitive contracting, but the interviews did take place during an NJHIF meeting, where a quorum was present. He noted there was no formal action taken at the Executive Session during the meeting but provided an opportunity for everyone to complete the score sheets at the same time. Additionally, Mr. Semrau mentioned the Fund QPA has the individual score sheets on a matrix that can be shared, if requested.

Chair Russo confirmed with the Fund Attorney that the full body of Fund Commissioners of votes, of which Mr. Semrau confirmed the motion in the January re-organization meeting approves this process. Ms. Perkins clarified that if a Fund Commissioner is present, the Alternate Commissioner for that town will not participate in the vote, ensuring that each town only has one vote.

## VOTE OF PRESENT FUND COMISSIONERS:

2025 Executive Committee		Vote
Thomas S. Russo, Chair	Town of Newton	Yes
Carrine Piccolo- Kaufer, Secretary	Township of Hardyston	Yes
Barbara Russo, Executive Committee	Township of Berkeley Heights	No
Greg Poff, Executive Committee	Randolph Township	Yes
Scott Heck, Executive Committee	Borough of Ringwood	Yes
<b>Executive Committee Alternates:</b>		
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park	Yes
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale	No
Deb Millikin	Township of Jefferson	No
<b>Fund Commissioners &amp; Alternate</b>		
Stephen Williams, Alternate	Borough of Chatham	Yes
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover	**
Craig Ambrosio	Borough of Kinnelon	Yes
Gabby Evangelista	Borough of Wharton	Yes
Samuel Yodice	Borough of Woodland Park	Yes
Andrew Tatarenko, Alternate	Mount Olive	Yes
Adam Brewer, Alternate	Township of Pequannock	Yes
James Zepp	Township of Sparta	Yes
Tina Kraus	Township of Vernon	Yes
Michael Restel	Township of Wantage	No
Michele Dale	Township of West Milford	No*

\*Commissioner Dale exited the meeting at 12:00pm but reconnected to the Zoom call at 12:12pm to cast her vote.

\*\*Inadvertently missed on the roll call vote, although a vote for or against would not change the results

Chair Russo stated the motion carries with the vote of 13 affirmative and 5 negative.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

### MOTION TO ADJOURN:

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Brewer

**SECOND:**

Commissioner Kaufer

**VOTE:**

All in Favor

Chair Russo thanked everyone for taking time out of their busy schedules to join this meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 12:20 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: May 22, 2025, 9:30 am**

**RANDOLPH MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

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Caitlin Perkins

For

**Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, Secretary**



# APPENDIX II

NJHIF Operations Committee  
April 16, 2025, at 1:00PM via Teams

*Scott Heck, Committee Chair*

*Barbara Russo, Executive Committee Member*

*Carrine Kaufer, Executive Committee Member*

Fred Semaru, Fund Attorney

Tammy Brown, HIF Business Leader

John Lajewski, HIF Lead Consultant

Brandon Lodics, Executive Director

Emily Koval, Associate Executive Director

Caitlin Perkins, Account Manager

To begin the meeting, the Fund Attorney requested a breakout room be created absent the other Fund Professionals. The Fund Attorney addressed the Operations Committee and excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

Commissioner Heck welcomed the Conner Strong & Buckelew team to the Fund and emphasized the importance of maintaining transparent communication with the Operations Committee during the transition. He introduced the members of the Operations Committee. Mr. Lodics encouraged anyone with follow-up questions from the meeting to direct them to the Executive Director team, which will coordinate with Ms. Brown and Mr. Lajewski.

Ms. Brown thanked the committee for the appointment and shared an overview of Conner Strong & Buckelew's extensive experience. She outlined the team's transition approach, beginning with an introduction to the core consulting team, which provides extended support outside of the team, noting subject matter experts that will be able to provide extra support for current marketing trends such as pharmacy, compliance, population health, and data analytics. Mr. Lajewski commented that the depth of the bench and services that are provided is a data driven environment which supports our recommendations and decisions. Ms. Brown reviewed the Program Manager team and their responsibilities, including the Implementation team, the HIF Underwriter and Actuary, and the Consulting team.

