

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND



**JANUARY 25, 2024
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, (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: JANUARY 25, 2024
RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP HALL
9:30 AM**

SINE DIE MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE READ

ROLL CALL OF 2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2023 Executive Committee	
Scott Heck, Chair	Borough of Ringwood
Tom Russo, Secretary	Town of Newton
Barbara Russo	Township of Berkeley Heights
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park
Tammy Smith	Knowlton BOE
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover
Carinne Piccolo- Kaufer	Township of Hardyston
Executive Committee Alternates:	
Cathy Shanahan	Township of West Milford
Adam Brewer	Township of Pequannock
Greg Poff	Borough of Randolph*

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *October 26, 2023 & December 29, 2023 Open Appendix I*

CORRESPONDENCE - None

ADJOURN SINE DIE MEETING - Chairs vacated - Chair asks Executive Director to run meeting

MEETING OF FUND COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL OF 2024 FUND COMMISSIONERS

2024 Executive Committee	
Scott Heck, Chair	Borough of Ringwood
Tom Russo, Secretary	Town of Newton
Barbara Russo	Township of Berkeley Heights
Tammy Smith	Knowlton BOE
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover
Carinne Piccolo- Kaufer	Township of Hardyston

Greg Poff	Borough of Randolph*
Executive Committee Alternates:	
Adam Brewer	Township of Pequannock
Cathy Shanahan	Township of West Milford
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park

Fund Commissioners	
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale
Michael Restel	Township of Wantage
Grant Rome	Township of Sparta
Diana Francisco	Andover Township*
Ralph Blakeslee	Borough of Netcong*
Keith Kazmark	Borough of Woodland Park
Rey Julve	Township of Dover
Andrew Fiore	Borough of Harding
Katie Yanke	Borough of Montville*
Joe Sabatini	Township of Byram*
James Burnett	Borough of Madison*
Open	Township of Prospect Park*
John Shepherd	Township of Roxbury*
Debra Millikin	Township of Jefferson*
Open	Kinnelon
Gabby Evangelista	Borough of Wharton
	Borough of Chatham
	Township of Vernon
Fund Commissioner Alternates	
Ashleigh Frueholz	Township of Byram*
Jennifer Dodd	Town of Newton
Lisa Spring	Township of Roxbury*
Joseph Kovalcik	Borough of Wharton
Perry Mayers	Borough of Lincoln Park
Jasmin Azcona	Township of Bloomingdale
Michele Lantau	Township of Sparta
Open	Borough of Netcong*
Victoria Dobrusin	Township of Dover
Sandra Emmerich	Borough of Madison*
Nancy VanHorn	Township of Wantage
Deborah Bonanno	Mountain Lakes
William Egan	Township of Jefferson
Dana Vitz	Township of Hardyston

	Town of Boonton
	Madison Housing Authority

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & ALTERNATES

Executive Director asks for nominations. Attorney swears in Officers and Executive Committee.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL OF 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CORRESPONDENCE – None

REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PERMA)

Monthly Report Page 6

PROGRAM MANAGER– (Vozza Agency)

Monthly Report Page 13

TREASURER – (Michael Soccio)

November 2023, December 2023 and January 2024 Voucher List..... Page 23

Confirmation of Claims Paid/Certification of Transfers

Ratification of Treasurers Report

ATTORNEY – (Fred Semrau)

Monthly Report

WELLNESS COORIDNATOR – (Marianne Eskilson)

Monthly Report Page 37

NETWORK & THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR – (Aetna – Jason Silverstein)

Monthly Report Page 39

PRESCRIPTION ADMINISTRATOR – (Express Scripts-Charles Yuk)

Monthly ReportPage 44

DENTAL ADMINISTRATOR – (Delta Dental)

Monthly Report

CONSENT AGENDA Page 47

Resolution 24-1: Appointment of Professionals and ContractorsPage 48

Resolution 24-2: Compensating ProducersPage 52

Resolution 24-3: Designation of Service of Process.....Page 54

Resolution 24-4: Designation of Secretary as Custodian of RecordsPage 55

Resolution 24-5: Designation of Official Newspaper.....Page 56

Resolution 24-6: Designation of Regular Meeting Times and Place	Page 57
Resolution 24-7: Designation of Bank Depositories & CMP	Page 58
Resolution 24-8: Designation of Authorized Signatories	Page 62
Resolution 24-9: Approval of Risk Management Plan	Page 63
Resolution 24-10: Appointment of MRHIF Fund Commissioners.....	Page 71
Resolution 23-11: Authorizing Treasurer to Process Contracted Payments and Expenses.....	Page 72
Resolution 24-12: MRHIF I&T Agreement	Page 73
Resolution 24-13: Approval of 11/23, 12/23 and 1/24 Bills List.....	Page 75
Resolution 24-14: Bank Earnings Base Rate.....	Page 76

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

RESOLUTION - EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIED PURPOSES PERSONNEL - CLAIMS - LITIGATION

MEETING ADJOURNED

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
JANUARY 25, 2024**

FINANCE

PRO FORMA REPORTS

- **Fast Track Financial Report** – as of November 30, 2023 (page 8)

OPERATIONS

2024 REORGANIZATION

The Reorganization resolutions are included in the consent agenda for approval. Please note the following:

- #24-6 – The meeting schedule has been amended to follow the January, March, May, July, etc schedule this year as it had a few years ago. A meeting notice will be sent to all after reorganization.
- #24-8 – Current Signatories – if no election changes, these signatories will remain.
- #24-9 – RMP – Please note the Specific retention change.
- #24-10 – We are recommending the MRHIF Commissioners remain from last year.

MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

The MRHIF executive committee met on December 13, 2023.

The 2024 budget and assessments were adopted without amendment. The assessment included in the NJHIF 2024 budget was unchanged.

The incumbent Benefits Administration system was approved for another one-year contract. A full review of the services promised in the RFP will occur next fall and the Fund will determine whether to extend another year or go back out to RFP.

The MRHIF will be welcoming a new member at its Reorg meeting in February. The Metro Fund, which is currently a sub group of the BMED will become an independent member of the MRHIF in 2024.

Resolution 24-12 will renew the NJHIF's membership in the MRHIF through the standard Indemnity and Trust agreement.

INDEMNITY AND TRUST AGREEMENTS

PERMA sent Indemnity and Trust Agreements and Resolutions to be adopted by the governing bodies to renew membership with the Fund for an additional 3 years. Below is a list of members who have

renewing agreements due by December 31, 2023, and older. Please reach out to jdelorenzo@permainc.com for a blank form to be executed. The list was last updated on January 16, 2024.

MEMBER	I&T END DATE
TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM	12/31/2023
BOROUGH OF WHARTON	12/31/2023

2023 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Below are the standing Committees:

<u>Contracts</u> Tammy Smith , Chair Silvio Esposito Dina Valente-Stoel	<u>Operations</u> Adam Brewer, Chair Carrie Piccolo - Kaufer Scott Heck	<u>Finance Committee</u> Scott Heck, Chair Adam Brewer Tom Russo Mike Soccio
<u>Wellness Committee</u> Carrie Piccolo - Kaufer, Chair Greg Poff Michael Sondermeyer	<u>Claims Committee</u> Tom Russo, Chair Perry Mayers Barbara Russo Silvio Esposito	

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND							
FINANCIAL FAST TRACK REPORT							
				AS OF	November 30, 2023		
				THIS	YTD	PRIOR	FUND BALANCE
				MONTH	CHANGE	YEAR END	
1.	UNDERWRITING INCOME			4,711,165	46,525,006	788,537,107	835,062,113
2.	CLAIM EXPENSES						
		Paid Claims	4,075,980	37,987,780	656,480,325	694,468,106	
		IBNR	(107,634)	544,563	2,857,945	3,402,508	
		Less Specific Excess	(82,539)	(704,204)	(20,853,873)	(21,558,076)	
		Less Aggregate Excess	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL CLAIMS			3,885,806	37,828,140	638,484,398	676,312,538
3.	EXPENSES						
		MA & HMO Premiums	271,440	2,635,062	23,211,850	25,846,912	
		Excess Premiums	326,375	3,296,058	31,388,303	34,684,361	
		Administrative	268,219	2,529,532	53,003,855	55,533,387	
	TOTAL EXPENSES			866,035	8,460,652	107,604,008	116,064,660
4.	UNDERWRITING PROFIT/(LOSS) (1-2-3)			(40,676)	236,213	42,448,701	42,684,915
5.	INVESTMENT INCOME			62,934	564,618	4,877,619	5,442,237
6.	DIVIDEND INCOME			0	282,649	5,929,601	6,212,250
7.	STATUTORY PROFIT/(LOSS) (4+5+6)			22,258	1,083,480	53,255,922	54,339,402
8.	DIVIDEND			0	0	40,510,183	40,510,183
9.	Transferred Surplus			0	0	0	0
STATUTORY SURPLUS (7-8+9)				22,258	1,083,480	12,745,739	13,829,219
SURPLUS (DEFICITS) BY FUND YEAR							
Closed		Surplus	(20,783)	483,282	11,259,935	11,743,218	
		Cash	(14,124)	(596,493)	14,526,795	13,930,303	
2022		Surplus	165,378	157,890	1,485,803	1,643,692	
		Cash	10,361	878,136	698,529	1,576,665	
2023		Surplus	(122,337)	442,308		442,308	
		Cash	685,494	1,642,147		1,642,147	
TOTAL SURPLUS (DEFICITS)				22,258	1,083,480	12,745,738	13,829,218
TOTAL CASH				681,731	1,923,790	15,225,324	17,149,115
CLAIM ANALYSIS BY FUND YEAR							
TOTAL CLOSED YEAR CLAIMS				69,705	255,093	606,242,143	606,497,235
FUND YEAR 2022							
		Paid Claims	2,779	3,617,768	29,590,988	33,208,755	
		IBNR	(78,594)	(2,840,797)	2,857,945	17,148	
		Less Specific Excess	(82,539)	(713,460)	(206,676)	(920,136)	
		Less Aggregate Excess	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL FY 2022 CLAIMS				(158,354)	63,511	32,242,257	32,305,767
FUND YEAR 2023							
		Paid Claims	4,003,496	34,124,176		34,124,176	
		IBNR	(29,040)	3,385,360		3,385,360	
		Less Specific Excess	0	0		0	
		Less Aggregate Excess	0	0		0	
TOTAL FY 2023 CLAIMS				3,974,456	37,509,536		37,509,536
COMBINED TOTAL CLAIMS				3,885,806	37,828,140	638,484,399	676,312,539
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													
RATIOS													
		FY2023											
INDICES	2022	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Cash Position	15,225,324	\$ 14,433,593	\$ 15,575,818	\$ 15,539,414	\$ 17,032,185	\$ 17,340,361	\$ 16,646,714	\$ 18,267,684	\$ 15,096,688	\$ 16,708,870	\$ 16,467,384	\$ 17,149,115	
IBNR	2,857,945	\$ 2,916,741	\$ 2,675,111	\$ 2,741,413	\$ 2,878,108	\$ 3,005,113	\$ 3,118,240	\$ 3,191,437	\$ 3,267,962	\$ 3,423,972	\$ 3,510,142	\$ 3,402,508	
Assets	19,094,495	\$ 19,118,296	\$ 18,894,098	\$ 19,381,323	\$ 19,646,647	\$ 19,402,893	\$ 19,689,784	\$ 19,896,787	\$ 18,936,453	\$ 19,319,513	\$ 19,716,074	\$ 19,568,649	
Liabilities	6,348,758	\$ 6,232,119	\$ 5,449,234	\$ 5,457,966	\$ 5,538,377	\$ 5,632,683	\$ 5,682,818	\$ 5,676,496	\$ 5,727,002	\$ 5,856,418	\$ 5,909,115	\$ 5,739,432	
Surplus	12,745,737	\$ 12,886,177	\$ 13,444,864	\$ 13,923,357	\$ 14,108,270	\$ 13,770,210	\$ 14,006,966	\$ 14,220,290	\$ 13,209,451	\$ 13,463,095	\$ 13,806,959	\$ 13,829,217	
Claims Paid -- Month	939,338	\$ 2,890,944	\$ 2,883,392	\$ 2,982,906	\$ 3,196,437	\$ 3,659,320	\$ 3,247,036	\$ 3,183,687	\$ 4,522,064	\$ 3,857,038	\$ 3,488,977	\$ 4,075,980	
Claims Budget -- Month	2,795,937	\$ 3,106,718	\$ 3,112,136	\$ 3,129,419	\$ 3,293,429	\$ 3,424,269	\$ 3,422,574	\$ 3,440,954	\$ 3,529,394	\$ 3,763,115	\$ 3,816,780	\$ 3,813,992	
Claims Paid -- YTD	33,390,346	\$ 2,890,944	\$ 5,774,336	\$ 8,757,242	\$ 11,953,678	\$ 15,612,998	\$ 18,860,034	\$ 22,043,721	\$ 26,565,786	\$ 30,422,824	\$ 33,911,801	\$ 37,987,780	
Claims Budget -- YTD	33,709,481	\$ 3,106,718	\$ 6,218,854	\$ 9,348,273	\$ 12,641,702	\$ 16,065,971	\$ 19,488,545	\$ 22,934,490	\$ 26,460,717	\$ 30,343,137	\$ 34,152,472	\$ 37,920,602	
RATIOS													
Cash Position to Claims Paid	16.21	4.99	5.40	5.21	5.33	4.74	5.13	5.74	3.34	4.33	4.72	4.21	
Claims Paid to Claims Budget -- Month	0.34	0.93	0.93	0.95	0.97	1.07	0.95	0.93	1.28	1.02	0.91	1.07	
Claims Paid to Claims Budget -- YTD	0.99	0.93	0.93	0.94	0.95	0.97	0.97	0.96	1.00	1	0.99	1	
Cash Position to IBNR	5.33	4.95	5.82	5.67	5.92	5.77	5.34	5.72	4.62	4.88	4.69	5.04	
Assets to Liabilities	3.01	3.07	3.47	3.55	3.55	3.44	3.46	3.51	3.31	3.3	3.34	3.41	
Surplus as Months of Claims	4.56	4.15	4.32	4.45	4.28	4.02	4.09	4.13	3.74	3.58	3.62	3.63	
IBNR to Claims Budget -- Month	1.02	0.94	0.86	0.88	0.87	0.88	0.91	0.93	0.93	0.91	0.92	0.89	