Mr. Lajewski elaborated on the consultants' responsibilities, which include attending the Fund meetings and the Program Manager reporting, subcommittee meetings, and supporting wellness initiatives. He announced Ms. Appleby has begun working on the transition of the wellness program and will include a population health perspective to continue to enhance the

wellness program. In response to Mr. Lodics, Mr. Lajewski confirmed Ms. Appleby and himself would be the triage source for the wellness program.

Ms. Brown then reviewed the onboarding plan, noting several transition tasks are already underway. These tasks are designed to help Conner Strong gain a deep understanding of the Fund's operations and identify areas where they can provide value. She thanked the Vozza Agency for their cooperation in sharing historical information, which has supported a smooth transition.

Ms. Brown asked the committee to review the information and provide any feedback on priority areas they would like the team to address first. She proposed a follow-up meeting after the contract start date to continue the conversation based on feedback. Additionally, Mr. Lodics noted that Commissioner Kaufer is the Chair of the wellness committee and Mr. Lajewski noted he will reach out later to schedule a separate meeting to discuss the program in further detail.

Commissioner Heck raised questions regarding where the Fund-related information is stored, including the hosting location of the website and data storage infrastructure. He requested the Executive Director's team provide weekly summary updates to the Operations Committee through the transition period. In response to Commissioner Heck, Mr. Lodics noted that any entity retains the option to select a different broker if they choose to go out to market, which could result in rate changes. Commissioner Kaufer added that this change may affect municipalities that have already finalized their budget for the year, adjustments can be made for next year's budget planning.

### **Subsequent Operation Committee Updates:**

Following the meeting, Conner Strong & Buckelew developed a project plan with key deliverables, milestones and action items. The document was developed to keep the Operations Committee apprised of progress of the transition on a weekly basis. Email updates were distributed from the Executive Director's office on behalf of the Conner Strong & Buckelew teams on the following dates: 4/24/25, 5/2/2025, and 5/9/2025. The most recent distributed project plan is attached to these minutes. It was distributed to the Committee directly from Conner Strong.

Also, the Executive Director advised on 5/2/2025 that they received confirmation from all HIF Vendors that the prior Program Manager's access and reporting distribution had been discontinued and that the new website under Conner Strong management was operational and the previous was shut down. The new website is: <https://northjerseyhif.com>



**Program Manager Onboarding Plan**

Task		Co-Dependencies	Timeline	Status
1.	Plan Documents for each member entity (with dates)	Vozza Agency, Conner Strong	TBD	<p>Once the plan documents are received, CSB will assess the scope based on a Compliance review and update accordingly. Plan documents are to be reissued every 5 years to ensure appropriate updates as required.</p> <p>4/24/2025 – Four plan documents have been sent to the CSB secure location by the Vozza Agency. We continue to stress the emphasis on transmitting all the current Fund member plan documents as soon as possible as this is a priority project to address after the May 1<sup>st</sup> transition.</p> <p>5/2/2025 – Inventorying plan documents provided by the Vozza Agency who confirmed all plan documents for all NJMEBF members will be transferred to the secure CSB portal by the week of May 5<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>5/9/2025 – Beginning process of inventorying all plan documents in secure site provided by Vozza Agency.</p> <p><b>5/16/2025 – Plan documents inventory complete. Pending questions on documents from CSB to Vozza Agency.</b></p>