North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2023

BY FUND YEAR

	NJMEB 2023	NJMEB 2022	CLOSED YEAR	FUND BALANCE
ASSETS				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1,642,147	1,576,665	13,930,303	17,149,115
Assessments Receivable (Prepaid)	1,215,932	(3,147)	-	1,212,785
Interest Receivable	1,594	1,782	13,962	17,338
Specific Excess Receivable	-	82,539	-	82,539
Aggregate Excess Receivable	-	-	-	-
Dividend Receivable	-	-	-	-
Prepaid Admin Fees	1,040	-	-	1,040
Other Assets	1,102,831	3,000	-	1,105,831
Total Assets	3,963,544	1,660,840	13,944,264	19,568,649
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	-	0	-	0
IBNR Reserve	3,385,360	17,148	-	3,402,508
A4 Retiree Surcharge	8,169	-	-	8,169
Dividends Payable	-	-	69,786	69,786
Retained Dividends	-	-	2,131,262	2,131,262
Accrued/Other Liabilities	127,707	(0)	-	127,707
Total Liabilities	3,521,236	17,148	2,201,048	5,739,432
EQUITY				
Surplus / (Deficit)	442,308	1,643,692	11,743,217	13,829,217
Total Equity	442,308	1,643,692	11,743,217	13,829,217
Total Liabilities & Equity	3,963,544	1,660,840	13,944,264	19,568,649
BALANCE	(0)	-	-	-

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						
2023 Budget Report						
AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2023						
				Cumulative	\$ Variance	% Variance
	Cumulative	Annual	Latest Filed	Expensed		
LINE ITEMS						
Medical Claims Aetna	33,645,737	37,038,022	30,452,833			
Medical Claims Aetna BOEs	497,289	544,146	596,684			
Subtotal Medical Claims	34,143,026	37,582,168	31,049,517	33,878,888	264,138	1%
Prescription Claims	3,156,590	3,491,475	2,882,428			
Less Rebates	(946,977)	(1,047,443)	(864,728)			
Subtotal Rx Claims	2,209,613	2,444,032	2,017,700	2,137,971	71,642	3%
Dental Claims	1,567,963	1,712,779	1,706,182	1,481,126	86,837	6%
Subtotal	37,920,602	41,738,979	34,773,399	37,497,986	422,616	1%
Medicare Advantage - United	519,642	566,231	620,112	Included in Medicare Advantage-Aetna below		
Medicare Advantage - Aetna	2,115,482	2,343,558	1,602,509	2,635,062	61	0%
Reinsurance						
Specific	3,295,028	3,616,487	3,254,218	3,296,058	(1,030)	0%
Wellness	215,417	235,000	235,000	157,775	57,642	27%
Total Loss Fund	44,066,171	48,500,255	40,485,238	43,586,881	479,289	1%
Expenses						
Legal	18,333	20,000	20,000	29,249	(10,916)	-60%
Treasurer	21,059	22,974	22,974	21,060	(0)	0%
Administrator	407,561	447,534	403,683	407,784	(223)	0%
Program Manager -	534,129	587,232	509,764	488,375	45,754	9%
Program Manager - Brokerage	626,807	735,938	562,835	687,934	(61,128)	-10%
TPA - Aetna	725,836	799,697	660,153	726,192	(356)	0%
Wellness Coordinator	22,917	25,000	25,000	22,917	(1)	0%
Dental TPA	67,868	74,137	72,673	67,909	(41)	0%
Actuary	11,444	12,485	12,485	11,440	4	0%
Auditor	16,007	17,462	17,462	16,006	1	0%
Subtotal Expenses	2,451,960	2,742,458	2,307,029	2,478,865	(26,905)	-1%
Miscellaneous and Special Services						
Misc/Cont(incl. A4 surcharge)	21,175	23,100	23,100	18,868	2,307	11%
Claims and Service Audits	36,667	40,000	40,000	36,666	-	0%
Affordable Care Act Taxes	10,500	11,569	9,314	12,172	(1,672)	-16%
Subtotal Misc/Sp Svcs	68,342	74,669	72,414	67,706	636	1%
Total Expenses	2,520,302	2,817,127	2,379,444	2,546,571	(26,269.92)	-1%
Total Budget	46,586,472	51,317,382	42,864,681	46,133,452	453,019	1%

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

Year: 2024

<u>Monthly Items</u>	<u>Filing Status</u>
Budget	Filed
Assessments	Filed
Actuarial Certification	Filed
Reinsurance Policies	Filed
Fund Commissioners	To Be Filed pending reorg
Fund Officers	To Be Filed pending reorg
Renewal Resolutions	To Be Filed pending reorg
Indemnity and Trust	To Be Filed pending reorg
New Members	N/A
Withdrawals	N/A
Risk Management Plan and By Laws	To Be Filed pending reorg
Cash Management Plan	To Be Filed pending reorg
Unaudited Financials	9/30/2023 Filed
Annual Audit	12/31/2022 filed
Budget Changes	N/A
Transfers	N/A
Additional Assessments	N/A
Professional Changes	N/A
Officer Changes	N/A
RMP Changes	To Be Filed pending reorg
Bylaw Amendments	N/A
Contracts	To Be Filed pending reorg
Benefit Changes	N/A



Office of the Program Manager
North Jersey Municipal Benefits Fund



An Insurance and Risk Management Corporation

77 Market Street • P.O. Box 100 • Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656 • Phone (201) 573-1000 • Fax (201)573-1004

TO: Executive Committee
North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund

FROM: The Vozza Agency- Office of the Program Manager

DATE: January 25, 2024

RE: Program Manager's Report

- Town Visits/Meetings/Plan Change Requests
- Enrollment, Eligibility and Billing
- New Medical Member Submissions
- HDHP 2024 Limits
- Medicare Part B Premium 2024
- Aetna / UHC Medicare Advantage
- Covid Tests
- Express-Scripts
- Wellness Program

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

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 northernjnenrollments@permainc.com

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

Online Enrollment System Training Schedule – 2024

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.

Wednesday - February 21st 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - March 20th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - April 17th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - May 15th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - June 19th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - July 17th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - August 21st 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - September 18th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - October 16th 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday - November 20th 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Please email Austin Flinn at PERMA to join a training session.

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.

Email: aflinn@permainc.com

NEW MEDICAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Update: The Twp of Mount Olive has accepted membership with the NJHIF with an effective date of 3/1/2024. Our office is currently working on implementation for this group. We have received the executed Indemnity & Trust Agreement along with the Resolution to join.

The Twp of Mount Olive is currently receiving their benefits through the SHBP. They have expressed an interest in becoming a member of the NJMEBF. We will be duplicating the plans from the SHBP for which there is current enrollment.

- ◆ **Size – 148 Actives; 77 Retirees (43 Medicare Advantage)**
- ◆ **Current type of plan(s) – NJ Direct 10; Direct 15; Direct 1525; Direct 2019 and Direct 2030 with integrated RX**
- ◆ **Medicare eligible Retirees – Medicare Advantage Plan**
- ◆ **Commitment to JIF philosophy and Active Participation in the Fund**
- ◆ **Vernon Age/Sex Factor – 1.0994**
- ◆ **Fund Average Age/Sex Factor – 1.2676**
- ◆ **Relativity – 0.8673**

HIGH DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLANS 2024

All High Deductible Health Plan limits have been increased to be compliant with IRS regulations for the minimum deductible and maximum out of pocket requirements for 2024.

	2024	2023	
HDHP Minimum Deductible	Individual: \$1,600	Individual: \$1,500	Individual +\$100
	Family: \$3,200	Family: \$3,000	Family: +\$200
HDHP Max Out-of-Pocket	Individual: \$8,050	Individual: \$7,500	Individual: \$+550
	Family: \$16,100	Family: \$15,000	Family: \$+1,100

MEDICARE PART B PREMIUMS

Medicare Part B Increase 2024:

Medicare Part B serves as medical insurance and covers doctor and other provider services, outpatient care, home health care, durable medical equipment and some preventive services. Standard monthly premiums are slated to rise by \$9.80 per month to \$174.70 in 2024, from \$164.90 per month this year.

AETNA

Gag Clause Prohibition Compliance Attestation Update. Our office has filed the Gag Clause Prohibition Compliance Attestation for the NJHIF.

Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA), group health plans and health insurance issuers are prohibited from entering into agreements with service providers restricting certain information that the plan may make available to another party. Plan sponsors and issuers must make a Gag Clause Prohibition Compliance Attestation (GCPCA) annually to confirm their compliance with the prohibition.

What is a gag clause?

For purposes of the GCPCA, a “gag clause” is a contractual provision that directly or indirectly restricts a plan or issuer from sharing specific cost and quality information with another party. For example, a provision in an agreement between a third-party administrator (TPA) and a self-funded group health plan that allows access to provider-specific cost and quality of care information only at the TPA’s discretion would constitute a gag clause. However, the guidance clarifies that healthcare providers, networks, TPAs, and other service providers may place reasonable restrictions on public disclosure of information.

The first “Gag Clause” attestation must be submitted before December 31st, 2023, and then annually thereafter.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

Medicare Advantage Address Changes

When making or updating address changes in the WEX system, you will also need to send the address change to the enrollment team to make the changes in the Medicare Advantage enrollment system. The Medicare Advantage plans are on a different system from WEX and therefore also need to be updated with the change.

Aetna Medicare Advantage

Reminder – Our office has received a few calls where Medicare Advantage members have been advised that their coverage is no longer effective. All Medicare Advantage members should have received new member ID cards for the 2024 plan year. Please see information below.

Effective January 1, 2024, Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO plans will transition to a new CMS contract. As a result of the transition, retirees will receive new ID cards prior to January 1, 2024. **Aetna ID numbers and the service center information currently listed on retiree ID cards will not change.** The only change to the ID card will be the contract number, located under the ID number. Any retirees moving to the Medicare Advantage plan for December 2023 will receive the new member ID card. Aetna notification letters will be mailed to affected members the first week of December.

UHC Medicare Advantage

Effective January 1, 2024, there is an ID card change that will affect our UHC Medicare Advantage members. This is only an administrative change and will have no impact on the coverage of services provided to the members. This change will allow UHC MA the ability to deploy future pharmacy initiatives to improve the health of our members and overall member pharmacy experience.

Beginning in November or December, members will be receiving new member ID cards along with plan information as part of the standard renewal process. Members should discard their old ID card and begin using

the new card as of January 1, 2024.

Communication is being sent to pharmacies, notifying them of the change. If an old ID card is used, the member may be told the ID card presented does not show them as having coverage and the pharmacy should ask the member to present their new ID card. Members should contact customer service at the telephone number provided on the back of their member ID cards if they have any issues filling their prescription. Customer Service is aware of the changes and can assist the member with obtaining a replacement ID card, if necessary or speaking with the pharmacy to ensure the member has access to care.

FREE COVID TEST KITS

As of November 20, 2023, residential households in the U.S. are eligible for another order of 4 free at-home tests from USPS.com. Here's what you need to know about your order:

Each order includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests ([COVIDTests.gov](https://www.covid.gov/tests) has more details about at-home tests, including extended shelf life and updated expiration dates).

If an order has not been placed for your address since the program reopened on September 25, 2023, you can place 2 orders now. Go to <https://www.covid.gov/tests> to place your order.

Orders will ship free.

EXPRESS – SCRIPTS

Reminder: Express-Scripts no longer issues member ID cards. Members need to register on Express-Scripts.com and print a card. Members can also download a digital card to their phone, or they can call Express-Scripts at 1-800-711-5672 and request that a card be mailed to them.

Please see attached flyer for additional information.

SaveOnSP

SaveOnSP, your copay assistance benefit administrator, continues to monitor available specialty manufacturer copay assistance programs to optimize your savings opportunity. Drug list modifications for January 1, 2024, ensure alignment with our research and are based on the inclusion of the copay assistance benefit in your pharmacy benefit plan design. These changes have minimal plan participant impact. The 2024 drug list is attached separately. Please see further details below:

Additions:

- Highlighted in **green** on associated drug list
- *Communication plan:* SaveOnSP will send a letter to impacted plan participants and place follow-up outbound calls.

Removals:

- Highlighted in **red** on associated drug list

- *Communication plan:* SaveOnSP will send a letter to impacted plan participants and place a follow-up outbound call.

WELLNESS

We are excited to start our tenth year of the Funds wellness program for Hardyston, Randolph, and Sparta. Diverse wellness programs are one of the ways employers can offer a personalized and flexible health plan for the changing and multi-generational workforce. Wellness is among one of the top 7 benefit trends of 2024.

2024 Program Outline

Hardyston, Randolph, and Sparta will be completing an on-site metabolism testing and coaching session with a registered dietician – Vernon Nutrition Center

Bloomingtondale, Lincoln Park, Wantage and Wharton will be completing a sleep screening consultation and sleep hygiene coaching session with Atlantic Health Systems.

Pequannock and Ringwood will be completing a Fitness evaluation with Fitness Knocking

Dover will be completing a comprehensive screening with Lifeline screening.

The Funds wellness program has resources and seminars available for your employees even if you are not in our program. Please contact me with any questions or to start receiving these communications. Brittany Vozza bvozza@vozza.com

We will continue to focus on keeping employees healthy and providing education to help guide them so they can be educated health care consumers, maximize their benefits, and understand the importance of routine care.

Congratulations to our current members for excellent 2023 results!

91% of participating members have completed the program.

2023 Program Results				
Member	Eligible	Enrolled	Completed	%
Bloomingtondale	55	38	35	93
Hanover	103	38	38	100
Hardyston	50	19	18	95
Jefferson	103	28	23	83
Lincoln Park	69	38	30	80
Pequannock	94	16	16	100
Randolph	132	62	60	97
Ringwood	60	33	27	82
Sparta	100	81	74	89
Wantage	23	18	18	100
Wharton	44	18	13	72
Totals	833	389	352	91

APPEALS:

Appeal Number	Appeal Reason	Appeal Results	Date Completed
Appeal 2023-09-01	OON Reimbursement	Reprocessed under Network Deficiency	January 3, 2024

Emerging Therapeutics: DrugWatch

November 2023

Pipeline Drugs: A Closer Look

In each issue of DrugWatch, the Emerging Therapeutics Department highlights one traditional and one specialty pipeline product with near-term approval expected.

Traditional Pipeline			
Drug:	roflumilast foam, 0.3%	Action Date:	Dec. 16, 2023
Manufacturer:	Arcutis	Route:	Topical
Indication:	Seborrheic dermatitis		
Comments: Roflumilast foam, 0.3%, from Arcutis is a topical formulation of the potent and selective phosphodiesterase 4 (PDE4) inhibitor for the treatment of seborrheic dermatitis in adult and pediatric patients 9 years of age and older. Seborrheic dermatitis is a common skin condition estimated to affect up to 5% of the global population and more than 10 million people in the U.S. alone. It is characterized by scaly patches, inflamed skin, and stubborn dandruff, and usually affects oily areas of the body such as the face, sides of the nose, eyebrows, ears, eyelids, and chest. The FDA is currently reviewing the product and is expected to complete its review by Dec. 16, 2023.			
Specialty Pipeline			
Drug:	exagamglogene autotemcel	Action Date:	Dec. 8, 2023
Manufacturer:	Vertex/CRISPR	Route:	IV
Indication:	Sickle cell disease		
Comments: Vertex and CRISPR Therapeutics' exagamglogene autotemcel is fetal hemoglobin gene-edited therapy for the treatment of patients who have severe sickle cell disease (SCD) or transfusion dependent β -Thalassemia (TDT). It is administered as a one-time intravenous (IV) infusion. SCD is an inherited blood disorder in which hemoglobin form into stiff rod shapes within the red blood cells. It causes pain, swelling, fatigue, anemia, yellowing of skin and eyes, infections and artery blockage. TDT is a genetic disorder that leads to immature red blood cells. It can cause anemia and enlarged liver or spleen. Approval for SCD is expected by Dec. 8, 2023. Approval for TDT is expected by Mar. 30, 2024. Bluebird bio's lovotibeglogene autotemcel is another gene therapy that is expected to be approved for severe SCD by Dec. 20.			

© Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
 This document is proprietary and confidential to Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc.
 Unauthorized use and distribution are prohibited.

FDA Action Dates

Products in the table below are currently under FDA review with near-term FDA action dates.

Drug	Manufacturer	Use	S	Action Date
Lumisight (pegulicanine)	Lumicell	Breast Cancer Imaging		Nov-21
reproxalap	Aldeyra	Dry Eyes		Nov-23
nirogacestat	Springworks	Desmoid Tumors	S	Nov-27
Udenyca OnBody Injector (pegfilgrastim-cbqv)	Coherus Biosciences	Neutropenia	S	Dec-05
Prolia Biosimilar	Sandoz	Osteoporosis	S	Dec-06
Exa-cel (exagamglogene autotemcel)	CRISPR/Vertex	Sickle Cell Disease	S	Dec-08
Cresemba (isavuconazonium)*	Astellas	Aspergillosis		Dec-09
Herceptin biosimilar	Henlius/Accorda	Breast Cancer	S	Dec-14
Trogarzo (ibalizumab-uiyk)*	Thera / Biogen	HIV	S	Mid Dec.
Xhance (fluticasone)*	OptiNose	Chronic Sinusitis		Dec-15
roflumilast foam, 0.3%	Arcutis	Seborrheic Dermatitis		Dec-16
Abecma (idecabtagene vicleucel)*	BMS	Multiple Myeloma	S	Dec-16
Lovo-cel (lovoibeglogene autotemcel)	Bluebird Bio	Sickle Cell Disease	S	Dec-20
Tarpeyo (budesonide)*	Calliditas	IgA Nephropathy		Dec-20
givinostat	Italfarmaco	DMD	S	Dec-21
eplontersen	Ionis/AstraZeneca	ATTR	S	Dec-22
iDose-Travoprost implant	Glaukos	Glaucoma		Dec-22
iptacopan	Novartis	PNH	S	Dec. 2023
Wilate (FVIII/VWF)*	Octapharma	Von Willebrand Disease	S	Dec-23
Xtandi (enzalutamide)*	Pfizer/Astellas	Prostate Cancer	S	Dec-23
Lumakras (sotorasib)*	Amgen	NSCLC	S	Dec-24
gefapixant	Merck	Chronic Cough		Dec-27
Zegalogue (dasiglucagon)*	Zealand/NovoNordisk	CHI		Dec-30
brimonidine tartrate 0.35%	Visiox/Sun	Glaucoma		4Q2023
clobetasol 0.05% nanoemulsion	Laboratorios Salvat	Ocular Inflammation		4Q2023
penpulimab	Akeso/Sino	NC	S	2H-2023
iloprost	Civi Biopharma	Frostbite		4Q 2023
Eohilia (budesonide oral susp.)	Takeda/Shire	Eosinophilic Esophagitis		4Q2023
Rapibloc (landiolol)	Eagle	Atrial Fibrillation		4Q2023

ATTR=Transthyretin Amyloidosis; CHI=Congenital Hyperinsulinism;
 DMD= Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; NC=Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma;
 NSCLC= Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer; PNH= Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria

Emerging Therapeutics: DrugWatch

November 2023



FDA Updates

Recent New Drug Approvals

Date	Drug	Manufacturer	Use	S
Oct. 20	Zituvio (sitagliptin)	Zydus	Diabetes, Type 2	
Oct. 20	Calbtree (benzoyl peroxide/ clindamycin/adapalene)	Bausch & Lomb	Acne	
Oct. 20	Penbraya (pentavalent meningococcal vaccine)	Pfizer	Meningococcal Vaccine	
Oct. 20	Zymfentra (infliximab, subcutaneous)	Celltrion	IBD	S
Oct. 26	Omvoh (mirikizumab)	Lilly	Ulcerative Colitis	S
Oct. 26	Agamree (vamorolone)	Santhera	DMD	S
Oct. 27	Loqtorzi (toripalimab-tpzi)	Coherus	Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma	S
Oct. 31	Wezlana (ustekinumab-auub)	Amgen	Psoriasis	S
Nov. 08	Zepbound (tirzepatide)	Lilly	Obesity	
Nov. 08	Fruzaqla (fruquintinib)	Takeda	Colorectal Cancer	S
Nov. 09	Adzyna (ADAMTS13, recomb.-krhn)	Takeda	TTP	S
Nov. 09	Ixchiq (chikungunya vaccine)	Valnerva	Chikungunya	
Nov. 16	Ryzneuta (efbemalenograstim alfa)	Evive Biotech	Neutropenia	S
Nov. 16	Truqap (capivasertib)	AstraZeneca	Breast Cancer	S
Nov. 16	Defencath (taurodine/heparin/citrate)	CorMedix	Catheter Lock Solution	
Nov. 16	Augtyro (repotrectinib)	BMS	NSCLC	S

"S" = Specialty

IBD=Inflammatory Bowel Disease; DMD=Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy;

TTP= Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura; NSCLC=Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Recent Generic Launches

Date	Drug	Manufacturer	Use	Annual Sales ^A
Oct. 23	Votrient	GlaxoSmithKline	Cancer	\$215
Oct. 30	Mitigare	Hikma	Gout	\$38
Oct. 31	CaroSpir	CMP Pharma	High Blood Pressure/Heart Disease	\$14
Nov. 02	Livalo	Kowa	High Blood Cholesterol	\$337
Nov. 20	Forteo	Lilly	Osteoporosis	\$609

^A = Million

© Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

This document is proprietary and confidential to Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc.

Unauthorized use and distribution are prohibited.

Patent Expirations: 2023

In 2023, an estimated \$24 billion in first-time generics could become available.

The following table includes products losing patent protection in 2023.

Drug	Manufacturer	Use	Patent Expiration	Annual Sales ^A
Amitiza [*]	Sucampo	GI Disorders	Generic	\$94
Trokendi XR [*]	Supernus	Seizures	Generic	\$583
Xyrem (AG) [*]	Jazz	Sleep Disorders	Launched	\$1,406
Cambia [*]	Nautilus	Migraine Headaches	Generic	\$42
Esbriet capsules	Genentech	IPF	Generic	\$867
Dexilant 30mg	Takeda	Heartburn/Ulcer Disease	Generic	\$172
Latuda [*]	Sunovion	Mental/Neuro Disorders	Generic	\$4,322
Aubagio [*]	Sanofi	Multiple Sclerosis	Generic	\$2,010
Naftin 2% gel	Merz	Fungal Infections	Generic	\$14
Iressa	AstraZeneca	Cancer	Generic	\$8
Prezista [*]	Tibotec	HIV	Generic	\$441
Noxafil Inj	Merck	Fungal Infections	Generic	\$34
Fleqsuvy	Azurix	Spasticity	Generic	\$13
Mozobil	Genzyme	Blood Cell Deficiency	Generic	\$187
Symbicort	AstraZeneca	Asthma	Generic	\$3,795
Onglyza [*]	BMS	Diabetes	Generic	\$185
Spiriva Handihaler	BI	COPD	Generic	\$1,264
Balcoltra	Avion	Contraceptive	Generic	\$50
Vyvanse/Chewable	Shire	Attention Disorders	Generic	\$4,082
Alphagan P (0.1%)	Allergan	Glaucoma	Generic	\$251
Onexton Gel [*]	Valeant	Acne	Generic	\$124
Mydayis [*]	Takeda	Attention Disorders	Generic	\$91
Votrient	GlaxoSmithKline	Cancer	Generic	\$234
Livalo [*]	Kowa	High Blood Cholesterol	Generic	\$364
Forteo	Lilly	Osteoporosis	Generic	\$609
Byetta	AstraZeneca	Diabetes	2023/2024	\$135
Folotyn	Allos	Cancer	2023/2024	\$38
Gattex	Shire	GI Disorders	2023/2024	\$191
Neupro	Schwarz Pharma	Parkinson's Disease	2023/2024	\$153
Prolensa	Bausch + Lomb	Eye Inflammation	2023/2024	\$186
Sandostatin LAR	Novartis	Endocrine Disorders	2023/2024	\$1,288
Teflaro [*]	Actavis	Infections	2023/2024	\$163
Thalomid	Celgene	Cancer	2023/2024	\$18

^A Millions (IQVIA sales [2022]); ^{*} = Settlement Agreement; Pending = Generic approved but launch is pending

"Generic" = Generic available; (AG) = Authorized product only

"Expired" = no active patents or exclusivities listed in FDA's Orange Book.

IPF = Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Emerging Therapeutics: DrugWatch

December 2023



Pipeline Drugs: A Closer Look

In each issue of DrugWatch, the Emerging Therapeutics Department highlights one traditional and one specialty pipeline product with near-term approval expected.

Traditional Pipeline	
Drug: scopolamine nasal gel	Action Date: Jan. 26, 2024
Manufacturer: Repurposed/Defender	Route: Intranasal
Indication: Motion Sickness	
Comments: Scopolamine intranasal gel, an anticholinergic drug, is currently under review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the prevention of motion-induced nausea and vomiting in adults. Developed in collaboration with the US Naval Medical Research and NASA, this product aims to enhance the well-being and performance of individuals in demanding and critical environments, such as military personnel and astronauts. The intranasal route offers a convenient route of administration to deliver the drug through the nasal mucosa, allowing for a rapid onset of action. The FDA is actively evaluating the product and is expected to complete its review by Jan. 26, 2024.	
Specialty Pipeline	
Drug: donanemab	Action Date: Q1:2024
Manufacturer: Eli Lilly	Route: IV infusion
Indication: Alzheimer's disease	
Comments: Eli Lilly's donanemab is an anti-amyloid beta antibody for the treatment of early Alzheimer's disease (AD). A clinical study showed that it reduced amyloid plaque in the brain and slowed down the decline of cognitive and functional abilities by 22% to 29%. In the study, 6.1% of patients had symptomatic amyloid-related imaging abnormalities-edema (ARIA-E) or brain swelling. This will be the third anti-amyloid beta antibody approved by the FDA for early AD. Biogen's Aduhelm (aducanumab-avwa) received accelerated approval in June of 2021; it is not currently being marketed. Eisai and Biogen's Leqembi (lecanemab-irmb) received full approval in July 2023. Aduhelm and donanemab are infused every four weeks. Leqembi is infused every two weeks. Full FDA approval of donanemab is expected in early 2024.	

© Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
 This document is proprietary and confidential to Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc.
 Unauthorized use and distribution are prohibited.

FDA Action Dates

Products in the table below are currently under FDA review with near-term FDA action dates.

Drug	Manufacturer	Use	S	Action Date
gefapixant	Merck	Chronic Cough		Dec-27
Zegalogue (dasiglucagon)	Zealand/Novo Nordisk	CHI		Dec-29
Udenyca Onbody (pegfilgrastim-cbqv)	Coherus Biosciences	Neutropenia	S	Dec-31
berdazimer gel	Novan/Ligand	Molluscum Contagiosum		Jan-06
zolbetuximab	Astellas	Gastric Cancer	S	Jan-12
Egrifta (tesamorelin)	Theratechnologies	HIV Lipodystrophy	S	Jan-22
Lumisight (pegulicanine)	Lumicell	Imaging Agent for Breast Cancer		Jan-22
Yutrepia (treprostinil)	Liquidia Technologies	PAH	S	Jan-24
scopolamine nasal gel	Repurposed/Defender	Motion Sickness		Jan-26
atropine 0.01% low dose	Nevakar	Myopia		Jan-31
dihydroergotamine (STS101)	Satsuma	Migraine		Jan. 2024
Dupixent (dupilumab)*	Regeneron/Sanofi	Eosinophilic Esophagitis	S	Jan-31
cefepime/taniborbactam	Venatorx	Urinary Tract Infection		Feb-22
lifileucel	Iovance	Melanoma	S	Feb-24
roluperidone	Minerva	Schizophrenia		Feb-26
Soliris Biosimilar	Amgen/Daiichi Sankyo	PNH	S	Feb-28
clobetasol 0.05% suspension	Formosa /AimMax	Ocular Inflammation		Mar-04
GA Depot 40mg (glatiramer acetate, long-acting)	Mapi Pharma/Viatris	Multiple Sclerosis	S	Mar-08
Xolair (omalizumab)*	Genentech/Novartis	Food Allergies	S	Q1:2024
ansofaxine	Luye Pharma	Depression		2023/2024
brimonidine tartrate 0.35%	VisioX/Sun	Glaucoma		2023/2024
clobetasol 0.05%	Laboratorios Salvat	Ocular Inflammation		2023/2024
clotrimazole (SVT-15652)	Laboratorios Salvat	Fungal Otitis Externa		2023/2024
Eohilia (budesonide oral susp.)	Takeda/Shire	Eosinophilic Esophagitis		2023/2024
iloprost	CIVI Biopharma	Frostbite		2023/2024
Lupifil-P (pegfilgrastim biosimilar)	Lupin	Neutropenia	S	2023-2024
Prolia Biosimilar	Sandoz	Osteoporosis	S	2023/2024
Rapibloc (lisdolol)	Eagle Pharmaceuticals	Atrial Fibrillation		2023/2024
Yesafili (afibercept biosimilar)	Momenta/Biocon	AMD	S	2023/2024

* = New Indication; "S" = Specialty

AMD=Age-Related Macular Degeneration; CHI=Congenital Hyperinsulinism;
 PAH=Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension; PNH= Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria

Emerging Therapeutics: DrugWatch

December 2023

FDA Updates

Recent New Drug Approvals

Date	Drug	Manufacturer	Use	S
Nov. 16	Ryzneuta (efbemaenograstim alfa)	Evive Biotech	Neutropenia	S
Nov. 27	Osgiveo (nirogacestat)	Springworks	Desmoid Tumors	S
Dec. 07	Avzivi (bevacizumab-tbjn)	BioThera/Sandoz	NSCLC	S
Dec. 08	Casgevvy (exagamglogene autotemcel)	CRISPR/Vertex	Sickle Cell Disease	S
Dec. 08	Lyfgenia (lovotibeglogene autotemcel)	Bluebird Bio	Sickle Cell Disease	S
Dec. 14	iDose-Travoprost (travoprost intraocular implant)	Glaukos	Glaucoma	
Dec. 15	Zoryvey foam (roflumilast 0.3% foam)	Arcutis	Seborrheic Dermatitis	
Dec. 17	Alyglo (immune globulin intravenous [human], 10%)	GC Biopharma	Primary Immunodeficiency	S
Dec. 18	Iwifin (eflornithine)	US WorldMeds	Neuroblastoma	S
Dec. 19	Filsuvez (birch triterpenes)	Chiesi/Amryt	Epidermolysis Bullosa	S
Dec. 21	Wainua (eplontersen)	Ionis/AstraZeneca	ATTR	S

*S = Specialty

ATTR=Transthyretin Amyloidosis; NSCLC=Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Recent Generic Launches

Date	Drug	Manufacturer	Use	Annual Sales ^A
Nov. 23	Prolensa	Bausch & Lomb	Glaucoma	\$186
Dec. 07	Condylox	AbbVie	Warts	\$11
Dec. 11	Risperdal Consta	Johnson & Johnson	Antipsychotic	\$334

^A = Million

© Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
This document is proprietary and confidential to Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc.
Unauthorized use and distribution are prohibited.

Patent Expirations: 2023

In 2023, an estimated \$21 billion in first-time generics could become available. The following table includes products losing patent protection in 2023.

Drug	Manufacturer	Use	Patent Expiration	Annual Sales ^A
Amitiza*	Sucampo	GI Disorders	Generic	\$94
Trokendi XR*	Supernus	Seizures	Generic	\$583
Xyrem (AG) *	Jazz	Sleep Disorders	Launched	\$1,406
Cambia*	Nautilus	Migraine Headaches	Generic	\$42
Esbriet capsules	Genentech	IPF	Generic	\$867
Dexilant 30mg	Takeda	Heartburn/Ulcer Disease	Generic	\$172
Latuda*	Sunovion	Mental/Neuro Disorders	Generic	\$4,322
Aubagio*	Sanofi	Multiple Sclerosis	Generic	\$2,010
Naftin 2% gel	Merz	Fungal Infections	Generic	\$14
Iressa	AstraZeneca	Cancer	Generic	\$8
Prezista*	Tibotec	HIV	Generic	\$441
Noxafil Inj	Merck	Fungal Infections	Generic	\$34
Fleqsuvy	Azurity	Spasticity	Generic	\$13
Mozobil	Genzyme	Blood Cell Deficiency	Generic	\$187
Symbicort	AstraZeneca	Asthma	Generic	\$3,795
Onglyza*	BMS	Diabetes	Generic	\$185
Spiriva Handihaler	BI	COPD	Generic	\$1,264
Balcoltra	Avion	Contraceptive	Generic	\$50
Vyvanse/Chewable	Shire	Attention Disorders	Generic	\$4,082
Alphagan P (0.1%)	Allergan	Glaucoma	Generic	\$251
Onexton Gel*	Valeant	Acne	Generic	\$124
Mydayis*	Takeda	Attention Disorders	Generic	\$91
Votrient	GlaxoSmithKline	Cancer	Generic	\$234
Livalo*	Kowa	High Blood Cholesterol	Generic	\$364
Forteo	Lilly	Osteoporosis	Generic	\$609
Prolensa	Bausch & Lomb	Glaucoma	Generic	\$186
Condylox	AbbVie	Warts	Generic	\$11
Risperdal Consta	Janssen	Antipsychotic	Generic	\$334
Folotylin	Allos	Cancer	2023/2024	\$38
Gattex	Shire	GI Disorders	2023/2024	\$191
Neupro	Schwarz Pharma	Parkinson's Disease	2023/2024	\$153
Teflaro*	Actavis	Infections	2023/2024	\$163
Thalomid	Celgene	Cancer	2023/2024	\$18

^A Millions (IQVIA sales [2022]); * = Settlement Agreement; Pending = Generic approved but launch is pending

"Generic" = Generic available; (AG) = Authorized product only

"Expired" = no active patents or exclusivities listed in FDA's Orange Book.

IPF = Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

SUPPLEMENTAL BILLS LIST

NOVEMBER 2023

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal 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 2023

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
002702			
002702	AETNA HEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PREMIUM 11/23	225,690.05
			225,690.05
002703			
002703	UNITED - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PREMIUM 11/23	45,750.00
			45,750.00
002704			
002704	DELTA DENTAL OF NEW JERSEY INC	DENTAL TPA 11/23	6,164.31
			6,164.31
002705			
002705	AETNA	MEDICAL TPA 11/23	75,007.38
			75,007.38
002706			
002706	PERMA	POSTAGE 10/23	37.36
002706	PERMA	ADMIN FEE 11/23	39,914.75
			39,952.11
002707			
002707	MICHAEL J. SOCCIO	TREASURER FEE 11/23	1,914.50
			1,914.50
002708			
002708	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	WELLNESS 11/24	2,971.71
002708	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PROGRAM MANAGER 11/23	45,974.92
002708	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PRIOR ADJUSTMENTS 11/23	146.42
002708	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	BROKER FEES 11/23	29,477.31
002708	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	KINNELON MEDICAL START UP FEE 11/23	3,500.00
			82,070.36
002709			
002709	DORSEY & SEMRAU	SPECIAL LITIGATION 10/23 INV 20759	1,038.50
002709	DORSEY & SEMRAU	ATTORNEY RETAINER FEE 11/23	1,667.00
			2,705.50
002710			
002710	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING	BROKER FEES 11/23	2,544.68
			2,544.68
002711			
002711	CORPORATE BENEFIT SOLUTIONS	BROKER FEES 11/23	2,131.50
			2,131.50
002712			
002712	SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	BROKER FEES 11/23	9,592.88
			9,592.88
002713			
002713	BROWN AND BROWN METRO	BROKER FEES 11/23	6,691.55
			6,691.55

002714			
002714	CIVITAS NEW JERSEY, LLC	WELLNESS CONSULT SERVICES 11/23	2,083.33
			2,083.33
002715			
002715	LIFE LINE SCREENING	WELLNESS SCREENING 09/23	9,600.00
002715	LIFE LINE SCREENING	WELLNESS SCREENING 09/23 INV 1120	8,500.00
002715	LIFE LINE SCREENING	WELLNESS SCREENING 09/23 INV 1121	8,500.00
			26,600.00
002716			
002716	WORLD INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, LLC	BROKER FEES 11/23	1,247.28
			1,247.28
002717			
002717	ACRISURE, LLC	BROKER FEES 11/23	10,668.35
			10,668.35
002718			
002718	ATLANTIC CORPORATE HEALTH	SPARTA- SLEEP ASSESS INV 309001 10/23	8,909.00
			8,909.00
002719			
002719	NJ ADVANCE MEDIA	ACCT XNJER0555972 AD 10/24/23 24 BUDGET	34.71
			34.71
002720			
002720	MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE H.I.F.	SPECIFIC REINSURANCE 11/23	326,375.34
			326,375.34
		Total Payments FY 2023	876,132.83
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS	876,132.83

Chairperson

Attest:

Dated: _____

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

Treasurer

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
SUPPLEMENTAL BILLS LIST**

NOVEMBER 2023

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal 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 CLOSED

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
✓002700			
✓002700	TRUST ACCOUNT OF COHEN HOWARD, LLP	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT 10/23	35,000.00
			35,000.00
✓002701			
✓002701	TRUST ACCOUNT OF COHEN HOWARD, LLP	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT 10/23	34,000.00
			34,000.00
		Total Payments FY CLOSED	69,000.00
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS	69,000.00

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

DIVIDEND BILLS LIST

DECEMBER 2023

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal 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 CLOSED

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
002721			
002721	HANOVER TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	153,165.00
			153,165.00
002722			
002722	HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	51,648.00
			51,648.00
002723			
002723	HOPATCONG BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	79,061.00
			79,061.00
002724			
002724	LINCOLN PARK BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	90,985.00
			90,985.00
002725			
002725	RINGWOOD BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	75,202.00
			75,202.00
002726			
002726	ROXBURY TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	13,608.00
			13,608.00
002727			
002727	SPARTA TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	148,375.00
			148,375.00
002728			
002728	BYRAM TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	52,880.00
			52,880.00
002729			
002729	WOODLAND PARK BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	105,980.00
			105,980.00
002730			
002730	WANTAGE TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	28,727.00
			28,727.00
002731			
002731	BLOOMINGDALE BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	60,636.00
			60,636.00
002732			
002732	ANDOVER TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	2,195.00
			2,195.00
002733			
002733	BERKELEY HEIGHTS TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	123,526.00
			123,526.00
002734			
002734	WHARTON BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	41,514.00
			41,514.00

002735			
002735	NETCONG BOROUGH	DIVIDEND 2023	1,371.00
			1,371.00
002736			
002736	MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	108,225.00
			108,225.00
002737			
002737	NEWTON TOWN	DIVIDEND 2023	92,082.00
			92,082.00
002738			
002738	JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	1,372.00
			1,372.00
002739			
002739	PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP	DIVIDEND 2023	100,254.00
			100,254.00
		Total Payments FY CLOSED	1,330,806.00
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS	1,330,806.00

Chairperson

Attest:

Dated: _____

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

Treasurer

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

SUPPLEMENTAL BILLS LIST

DECEMBER 2023

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal 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 2023