**Program Manager Onboarding Plan**

Task		Co-Dependencies	Timeline	Status
2.	Financial data reporting for the last 5 years (i.e., the claims data in the data warehouse) with a corresponding data dictionary to translate fields, etc.	CSB	5/1/2025	<p>Our internal HIF Data Analytics team has the Medical and Prescription claims data. Our team will need to reach out to Delta Dental as CSB does not currently receive dental claims.</p> <p>4/24/2025 – Outreach has been made to Delta Dental, and we anticipate the Fund specific data being available by the May 1<sup>st</sup> transition date.</p> <p><b>5/2/2025 – Access to all vendor Fund data (current &amp; historical) Complete.</b></p>
3.	PM reports provided to the Fund for the past 24 months	CSB	5/1/2025	<p>The CSB team will access the PM reports from the Fund Meeting minutes.</p> <p>4/24/2025 - Data secured by CSB and under review.</p> <p><b>5/2/2025 – Deliverable completed.</b></p>



## Program Manager Onboarding Plan

	Task	Co-Dependencies	Timeline	Status
5.	Open correspondence or logs that identify work in progress and not yet complete	Vozza Agency	TBD	<p>The Vozza team committed to providing updates on open correspondence as requested. Their intent is to complete as much as possible before 5/1.</p> <p>4/24/2025 – Vozza Agency confirmed they anticipate all open member claims issues prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> will be resolved. Any new claims issues received prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> by the Vozza Agency will be forwarded to the CSB client service team for resolution.</p> <p>5/2/2025 – Confirmed with Vozza Agency all open correspondence closed.</p> <p><b>5/9/2025 – Review and inventory of correspondence received from Vozza Agency since last reported.</b></p>
6.	Open correspondence between the Program Manager and any entity involving the Fund where we will need to assume responsibility for the matter	Vozza Agency	Ongoing	<p>The Vozza team committed to providing updates on outstanding items.</p> <p>4/24/2025 – Vozza Agency has provided list of initiatives and work in progress. CSB reviewing to assure continuity.</p> <p>5/2/2025 – Confirmed with Vozza Agency all open correspondence closed.</p> <p><b>5/16/2016 – Six open service issues transtioned and being addressed by CSB.</b></p>



**Program Manager Onboarding Plan**

Task		Co-Dependencies	Timeline	Status
7.	Most recent Strategy deck	Vozza Agency	5/1/2025	<p>The Vozza agency has indicated that any plans and initiatives have been reviewed in public meetings and incorporated in the minutes.</p> <p>4/24/2025 - Data secured by CSB and under review.</p> <p><b>5/2/2025 - Data secured by CSB and under review.</b></p>
8.	Wellness Initiative goals and results	CSB/Melissa Appleby	TBD	<p>The Fund has an active Wellness program that the Vozza agency has provided to 13 towns with 510 participants committed to joining next year. Melissa Appleby on our team will work directly with the Vozza Agency to be brought up to speed.</p> <p>4/24/2025 – CSB has received information on the current Fund wellness program in addition to assuming responsibility for content in upcoming materials to be disseminated to wellness participants.</p> <p><b>5/2/2025 – CSB inventorying all wellness information and preparing action plan post 5/1.</b></p>



## Program Manager Onboarding Plan

Task		Co-Dependencies	Timeline	Status
9.	Communications	CSB	5/1/2025	<p>4/24/2025 - The following communications are scheduled to be released April 28th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome letter to Fund Executive Committee with service model contact information.</li><li>• Welcome letter to Fund member risk managers with service model contact information.</li></ul> <p><b>5/2/2025 – All communications complete.</b></p>
10.	Litigation	Vozza Agency	5/1/2025	<p>4/24/2025 – Vozza Agency has acknowledged several litigations matters they are involved in with the Fund attorney and that a list of these matters is forthcoming.</p> <p>5/2/2025 – Reviewed current class action lawsuits Fund is engaged in with Vozza Agency. Meeting with Fund attorney being scheduled to review all open Fund litigation.</p> <p><b>5/16/2025 – Meeting with Fund attorney to review all open cases on 5/15/2025.</b></p>
11.	Fund Website	CSB	5/1/2024	<p>4/1/2024 - CSB has initiated the development of the Fund website.</p> <p><b>5/2/2025 - NJMEBF website effective 5/1/2025</b></p>