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
002652			
002652	SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	VOID AND REISSUE	-9,489.00
			-9,489.00
002740			
002740	AETNA HEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PREMIUM 12/23	228,137.71
			228,137.71
002741			
002741	UNITED - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	MEDICARE ADV. PREM 12/23	45,945.48
			45,945.48
002742			
002742	DELTA DENTAL OF NEW JERSEY INC	DENTAL TPA 12/23	6,227.98
			6,227.98
002743			
002743	AETNA	MEDICAL TPA 12/23	73,504.86
			73,504.86
002744			
002744	PAYFLEX SYSTEMS USA, INC.	TWP OF PEQUANNOCK 12/23	3.00
002744	PAYFLEX SYSTEMS USA, INC.	TWP OF PEQUANNOCK 11/23	3.00
002744	PAYFLEX SYSTEMS USA, INC.	TWP OF WEST MILFORD 11/23	3.00
002744	PAYFLEX SYSTEMS USA, INC.	TWP OF WEST MILFORD 12/23	3.00
			12.00
002745			
002745	PERMA	POSTAGE 11/23	30.99
002745	PERMA	ADMIN FEE 12/23	39,750.25
002745	PERMA	REIMB FOR MEETING EXPENSE 09/23	158.50
			39,939.74
002746			
002746	MICHAEL J. SOCCIO	TREASURER FEE 12/23	1,914.50
			1,914.50
002747			
002747	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	WELLNESS 12/23	2,970.12
002747	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PROGRAM MANAGER FEES 12/23	46,028.66
002747	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PRIOR ADJUSTMENTS 12/23	-152.71
002747	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	BROKER FEES 12/23	29,616.29
			78,462.36
002748			
002748	DORSEY & SEMRAU	SPECIAL LITIGATION 11/23 INV 20835	155.00
002748	DORSEY & SEMRAU	ATTORNEY RETAINER 12/23	1,667.00
			1,822.00

002749			
002749	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING	BROKER FEES 12/23	2,440.68
			2,440.68
002750			
002750	CORPORATE BENEFIT SOLUTIONS	BROKER FEES 12/23	2,131.50
			2,131.50
002751			
002751	SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	BROKER FEES 12/23	9,448.72
002751	SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	BROKER FEES 08/23	9,489.00
			18,937.72
002752			
002752	BROWN AND BROWN METRO	BROKER FEES 12/23	6,691.55
			6,691.55
002753			
002753	CIVITAS NEW JERSEY, LLC	WELLNESS CONSULT SERVICES 12/23	2,083.33
			2,083.33
002754			
002754	WORLD INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, LLC	BROKER FEES 12/23	1,244.06
			1,244.06
002755			
002755	ACRISURE, LLC	BROKER FEES 12/23	10,761.21
			10,761.21
002756			
002756	NJ ADVANCE MEDIA	ACCT XNJER0555972 AD 11/2/23 EUS CONTR	122.36
			122.36
002757			
002757	ACCESS	DEPT 421 INV 10628522 11.30.23 FOR DEC	176.40
002757	ACCESS	DEPT 421 INV 10543125 10/31/23 FOR NOV	170.88
			347.28
002758			
002758	MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE H.I.F.	SPECIFIC REINSURANCE 12/23	320,428.96
			320,428.96
		Total Payments FY 2023	831,666.28
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS	831,666.28

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**

JANUARY 2024

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal 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.

<u>FUND YEAR 2023</u>			
<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
W01240			
W01240	USA CONNECT	WELLNESS 2023 VISA GIFT CARDS	150,832.64
			150,832.64
		Total Payments FY	150,832.64
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS	150,832.64

Chairperson

Attest:

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

Dated:

Treasurer

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND DIVIDEND BILLS LIST

JANUARY 2024

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal 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 CLOSED

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
	HARDING BOROUGH	2023 DIVIDENDS	18,951.00
			18,951.00
	MOUNTAIN LAKES BOROUGH	2023 DIVIDENDS	1549.00
			1549.00
		TOTAL PAYMENTS CLOSED YR	20500.00
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YEARS	20,500.00

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

SUPPLEMENTAL BILLS LIST

JANUARY 2024

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefit Fund's
Executive Board, hereby

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

FUND YEAR 2023

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
002759			
002759	PERMA	POSTAGE 12/23	352.18
			352.18
002760			
002760	DORSEY & SEMRAU	SPECIAL LITIGATION 12/23 INV 20914	232.50
			232.50
002761			
002761	EBIX, INC	WELLNESS NEWSLETTER 9/29/23	5,400.00
			5,400.00
002762			
002762	NJ ADVANCE MEDIA	ACCT XNJER0555972 - 10802377 12/14/23	17.20
			17.20
Total Payments FY 2023			6,001.88

FUND YEAR 2024

<u>CheckNumber</u>	<u>VendorName</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>InvoiceAmount</u>
002763			
002763	AETNA HEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PREMIUM 01/2	237,315.98
			237,315.98
002764			
002764	UNITED - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PREM 01/24	49,180.56
			49,180.56
002765			
002765	DELTA DENTAL OF NEW JERSEY INC	DENTAL TPA 01/24	6,656.62
			6,656.62
002766			
002766	AETNA	MEDICAL TPA 01/24	74,453.82
			74,453.82
002767			
002767	PERMA	ADMIN FEES 01/24	41,132.51
			41,132.51
002768			
002768	ACTUARIAL SOLUTIONS, LLC	ACTUARY FEES Q1 2024	3,185.00
			3,185.00
002769			
002769	MICHAEL J. SOCCIO	TREASURER FEE 01/24	1,953.00
			1,953.00
002770			
002770	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	WELLNESS 01/24	3,069.29
002770	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	BROKER FEES 01/24	30,339.93
002770	JOSEPH L. VOZZA AGENCY INC.	PROGRAM MANAGER FEES 01/24	47,350.46
			80,759.68

002771			
002771	DORSEY & SEMRAU	ATTORNEY RETAINER FEE 01/24	1,667.00
			1,667.00
002772			
002772	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING	BROKER FEES 01/24	2,420.16
			2,420.16
002773			
002773	CORPORATE BENEFIT SOLUTIONS	BROKER FEES 01/24	2,277.88
			2,277.88
002774			
002774	SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT	BROKER FEES 01/24	10,145.90
			10,145.90
002775			
002775	BROWN AND BROWN METRO LLC	BROKER FEE 01/24	6,834.73
			6,834.73
002776			
002776	CIVITAS NEW JERSEY, LLC	WELLNESS CONSULT SERVICES 01/24	2,083.33
			2,083.33
002777			
002777	WORLD INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, LLC	BROKER FEES 01/24	1,234.68
			1,234.68
002778			
002778	ACRISURE, LLC	BROKER FEES 01/24	11,118.90
			11,118.90
002779			
002779	MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE H.I.F.	SPECIFIC REINSURANCE 01/24	343,622.23
			343,622.23
		Total Payments FY 2024	876,041.98
		TOTAL PAYMENTS ALL FUND YE	882,043.86

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: 2023 Month Ending: November										
	Medical	Dental	Rx	Reinsurance	Dividend Reserve	LFC	Admin	0	0	TOTAL
OPEN BALANCE	14,194,677.51	191,241.09	444,686.16	33.98	2,111,838.92	0.00	(475,102.69)	0.00	0.00	16,467,374.97
RECEIPTS										
Assessments	4,029,081.45	146,633.37	279,115.82	350,711.53	0.00	0.00	305,860.99	0.00	0.00	5,111,403.16
Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Invest Pymnts	115,144.05	1,723.97	9,817.61	322.43	17,266.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	144,274.14
Invest Adj	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Invest	115,144.05	1,723.97	9,817.61	322.43	17,266.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	144,274.14
Other *	319,287.24	598.73	65,829.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	385,715.82
TOTAL	4,463,512.74	148,956.07	354,763.28	351,033.96	17,266.08	0.00	305,860.99	0.00	0.00	5,641,393.12
EXPENSES										
Claims Transfers	3,498,636.50	112,692.35	343,557.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,954,886.26
Expenses	340,440.05	0.00	0.00	326,375.34	0.00	0.00	278,317.44	0.00	0.00	945,132.83
Other *	59,643.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,643.08
TOTAL	3,898,719.63	112,692.35	343,557.41	326,375.34	0.00	0.00	278,317.44	0.00	0.00	4,959,662.17
END BALANCE	14,759,470.62	227,504.81	455,892.03	24,692.60	2,129,105.00	0.00	(447,559.14)	0.00	0.00	17,149,105.92

CERTIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION OF CLAIMS PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES									
North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund									
Month		November							
Current Fund Year		2023							
Policy	Coverage	1. Calc. Net Paid Thru Last Month	2. Monthly Net Paid November	3. Monthly Recoveries November	4. Calc. Net Paid Thru November	5. TPA Net Paid Thru November	6. Variance To Be Reconciled	7. Delinquent Unreconciled Variance From	8. Change This Month
2023	Medical	29,314,307.86	3,495,152.89	0.00	32,809,460.75	0.00	32,809,460.75	29,314,307.86	3,495,152.89
	Dental	1,244,907.00	112,692.35	0.00	1,357,599.35	0.00	1,357,599.35	1,244,907.00	112,692.35
	Rx	2,911,299.76	343,557.41	0.00	3,254,857.17	0.00	3,254,857.17	2,911,299.76	343,557.41
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	33,470,514.62	3,951,402.65	0.00	37,421,917.27	0.00	37,421,917.27	33,470,514.62	3,951,402.65

SUMMARY OF CASH AND INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS						
North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund						
ALL FUND YEARS COMBINED						
CURRENT MONTH	November					
CURRENT FUND YEAR	2023					
Description:		CASH MANAGEMENT FUND	TD BANK ASSET MANAGEMENT	TD Bank Gift Card Account	Investors Bank	CITIZENS
ID Number:						
Maturity (Yrs)						
Purchase Yield:						
TOTAL for All Accts & instruments						
Opening Cash & Investment Balance	\$16,467,374.92	3,141,132.60	7,222,593.88	-	-	6,103,648.44
Opening Interest Accrual Balance	\$89,950.76	-	89,950.76	-	-	-
1	Interest Accrued and/or Interest Cost	\$23,641.02	\$0.00	\$23,641.02	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	Interest Accrued - discounted Instr.s	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	(Amortization and/or Interest Cost)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	Accretion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5	Interest Paid - Cash Instr.s	\$40,954.15	\$13,829.45	\$1,024.13	\$0.00	\$26,100.57
6	Interest Paid - Term Instr.s	\$96,250.00	\$0.00	\$96,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	Realized Gain (Loss)	\$7,070.00	\$0.00	\$7,070.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Net Investment Income	\$71,665.17	\$13,829.45	\$31,735.15	\$0.00	\$26,100.57
9	Deposits - Purchases	\$5,437,475.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,437,475.88
10	(Withdrawals - Sales)	-\$4,900,019.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$4,900,019.09
Ending Cash & Investment Balance		\$17,149,105.86	\$3,154,962.05	\$7,326,938.01	\$0.00	\$6,667,205.80
Ending Interest Accrual Balance		\$17,341.78	\$0.00	\$17,341.78	\$0.00	\$0.00
Plus Outstanding Checks		\$461,818.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$461,818.96
(Less Deposits in Transit)		-\$915,590.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$915,590.35
Balance per Bank		\$16,695,334.47	\$3,154,962.05	\$7,326,938.01	\$0.00	\$6,213,434.41
		\$16,695,334.49	\$3,154,962.17	\$7,326,937.89	\$0.00	\$6,213,434.43



TO: NJMEBF Executive Committee and Commissioners

FROM: Marianne Eskilson, VP Civitas NJ; NJMEBF Wellness Consultant

DATE: January 12, 2024

RE: Report of Activity and Progress

STATUS UPDATE

1. **RFP (Request for Proposal) Development:** The Wellness Committee and Fund professionals continue to work to solicit proposals from viable candidates. In the meantime, we have offered the Fund the opportunity to extend our contractual arrangement to continue to provide services through April 30, 2024, rather than March 31, 2024, if that would be advantageous to the NJMEBF. The Wellness Committee Chairman will provide more extensive information on progress and recommendations.
2. **Education:** Educational webinars have become a strong element of the NJMEBF Wellness Program. In 2023 webinars provided through the program were viewed 1136 times. Valley Health Services provided a total of 22 live webinars with an on-demand option after they were aired. We have provided the Program Administrator with comprehensive data associated with viewing totals for each webinar, which is attached as a separate Excel workbook. Attached also are an assortment of comments collected relative to the webinars provided. During the fall months, we worked closely with Valley Health Services to develop the 2024 calendar of webinars. A catalog of the proposed 2024 webinar offerings is attached. The line-up is diverse and interesting. A complete list of all of the webinars offered in 2023 is also attached. 2023 webinars will continue to be accessible to our membership for 180 days.
3. **Newsletter:** A renewal contract has been secured with the vendor who provides the newsletter for 2024, where pricing will remain at 2023 levels. The monthly newsletter continues to be sent to all local wellness program ambassadors monthly for distribution to their entire full-time employee population. We continue to seek guidance from non-participating fund agencies as to whom they would like monthly links to educational programming and newsletters to be sent so that they can be distributed to their full-time employee population. The newsletter is available in both an interactive digital version, as

well as a static pdf. Our office creates a specialized article for the Fund that can be found on the right-hand column of the first page of each edition.

4. **Wrapping Up 2023 and Ramping Up into 2024:**

- a. **2023 Grant Program Tracking:** The Executive Committee of the Fund in 2023 initiated a formal policy requiring participating agencies to submit a completed tracking form each year prior to the receipt of the Fund sponsored participant gift cards for their agency. The forms provide the Fund with more specific data associated with local agency programming and investment as well as local program descriptions and specific participation data. This information will provide the Wellness Committee with important data moving forward. Completed tracking forms received from local program ambassadors for their 2023 program have been collected and passed along to the Wellness Committee for their review and information.
- b. **2024 Program Kickoff:** Participation agreements have been developed for each participating agency. The forms have been distributed to each wellness ambassadors for their review and dissemination to their employees. Under the newly adopted policy of the Fund, a policy goal is for the the program to kick off in a timely manner. We are working with local wellness ambassadors to expeditiously establish their local program outlines and identify their participants as early as possible so that the full 2024 program is in motion in early February across the Fund.