# APPENDIX III

Wellness Committee Meeting  
TEAMS Meeting  
April 22, 2025, at 10:00am

*Michael Sondermeyer*  
*Greg Poff*  
Brittany Vozza  
Caitlin Perkins  
Melissa Appleby

Agenda – Discussion on increase in minimum pricing with Lifeline Screening

Ms. Vozza explained that Lifeline screening has increased the minimum onsite screening fee from \$8,500 to \$10,000. The screening price is locked in from the contract at \$259.00 pp. Mt Olive is supposed to get the screening in 2025. Their participation agreement noted that the screening was subject to change based on participation. They are a new to the wellness program this year, so we do not have a gauge on completion rates. They have 51 participants signed up so she believes they will make a minimum of 39 participants but with the change she wanted to get the committee's approval before allowing them to schedule. Mr. Poff suggested allowing other wellness Towns an opportunity to fill slots if there are extra slots during the scheduled time. The committee feels with the 51 participants they should reach a minimum. Ms. Vozza confirmed there was no effect on the budget with this change.

# **APPENDIX IV**

March 25, 2025

TO: Executive Director PERMA, Health Insurance Funds  
TRIAD1828 CENTRE | 2 Cooper Street | Camden, NJ 08102

Summary: In early February, upon PERMA's review of 2024 pharmacy trend reports for MRHIF, reductions in the Rebate PMPM were identified for several funds (-32.4% for Southern NJ and -9% for SHIF from 2023 to 2024). This prompted ESI to conduct an internal investigation, which resulted in finding a rebate setup issue for capturing the new groups implemented in 2024. The new groups implemented in 2024, were not included in 2024 rebate invoicing. ESI discovered that the rebating effective dates for these new groups, created in 2024, defaulted to January 2025. ESI confirmed that 2025 rebate invoicing with manufacturers and current set-up is correct.

Upon uncovering this setup issue, ESI immediately took action and identified all the incorrect rebate set-ups, corrected them, and is currently processing the claims for rebates via the ESI Rebate team.

An extensive internal review was conducted to reassess all MRHIF current and 2024 rebate setups involving all associated functional areas: ESI Account team, Pricing, and Rebates team. Moving forward, this extensive review has been added to their process for new group implementation to ensure all pricing is setup correctly and all rebates are correctly invoiced. Plans to conduct an independent rebate audit for all groups will be coordinated with MRHIF.

ESI will have the pricing correction for all impacted groups completed by April 11<sup>th</sup>, as well as payment amounts. Rebate payments for all impacted funds is targeted to be sent out by end of month April (latest end of May), via each fund's current payment method (check or EFT). Note that annual rebate guarantee reconciliations for Level Care clients are paid out 150 days after end of each contract year which is end of May.

Estimates for impacted funds based on 2024 guarantees are noted below. Note that these estimates are based on available claims and have not been processed within the ESI rebate and pharma systems, and are subject to change.



CARRIER ID	Fund	Additional 2024 rebates
8967	Skyland	\$457K
CJHA	Central Jersey	\$108K
JUTA	BMED	\$120K
K6FA	Coastal	\$105K
K8CA	SHIF	\$2.8M
NJMA	North Jersey	\$418K
NJRA	Southern NJ	\$3.1M

Best Regards,

Charles Yuk, PharmD, MBA  
Director, Account Management – Public Sector Division  
Express Scripts by Evernorth

# APPENDIX V

**BRANDON LODICS**

Executive Director PERMA, Health Insurance Funds

**P** 856-552-4628 **F** 856-291-9615

**E** [blodics@permainc.com](mailto:blodics@permainc.com)

**National Headquarters**

TRIAD1828 CENTRE

2 Cooper Street | Camden, NJ 08102

Mailing Address

PO Box 99106 | Camden, NJ 08101

[permainc.com](http://permainc.com)

**Sent via Email**

David J. Voza

President

Voza Agency

One Depot Square

77 Market Street

Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656

April 28, 2025

RE: Transition of Program Manager – North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund

Dear Dave:

Thank you for your cooperation in the transition of the Program Manager contract to Conner Strong & Buckelew. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring a seamless transition of service and operations to our mutual clients.