5. **Eye Towards Data and Information Transfer to New Wellness Coordinator:** We are continuing to put together a comprehensive package of documents and files for the new wellness coordinator's use, once the "baton" has been passed on either April 1 or May 1 2023, depending on the direction the Fund decides to take relative to the offer of an additional 30 day extension.



**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND**

Monthly Claim Activity Report

January 25, 2024



NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

	MEDICAL CLAIMS PAID 2022	# OF EES	PER EE	MEDICAL CLAIMS PAID 2023	# OF EES	PER EE
JANUARY	\$2,046,453	1,357	\$ 1,508	\$2,295,816	1,496	\$ 1,535
FEBRUARY	\$2,000,969	1,357	\$ 1,475	\$2,276,872	1,502	\$ 1,516
MARCH	\$2,490,470	1,363	\$ 1,827	\$2,379,988	1,503	\$ 1,583
APRIL	\$1,875,739	1,370	\$ 1,369	\$2,612,511	1,605	\$ 1,628
MAY	\$2,619,507	1,364	\$ 1,920	\$3,090,950	1,668	\$ 1,853
JUNE	\$2,316,285	1,360	\$ 1,703	\$3,170,703	1,662	\$ 1,908
JULY	\$2,116,211	1,354	\$ 1,563	\$2,465,662	1,669	\$ 1,477
AUGUST	\$2,519,012	1,352	\$ 1,863	\$3,717,731	1,719	\$ 2,163
SEPTEMBER	\$2,017,188	1,353	\$ 1,491	\$2,976,764	1,836	\$ 1,621
OCTOBER	\$2,151,983	1,353	\$ 1,591	\$3,092,101	1,865	\$ 1,658
NOVEMBER	\$2,365,176	1,357	\$ 1,743	\$2,906,862	1,866	\$ 1,558
DECEMBER	\$2,206,152	1,345	\$ 1,640			
TOTALS	\$26,725,146			\$30,985,961		
				2023 Average	1,672	\$1,682
				2022 Average	1,357	\$1,641

Large Claimant Report (Drilldown) - Claims Over \$50000

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

Paid Dates: 09/01/2023 - 09/30/2023
Service Dates: 01/01/2011 - 09/30/2023
Line of Business: All

	Billed Amt	Paid Amt
	\$182,027.27	\$82,353.98
	\$73,940.70	\$69,938.30
	\$277,187.22	\$66,956.28
Total:	\$533,155.19	\$219,248.56

Large Claimant Report (Drilldown) - Claims Over \$50000

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

Paid Dates: 10/01/2023 - 10/31/2023
Service Dates: 01/01/2011 - 10/31/2023
Line of Business: All

	Billed Amt	Paid Amt
	\$179,875.81	\$101,523.04
	\$163,498.56	\$83,576.46
Total:	\$343,374.37	\$185,099.50

Large Claimant Report (Drilldown) - Claims Over \$50000

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

Paid Dates: 11/01/2023 - 11/30/2023
Service Dates: 01/01/2011 - 11/30/2023
Line of Business: All

	Billed Amt	Paid Amt
	\$101,446.63	\$65,780.21
	\$53,772.04	\$53,385.91
	\$160,013.89	\$51,173.74
Total:	\$315,232.56	\$170,339.86

**Medical Claims Paid:****January 2023- November 2023**Total Medical Paid per EE: **\$1,682****Network Discounts**

Inpatient: **64.4%**
Ambulatory: **68.4%**
Physician/Other: **67.7%**
TOTAL: 67.4%

Provider Network

% Admissions In-Network: **96.6%**
% Physician Office: **91.7%**

Aetna Book of Business:
Admissions 98.6%; Physician 91.1%

Top Facilities Utilized (by total Medical Spend)

- Morristown Medical Center
- Chilton Medical Center
- Hackensack University Medical
- Saint Clare's Hospital
- Cooperman Barnabas Medical

Catastrophic Claim Impact**January 2023- November 2023**

Number of Claims Over \$50,000: **86**
Claimants per 1000 members: **20.1**
Avg. Paid per Claimant: **\$113,490**
Percent of Total Paid: **34.5%**
• Aetna BOB- HCC account for an average of 43.5% of total Medical Cost

Aetna One Flex Member Outreach: thru November 2023

Total Members Identified: **1,016**
Members Targeted for 1:1 Nurse Support : **198**
Members Targeted for digital activity: **818**
Member 1:1 outreach completed: **191**
Member 1:1 Outreach in Progress: **7**

Teladoc Activity:**January 2023 thru November 2023**

Total Registrations: **112**
Total Online Visits: **254**
Total Net Claims Savings: **\$123,620**
Total Visits w/ Rx: **190**

Mental Health Visits: **17**
Dermatology Visits: **18**

Allentown Service Center Performance Goal Metrics YTD 2023**Customer Service Performance**

1st Call Resolution: **94.03%**
Abandonment Rate: **0.61%**
Avg. Speed of Answer: **18.0 sec**

Claims PerformanceFinancial Accuracy: **98.25%**

90% processed w/in: **7.8 days**
95% processed w/in: **15.1 days**

Claims Performance (Monthly) (November 2023)

90% processed w/in: **5.8 days**
95% processed w/in: **10.5 days**
(Note: This is not a PG metric)

Performance Goals

1st 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**



EXPRESS SCRIPTS®

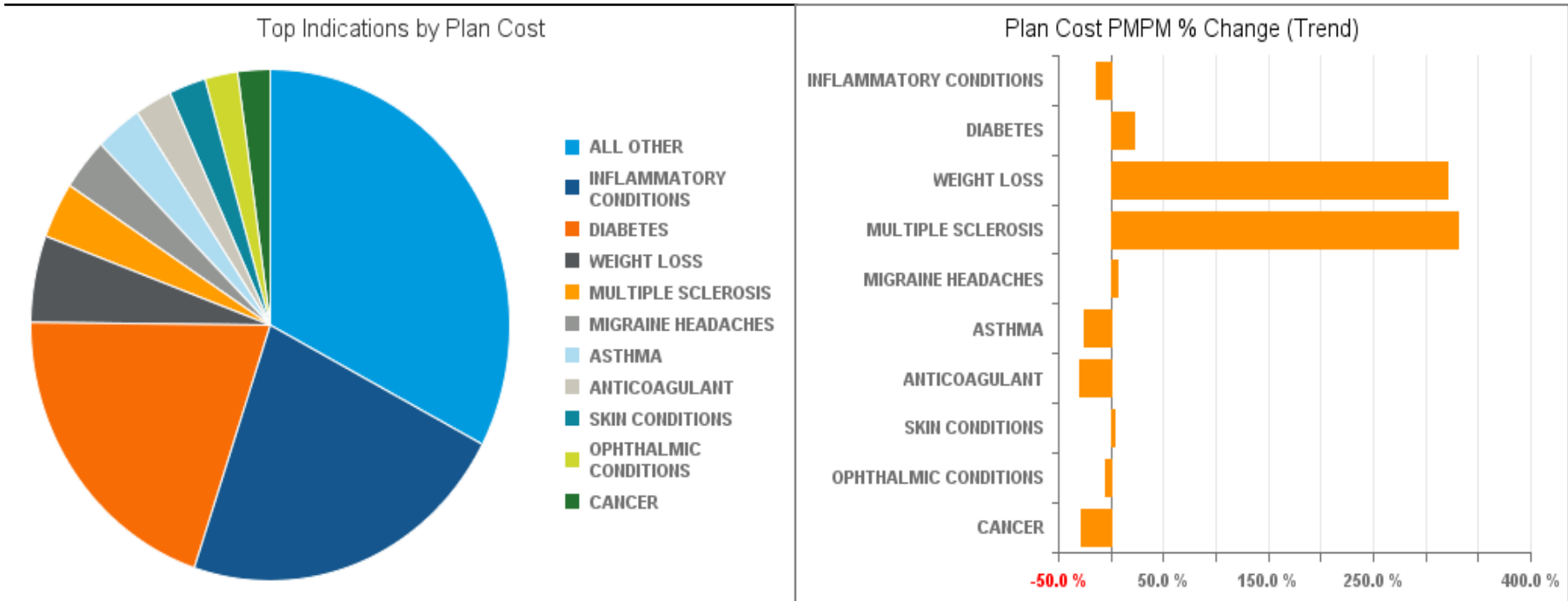
North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund - Monthly Utilization Tracking Report

Total Component/Date of Service (Month)	2022 01	2022 02	2022 03	2022 Q1	2022 04	2022 05	2022 06	2022 Q2	2022 07	2022 08	2022 09	2022 Q3	2022 10	2022 11	2022 12	2022 Q4	2022 YTD
Membership	3,561	3,560	3,584	3,568	3,606	3,609	3,603	3,606	3,580	3,565	3,552	3,566	3,546	3,555	3,537	3,546	3,572
Total Days	143,010	129,864	147,150	420,024	137,024	146,662	144,973	428,659	139,497	145,998	140,931	426,426	138,727	137,897	140,550	418,866	1,693,975
Total Patients	1,400	1,339	1,413	2,073	1,444	1,463	1,432	2,194	1,382	1,401	1,413	2,133	1,492	1,470	1,529	2,281	3,002
Total Plan Cost	\$637,760	\$579,941	\$682,235	\$1,899,937	\$511,781	\$671,311	\$706,980	\$1,890,072	\$616,580	\$664,903	\$613,196	\$1,894,679	\$627,933	\$679,788	\$605,341	\$1,913,062	\$7,597,750
Generic Fill Rate (GFR) - Total	86.3%	85.5%	86.1%	86.0%	87.4%	85.9%	86.1%	86.5%	84.8%	84.3%	85.1%	84.8%	80.9%	81.7%	83.1%	81.9%	84.7%
Plan Cost PMPM	\$179.10	\$162.90	\$190.36	\$177.48	\$141.92	\$186.01	\$196.22	\$174.72	\$172.23	\$186.51	\$172.63	\$177.12	\$177.08	\$191.22	\$171.15	\$179.83	\$177.28
Total Specialty Plan Cost	\$337,516	\$288,902	\$344,531	\$970,949	\$203,313	\$376,740	\$375,552	\$955,605	\$294,572	\$328,945	\$290,566	\$914,083	\$331,113	\$335,565	\$248,637	\$915,316	\$3,755,953
Specialty % of Total Specialty Plan Cost	52.9%	49.8%	50.5%	51.1%	39.7%	56.1%	53.1%	50.6%	47.8%	49.5%	47.4%	48.2%	52.7%	49.4%	41.1%	47.8%	49.4%

Total Component/Date of Service (Month)	2023 01	2023 02	2023 03	2023 Q1	2023 04	2023 05	2023 06	2023 Q2	2023 07	2023 08	2023 09	2023 Q3	2023 10	2023 11	2023 12	2023 Q4	2023 YTD
Membership	3,873	3,863	3,887	3,874	4,143	4,320	4,331	4,265	4,342	4,485	4,817	4,548	4,889	4,905			
Total Days	153,428	137,350	155,154	445,932	150,070	171,649	167,757	489,811	167,406	182,545	175,698	526,198	192,785	185,059			
Total Patients	1,550	1,471	1,554	2,316	1,556	1,713	1,692	2,577	1,660	1,716	1,810	2,735	1,999	1,918			
Total Plan Cost	\$548,171	\$576,692	\$660,747	\$1,785,610	\$584,135	\$747,708	\$850,724	\$2,182,809	\$810,480	\$892,346	\$828,411	\$2,532,674	\$902,582	\$929,777			
Generic Fill Rate (GFR) - Total	83.3%	84.4%	84.9%	84.2%	85.6%	86.8%	85.0%	85.8%	85.2%	85.5%	83.4%	84.7%	81.6%	84.6%			
Plan Cost PMPM	\$141.54	\$149.29	\$169.99	\$153.63	\$140.99	\$173.08	\$196.43	\$170.61	\$186.66	\$198.96	\$171.98	\$185.63	\$184.61	\$189.56			
% Change Plan Cost PMPM	-21.0%	-8.4%	-10.7%	-13.4%	-0.7%	-7.0%	0.1%	-2.3%	8.4%	6.7%	-0.4%	4.8%	4.3%	-0.9%			
Total Specialty Plan Cost	\$192,512	\$223,063	\$248,701	\$664,276	\$205,135	\$301,686	\$387,694	\$894,515	\$354,876	\$383,566	\$320,616	\$1,059,058	\$352,165	\$398,258			
Specialty % of Total Specialty Plan Cost	35.1%	38.7%	37.6%	37.2%	35.1%	40.3%	45.6%	41.0%	43.8%	43.0%	38.7%	41.8%	39.0%	42.8%			