Conner Strong & Buckelew will provide a dedicated management and service team to the Fund and its members and receiving critical information will be essential for a successful transition. Please have all requests received by the Voza team forwarded to [jlajewski@connerstrong.com](mailto:jlajewski@connerstrong.com) or transmitted through a secure portal.

The list below encompasses the information that should be immediately transitioned, and additional needs may be requested as deemed necessary.

- 1) Schedule A for all members for all lines of coverage (see attached format)
- 2) Copies of current Plan Documents and all Amendments for each member entity in Word
  - a. An outline of the current process for plan document/amendment creation and list of sources used to update language for best practices
  - b. List of documents/amendments not completed as of May 1, 2025
  - c. List of any documents/amendments not accepted and signed by the Fund member
  - d. List of any exceptions to standard Fund language for any member or plan
- 3) All claim data from all third-party administrators and pharmacy benefit managers for all lines of coverage not currently received for the last five (5) years in the appropriate format.

# PERMA

- a. Copy of Data Dictionary and/or explanation to any custom manipulation of data fields, inclusion and exclusion.
- 4) Copies of reporting for fully-insured lines of coverage under the Fund umbrella for the last 5 years
- 5) For the last 24 months, copies of addendums, reports, presentations did not include the Fund agendas; but distributed at committee meetings or as handouts.
- 6) Copies of any special projects, tasks or initiatives completed by the Program Manager for the Fund for the past 24 months.
- 7) Copies of any correspondence to Brokers, members and Fund professionals including third-party administrators, fully-insured carriers, pharmacy benefit managers and wellness vendors for the past 24 months
- 8) Copies of all service issue logs (open and closed) for the past 24 months to include the following: name of entity, name of participant, name of contact for issue (participant, Broker, member entity) date closed or ETA for closure, description of issue and explanation of closure. For the open issue log identify work in progress.
- 9) For the last 24 months, copies of all claim appeals submitted to the IRO and the final determination.
- 10) Copies of any correspondence for the past 24 months related to union negotiations, plan changes and potential arbitrations/complaints
- 11) Copies of any open correspondence between the Program Manager and any entity involving the Fund where we will need to assume responsibility for the matter.
- 12) Status of the current Wellness initiatives and existing process for program review including participation rates for the past two years by entity.
- 13) Provide a listing of all contacts for each entity as of May 1 including day-to-day Human Resource personnel, benefit contacts, union leadership if available.
- 14) Provide a list for any current exceptions for any member and/or participant to the entity's plan document or the Fund's standard policy (I.e. PBA members exempt from Medicare B enrollment, administration exception for claim payments)
- 15) Provide list of any plans you deem "grandfathered" from the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act and the supporting written opinion.

Also, we have been advised by Conner Strong & Buckelew, that they will be transitioning the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund to a new platform. As of May 1, 2025, please have the current website removed.



# PERMA

We understand that this is a sizeable request and will prioritize upon your immediate review of the request and collaboration with the Executive Director and the priority of the Fund. Any expenses from third parties for receipt of information that the Vozza Agency fails to provide in a timely manner will be the responsibility of the Vozza Agency.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation in ensuring a smooth transition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BL' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Brandon Lodics, NJMEBF Executive Director

Cc: Fred Semaru, NJMEBF Fund Attorney  
Scott Heck, NJMEBF Operations Committee Chair  
Barbara Russo, NJMEBF Operations Committee Member  
Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, NJMEBF Operations Committee Member  
John Lajewski, Conner Strong & Buckelew  
Tammy Brown, Conner Strong & Buckelew