Top Indications

N. JERSEY MUNI EMPLOY BNFT FD (Current Period 01/2023 - 11/2023 vs. Previous Period 11/2022 - 11/2022) Peer = Commercial



			Current Period							Previous Period							Trend
Rank	Peer Rank	Indication	Market Share	Adjusted Rx	Plan Cost	Plan Cost PMPM	GFR	Peer GFR	Market Share	Adjusted Rx	Plan Cost	Plan Cost PMPM	GFR	Peer GFR	Plan Cost PMPM		
1	1	INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS	33.66%	519	\$1,893,439	\$39.57	39.7 %	40.1 %	41.37%	41	\$162,152	\$45.61	24.4 %	40.8 %	-13.3 %		
2	2	DIABETES	29.65%	5,521	\$1,667,776	\$34.85	32.1 %	34.8 %	25.94%	417	\$101,674	\$28.60	31.7 %	37.5 %	21.9 %		
3	4	WEIGHT LOSS	8.11%	439	\$455,961	\$9.53	11.6 %	9.5 %	2.06%	11	\$8,058	\$2.27	36.4 %	22.1 %	320.3 %		
4	8	MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS	5.23%	54	\$294,080	\$6.15	13.0 %	42.1 %	1.30%	1	\$5,076	\$1.43	0.0 %	37.9 %	330.4 %		
5	9	MIGRAINE HEADACHES	4.85%	490	\$272,598	\$5.70	42.2 %	56.5 %	4.89%	35	\$19,160	\$5.39	37.1 %	59.3 %	5.7 %		
6	7	ASTHMA	4.64%	2,512	\$260,740	\$5.45	76.5 %	77.0 %	6.58%	237	\$25,789	\$7.25	75.9 %	77.3 %	-24.9 %		
7	6	ANTICOAGULANT	3.69%	541	\$207,409	\$4.33	20.7 %	20.1 %	5.56%	50	\$21,794	\$6.13	4.0 %	21.7 %	-29.3 %		
8	5	SKIN CONDITIONS	3.68%	779	\$206,968	\$4.32	87.9 %	88.4 %	3.81%	48	\$14,928	\$4.20	85.4 %	88.4 %	3.0 %		
9	10	OPHTHALMIC CONDITIONS	3.27%	361	\$183,766	\$3.84	45.7 %	71.3 %	3.68%	30	\$14,437	\$4.06	20.0 %	68.1 %	-5.4 %		
10	3	CANCER	3.25%	322	\$182,579	\$3.82	94.4 %	75.1 %	4.81%	28	\$18,860	\$5.31	96.4 %	75.0 %	-28.1 %		
Total Top 10				11,538	\$5,625,316	\$117.55	47.1 %	50.8 %		898	\$391,927	\$110.25	46.2 %	54.1 %	6.6 %		

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
 CONSENT AGENDA
 JANUARY 25, 2024**

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 24-1: Appointment of Professionals and Contractors	Page 48
Resolution 24-2: Compensating Producers	Page 52
Resolution 24-3: Designation of Service of Process.....	Page 54
Resolution 24-4: Designation of Secretary as Custodian of Records	Page 55
Resolution 24-5: Designation of Official Newspaper.....	Page 56
Resolution 24-6: Designation of Regular Meeting Times and Place	Page 57
Resolution 24-7: Designation of Bank Depositories & CMP	Page 58
Resolution 24-8: Designation of Authorized Signatories.....	Page 62
Resolution 24-9: Approval of Risk Management Plan	Page 63
Resolution 24-10: Appointment of MRHIF Fund Commissioners.....	Page 71
Resolution 23-11: Authorizing Treasurer to Process Contracted Payments and Expenses.....	Page 72
Resolution 24-12: MRHIF I&T Agreement	Page 73
Resolution 24-13: Approval of 11/23, 12/23 and 1/24 Bills List.....	Page 75
Resolution 24-14: Bank Earnings Base Rate.....	Page 76

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
APPOINTING
PROFESSIONALS AND AWARDED CONTRACTS
FOR FUND YEAR 2024**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund is duly constituted as a Health Benefits Joint Insurance Fund and is subject to certain requirements of the Local Public Contracts Law and the Local Unit Pay-to-Play Law; and;

WHEREAS, the Fund found it necessary and appropriate to obtain certain professional services and other extraordinary and other unspecifiable services, as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law, (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq.) for the 2024 Fund year; and,

WHEREAS, the Fund duly advertised for public receipt of competitive contracts providing the required 20 days prior to receipt for CC# 23-15 and CC# 23-31 in a fair and open manner, consistent with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4 et. Seq., and

WHEREAS, the Fund received competitive contracts for professionals on September 6, 2023, and for Medical TPA on September 21, 2023.

WHEREAS, the Fund recommended the award of contracts to the below listed Professional Service Providers and service organizations based on a review of their; responses, experience and prior service provided at the rates established by the Executive Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the process was administered as required by law by the Qualified Purchasing Agent who has concurred with the legality of the purchase in accord with the New Jersey Local Publics Contract Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the term of contract is allowable for up to five (5) years as authorized under N.J.S.A.40A:11-4.1 et. Seq.

WHEREAS, the Fund resolves to appoint the Professionals – noted below –commencing on January 1, 2024 and ending on December 31, 2024 (unless otherwise noted) with four option additional one year extensions at its January 2024 Reorganization Meeting in accordance with a fair and open process pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. Seq.;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee that the following professional service appointments and contract awards are hereby made for 2024:

- I. **PERMA Risk Management Services as Administrator** is hereby appointed as **Executive Director** and as **agent for process of service**: \$11.99 per employee, per month will be expended to the Administrator. The estimated annual amount of \$459,793 has been appropriated in the Administrator line item of the 2024 budget. In addition, \$40,000 will be paid for special claim and operation audits.

- I. **Vozza Agency** is hereby appointed as **Program Manager**. \$16.22 per medical/rx/Medicare Advantage employee/retiree, per month, \$10.75 per dental only employees per month, and \$1.63 per medical employee per month (excluding Medicare Advantage) for wellness. In addition, there shall be a new member fee for implementation and plan document preparation and plan set up fee of \$20 per new employee (subject to a minimum total of \$3,500) payable upon successful implementation of the new member. The estimated annual amount of \$605,584 has been appropriated in the **Program Manager** line item of the 2024 budget.
- II. **Aetna** is hereby appointed to serve as the FUND's **Medical Claims Administrator**. \$39.54 per employee, per month will be expended to the Claims Administrator. The estimated annual amount of \$818,952 has been appropriated in the Medical TPA line item of the 2024 budget.
- III. **Delta Dental** is hereby appointed to serve as the FUND's **Dental Claims Administrator**. \$3.34 per medical employee, per month will be expended to the TPA. The estimated annual amount of \$78,597 has been appropriated in the Dental TPA line item of the 2024 budget.
- IV. **Actuarial Solutions LLC, (John Vataha)** is hereby is appointed to serve as the FUND's **Fund Actuary**. The annual amount of \$12,734 has been appropriated in the Actuary line item of the 2024 budget.
- V. **Fred Semrau** is hereby appointed to serve as the FUND's **Attorney**. The annual amount of \$20,500 has been appropriated in the Attorney line item of the 2024 budget.
- VI. **Nisivoccia & Co. is** hereby is appointed to serve as the FUND's **Auditor**. The annual amount of \$17,811 has been appropriated in the Auditor line item of the 2024 budget.
- VII. **Michael Soccio** is hereby is appointed to serve as the FUND's **Treasurer**. The annual amount of \$23,433 has been appropriated in the Treasurer line item of the 2024 budget.
- VIII. **Civitas** is hereby is appointed to serve as the FUND's **Wellness Coordinator** from January 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024 at a fee of \$2,083 per month.
- IX. **Aetna** is hereby appointed to provide fully insured Medicare Advantage / Employer Group Waiver Plans with the following per member, per month fees:

PlanName	Renewal Premium
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$6/\$12/\$24 Rx - MAPDP (Borough of Bloomingdale)	\$ 321.43
Aetna Medicare Advantage \$0 w/ Rx (Borough of Chatham)	\$ 327.86
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ 10% Rx- MAPDP (Borough of Lincoln Park)	\$ 363.36
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ Rx (Borough of Madison)	\$ 394.91
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ 10% Rx - MAPDP (Borough of Ringwood)	\$ 307.08
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$3/\$3 Rx - MAPDP (Borough of Ringwood)	\$ 349.74
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ 10% Rx - MAPDP (Borough of Woodland Park)	\$ 363.36
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$1/\$1 Rx - MAPDP (Town of Dover)	\$ 354.82
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$3/\$3 Rx - MAPDP (Town of Dover)	\$ 349.74
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$3/\$10 Rx - MAPDP (Town of Dover)	\$ 343.25
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$5/\$10/\$20 Rx - MAPDP (Town of Dover)	\$ 318.43
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$6/\$12/\$24 Rx - MAPDP (Town of Dover)	\$ 321.43
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$6/\$12/\$24 Rx - MAPDP (Town of Newton)	\$ 321.43
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ 20% Rx- MAPDP (Township of Hanover)	\$ 347.67
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/10% Rx - MAPDP (Township of Hanover)	\$ 307.08
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ 10% Rx - MAPDP (Township of Randolph)	\$ 307.08
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ 20% Rx- MAPDP (Township of West Milford)	\$ 339.98
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/10% Rx - MAPDP (Township of West Milford)	\$ 307.08
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ \$5/\$5/\$5 Rx- MAPDP (Township of Sparta)	\$ 336.46
Aetna Medicare Advantage \$0 w/ Rx \$6/\$12/\$24 (Borough of Kinnelon)	\$ 321.43
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ Rx (Township of Jefferson)	\$ 343.25
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ Rx \$5/\$5 (Township of Pequannock)	\$ 351.59
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ Rx (Madison Housing Authority)	\$ 394.91
Aetna Medicare Advantage w/ Rx (Town of Boonton)	\$ 394.91
Aetna Medicare Advantage \$0 w/ Rx (Township of Vernon)	\$ 362.10

The estimated annual expenditure of \$2,389,779 for Aetna such amount is appropriated in the 2024 budget.

- X. **United Healthcare** is hereby appointed to provide fully insured Medicare Advantage / Employer Group Waiver Plans with the following per member, per month fees:

PlanName	Renewal Premium
UHC Medicare Advantage w/ Rx - MAPDP (Town of Dover)	\$ 364.00
UHC Medicare Advantage w/ Rx - MAPDP (Town of Newton)	\$ 364.00
UHC Medicare Advantage w/ Rx - MAPDP (Township of Hanover)	\$ 364.00
UHC Medicare Advantage w/ Rx - MAPDP (Township of Randolph)	\$ 364.00
UHC Medicare Advantage w/ Rx- MAPDP (Township of West Milford)	\$ 364.00
UHC Medicare Advantage w/ Rx- MAPDP (Township of Berkeley Heights)	\$ 364.00
UHC Medicare Advantage - MA (Township of Berkeley Heights)	\$ 194.48

The estimated annual expenditure of \$596,569 for UHC such amount is appropriated in the 2024 budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each of the above shall serve pursuant to a Professional Service Contract, which will be entered into and a copy of which will be on file in the Fund's office, located at 9 Campus Drive, Suite 216, Parsippany, NJ 07054;

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-2

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
ESTABLISHING PLAN FOR COMPENSATING PRODUCERS LICENSED PURSUANT TO
N.J.S.A. 17:22A-1 ET SEQ AND REPRESENTING MEMBER ENTITIES**

WHEREAS, The North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund permits member entities that designate a producer or risk manager to represent them in dealings with the Fund through subcontracts with the Fund; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.6 (e) 15, producer arrangements must be formally determined by the Fund and filed with the Department of Banking and Insurance; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund establishes the following producer plan for 2024;

1. The Fund will include producer compensation in each entity's assessments using the compensation levels as disclosed to and approved by each member entity.
2. Each sub-producer shall sub-contract with the Fund (not applicable where producer is Program Manager).
3. The following sub-producers with the designated compensation levels, stated in per employee per month contractual amounts, are approved for 2024:

Group Name	Broker Name	Med/Rx Agg	Medicare Advantage Agg	Dental Agg
Andover Township	World Insurance Associates LLC			2.99
Berkeley Heights	Brown and Brown Metro	41.77	41.77	
Bloomington	Vozza Agency	35.20	35.20	11.44
Byram	Skylands Risk Management			2.57
Dover Town	Henry O'Baker Insurance Agency	47.36	47.36	2.82
Harding Township	Corporate Benefit Solutions	51.77	51.77	
Jefferson Township	Vozza Agency	35.93	35.93	5.23
Kinnelon	World Insurance Associates LLC			3.28
Knowlton Board of Education	Brown and Brown Metro	74.19	74.19	
Madison	Vozza Agency	36.72	36.72	6.57
Madison Housing Authority	Vozza Agency	36.72	36.72	
Montville	Vozza Agency			9.12
Mountain Lakes Borough	Employee Benefits Consulting Services			2.76
Netcong	Vozza Agency			3.77
Newton	Vozza Agency	36.95	36.95	11.04
Pequannock	Employee Benefits Consulting Services	26.52	26.52	2.16

Prospect Park	World Insurance Associates LLC			3.28
Sparta	Skylands Risk Management	51.69	51.69	4.02
Wantage	Vozza Agency	50.20	50.20	5.95
Wharton	World Insurance Associates LLC	28.14	28.14	2.99

4. This schedule may be amended upon the written notification of each listed member entity.

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-3

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
APPOINTING
PERMA RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES
AS AGENT FOR THE FUND
FOR PROCESS OF SERVICE FOR THE YEAR 2024**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund that PERMA Risk Management Services (PERMA) is hereby appointed as agent for process of service upon the Fund, at its office located at 9 Campus Drive, Suite 216, Parsippany, NJ 07054 for the year 2024 or until its successor has be appointed and qualified.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-4

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
DESIGNATING CUSTODIAN OF FUND RECORDS**

BE IT RESOLVED that Thomas Russo, the Secretary of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund is hereby designated as the custodian of the Fund records which shall be kept at the office of the Fund Administrator, located at 9 Campus Drive, Suite 216, Parsippany, NJ 07054

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-5

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
DESIGNATING
THE STAR LEDGER and THE RECORD
THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE FUND YEAR 2024**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund that the Star Ledger and The Record are hereby designated as the official newspaper for the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund for the year 2024 and that all official notices required to be published shall be published in this newspaper. In addition, the Fund webpage is designated for official notices – www.njmefb.com.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the case of special meetings or emergency meetings, the Secretary of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund shall give notice of said meetings to the Star Ledger and The Record and on the Fund website (njmefb.com).

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-6

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
FIXING PUBLIC MEETING DATES
FOR THE YEAR 2024**

WHEREAS, under the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. ("OPMA"), a public entity is required to publish and prominently post an annual notice with the dates and locations for its public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Remote Meeting Protocol for Local Public Bodies, N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq. ("Emergency Protocol"), requires that a public entity holding meetings remotely during a declared emergency, without physical attendance by members of the public, must provide additional notice by posting same on the public entity's website and on the main access door of the building where in-person meetings are normally held, and that such notice must include instructions for accessing the remote meetings, the means for making public comment, and where relevant documents are available.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund that the Fund shall hold public meetings during the year 2024 at the Randolph Township Hall - 502 Millbrook Ave, Randolph, NJ 07869 on the following dates:

March 28, 2024
May 23, 2024
July 25, 2024
September 26, 2024
October 24, 2024
January 23, 2025

Meeting information can be found on the Fund website at <https://www.njmebf.com/index.php/public-records/meeting-calendar>.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Fund is hereby directed to publish a copy of this Resolution in Star Ledger and The Record.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-7

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED DEPOSITORIES FOR FUND ASSETS
AND ESTABLISHING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR 2024**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached Cash and Investment Management Plan, which includes the designation of authorized depositories, be and is hereby adopted.

1.) Cash Management and Investment Objectives

The North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund (hereinafter referred to as the FUND) objectives in this area are:

- a.) Preservation of capital.
- b.) Adequate safekeeping of assets.
- c.) Maintenance of liquidity to meet operating needs, claims settlements and dividends.
- d.) Diversification of the FUND's portfolio to minimize risks associated with individual investments.
- e.) Maximization of total return, consistent with risk levels specified herein.
- f.) Investment of assets in accordance with State and Federal Laws and Regulations.
- g.) Accurate and timely reporting of interest earnings, gains and losses by line of coverage in each Fund year.

2.) Permissible Investments

Investments shall be limited to the following:

- a.) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America.
- b.) Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
- c.) Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the local unit is a part or within which the school district is located;
or

- d.) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not exceeding 397 days, approved by the Division of Investment of the Department of Treasury for investment by local units.
- e.) Debt obligations of federal agencies or government corporations with maturities not greater than ten (10) years from the date of purchase, excluding mortgage backed obligations, providing that such investments are purchased through the New Jersey Division of Investment and are consistent with the Division's own investment guidelines, and providing that the investment is a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
- f.) Repurchase agreements of fully collateralized securities, subject to rules and conditions establish by the N.J. Department of Community Affairs.

3.) *Authorized Depositories*

In addition to the above, the FUND is authorized to deposit funds in certificates of deposit and other time deposits in banks covered by the Governmental Unit Depository Protection Act, NJSA 17:9-14 et seq. (GUDPA). Specifically authorized depositories are as follows:

TD Bank
Citizens Bank
Wilmington Trust

The FUND is also authorized to invest its assets in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

4.) *Authority for Investment Management*

The Treasurer is authorized and directed to manage the FUND's cash and investments in a manner consistent with this plan and all appropriate regulatory constraints.

5.) *Preservation of Capital*

Securities shall be purchased with the ability to hold until maturity.

6.) *Safekeeping*

Securities purchased on behalf of the FUND shall be delivered electronically or physically to the FUND's custodial bank, which shall maintain custodial and/or safekeeping accounts for such securities on behalf of the FUND.

7.) *Selection of Custodial and Operating Banks*

Custodial and operating banks shall be retained for contract periods of one (1) year. Additionally, the FUND shall maintain the ability to change asset managers and/or custodial banks more

frequently based upon performance appraisals and upon reasonable notice, and based upon changes in policy or procedures.

8.) **Reporting**

The Treasurer shall report to the Executive Board at all regular meetings on all investments. This report shall include information on the balances in all bank and investment accounts, and purchases, sales, and redemptions occurring in the prior month.

9.) **Audit**

This plan, and all matters pertaining to the implementation of it, shall be subject to the FUND's annual audit.

10.) **Cash Flow Projections**

Asset maturity decisions shall be guided by cash flow factors prepared by the FUND's Actuary and reviewed by the Executive Director and the Treasurer.

11.) **Cash Management**

All moneys turned over to the Treasurer shall be deposited within forty-eight (48) hours.

In the event a check is made payable to the Treasurer rather than the Fund, the following procedure is to be followed:

- a.) The Treasurer endorses the check to the Fund and deposits it into the Fund account.
- b.) The Treasurer notifies the payer and requests that in the future any check be made payable to the Fund.

The Treasurer shall minimize the possibility of idle cash accumulating in accounts by assuring that all amounts in excess of negotiated compensating balances are kept in interest bearing accounts or promptly swept into the investment portfolio.

The method of calculating banking fees and compensating balances shall be documented to the Executive Board at least annually.

Cash may be withdrawn from investment pools under the discretion of asset managers only to fund operations, claims-imprest accounts, or approved dividend payments.

The Treasurer shall escheat to the State of New Jersey checks which remain outstanding for twelve or more months after the date of issuance. However, prior to implementing such procedures, the Treasurer, with the assistance of the claims agent, as needed, shall confirm that the outstanding check continues to represent a valid claim against the FUND.

The rate of interest on delinquent assessments shall be 10% per annum from the due date for any such assessment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached Cash and Investment Management Plan, which includes the designation of authorized depositories, be and is hereby adopted.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-8

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT FUND
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES FOR FUND BANK ACCOUNTS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund that all funds of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund shall be withdrawn from the official named depositories by check, which shall bear the signatures of at least two (2) of the following persons who are duly authorized pursuant to this Resolution.

Scott Heck	- Chairperson
Thomas Russo	- Secretary
Michael Soccio	- Treasurer

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-9

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following shall be the Fund's Risk Management Plan for the 2024 Fund year:

1.) COVERAGE OFFERED

- Medical

The Fund offers a “point of services” and “open access” plan designs. These plans have both in network and out of network benefit. The Fund can offer other plans as may meet the needs of the members. The Fund also offers “low cost plans” to allow members options to comply with contribution requirements under Chapter 78 and as required under chapter 44. Included as options is a health savings account-consumer directed health plan, a core PPO program, a buy up PPO program, Medicare Advantage, HMO plan and those plans required under chapter 44.

- Dental

The Fund offers customized dental plans as required by the members.

- Prescription

The Fund offers customized prescription plans, including Employer Group Waiver Plans, as required by the members, including plans that are coordinated with the low cost medical plan options.

- Vision

The Fund offers customized vision plans as required by the members.

2.) LIMITS OF COVERAGE

Limits of coverage vary by member plan design.

3.) RISK RETAINED BY THE FUND

The Fund takes no risk on Medicare Advantage and Employer Group Waiver Plan fully-insured policies purchased for Medicare retirees.

Pre-Medicare retirees and active employees and their dependents are covered by self-insured plans. Risk retained by the Fund for these plans is summarized as follows:

Medical and Prescription:

- **Specific Coverage:** The Fund self-insures for the first \$450,000 per person per agreement year and obtains reinsurance through its membership in the Municipal Reinsurance Health Insurance Fund “MRHIF” for claims in excess of its self-Insured Retention “SIR” to an unlimited maximum per person per contract period (incurred in 12 months paid in 24 months).
- Specific Limit Unlimited
- Basis: Incurred 12 months, paid 24 months.

Extra contractual claims are excluded from reinsurance coverage.

4.) **ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY TO CALCULATE CLAIM RESERVES.**

The Fund complies with statutory accounting standards and establishes reserves on the probable total claim costs at conclusion. Each month, the accrual in the general ledger for claim reserves, including IBNR, is adjusted based on earned underwriting income and the number of months since the inception of the Fund year. This accrual is the adjusted at the end of each quarter in accordance with the actuary’s projections.

5.) **METHODS OF ASSESSING CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEMBERS**

At least one month before the end of the year, the Fund adopts a budget for the upcoming year based on the most recent census. Per covered person rates are computed for each line of coverage for each Fund member, and are approved by the Fund as a part of the budget adoption and rate certification process. Entities may receive rate adjustments of +2.5% in addition to normal increases to reflect loss ratio experience. These rates are used to compute the members’ monthly assessment based on the updated census, and are mailed to the members approximately 15 days before the beginning of the month. The billing also includes the member’s updated census for verification each month by the local entity. Retroactive adjustments for enrollment changes are limited to 2 months. Former employees (COBRA, Conversion and some retirees) and Dependent Age 31 participants are billed directly by the Fund.

6.) **COVERAGE PURCHASED FROM INSURERS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND (MRHIF)**

The Fund provides coverage on a self-insured basis, and secures excess insurance to cap the Funds’ specific (i.e. per covered person per policy year) retention. The Fund is a member of the Municipal Reinsurance Health Insurance Fund (MRHIF). The MRHIF retains claims above the Fund’s local specific retention and purchases an excess insurance policy that is filed with the Department of Banking and Insurance in accordance with the applicable regulations.

7.) THE INITIAL AND RENEWAL RATING METHODOLOGIES

Upon application to the Fund, the prospective member's benefit program is reviewed by the actuary to determine its projected claim cost. In this evaluation, the actuary takes into consideration:

- a.) age/sex factor as compared to the average for the existing Fund membership;
- b.) the plan of benefits for the prospective member; and
- c.) loss data if available.

The actuary then recommends a relativity factor to the Fund's base rates. This recommendation requires Fund approval before the prospective member is admitted to the Fund.

Rates for all members are adjusted at the beginning of each Fund year to reflect the new budget. Rates can reflect loss ratio adjustments and other underwriting criteria. The Fund may also adopt mid Fund year rate changes to reflect changes in plan design, participation in lines of coverage, or a budget amendment. Additionally, if a member terminates a line of coverage but continues membership for other lines of coverage, the rates for the other lines of coverage may be adjusted and the member shall not be eligible for membership in the dropped line of coverage for a three year period.

8.) RATING PERIODS

All rating periods for municipal members coincide with the Fund year while rating periods for school members coincide with their fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

9.) FACTORS IF RATES FOR MEMBERS JOINING THE FUND DURING A FUND YEAR ARE TO BE ADJUSTED.

Unless otherwise authorized as part of the offer of membership, where a member joins during a Fund year, the member's initial rates are only valid through the end of that Fund year or, for schools, fiscal year, at which time the rates are adjusted for all members to reflect the new budget.

10.) PROVISION FOR PPOs, etc.

The Fund offers employees the option of selecting various plans depending upon member bargaining agreements. Generally, it is the policy of the Fund to encourage selection of lower cost plan designs as opposed to traditional indemnity plans, and the Fund provides promotional material to assist members in employee communication programs concerning optional plan designs.

11.) OPEN ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

Open enrollment periods shall be scheduled by the Fund at least yearly for each member and as is otherwise required to comply with plan document requirements and to effectuate plan design, network changes, and plan migrations that may take place.

12.) COBRA AND CONVERSION OPTIONS

The Fund provides COBRA coverage at a rate equal to the member's current rate and benefit plan design, plus the appropriate administrative charge. The Fund has arranged for a COBRA administrator to enroll eligible participants and to collect the premium. Where provided for in a member's plan document, the Fund provides a conversion option at rates established by the Fund. Unless otherwise specified in the member's plan document, the conversion option duplicates the conversion option offered by the SHBC. The Fund's coverage for individuals covered under COBRA or conversion options shall terminate effective the date the member withdraws from the Fund, or otherwise ceases to be a member of the Fund.

13.) DISCLOSURE OF BENEFIT LIMITS

The Fund discloses benefit limits in plan booklets provided to all covered employees.

14.) PARTICIPATION RULES WHEN ALL OR PART OF THE PREMIUM IS DERIVED FROM EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

All assessments, including additional assessments and dividends, are the responsibility of the member, not the employee or former employee. Employee contributions, if any, are solely an internal policy of the member which shall not impact on the member's obligations to the Fund or confer any additional rights to the employees. Where the Fund directly bills an employee, (i.e. COBRA, Direct bill retiree, etc.), this shall be considered as a service to reduce the member's administrative burden, and the member shall be responsible in the event of non-payment.

15.) RETIREES

The Fund duplicates coverage for eligible retirees. The Fund's coverage of a retiree shall terminate effective the date the member local unit withdraws from the Fund, or otherwise ceases to be a member of the Fund.

16.) NEWBORN CHILDREN

All plan documents will have the following language:

"You may remove family members from the policy at any time, but you may only add members within sixty (60) days of the change in family status (marriage, birth of a child, etc.). It is your responsibility to notify your employer of needed changes. If family members cease to be eligible, claims will not be paid. The actual change in coverage (and the corresponding change in premium) will not take place until you have formally requested that change. Newborn children, but not grandchildren of an eligible employee, shall be automatically covered from birth for (60) days, even if not enrolled within the required sixty (60) days. In the event of an eligible dependent

giving birth to a child, (a grandchild) benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn grandchild will apply for up to 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, the mother's or newborn grandchild's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, may discharge the mother or her newborn grandchild earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.6 (d) 17, automatic coverage of a newborn child or an adopted child is provided for a period of 60 days from the date of birth or the date of adoption."

17.) PLAN DOCUMENT

The Fund prepares a detailed plan document for each member local unit (or each employee bargaining group within a member local unit as the case may be), and an employee handbook provides a summary of the coverage provided by the plan. Each booklet (or certificate) shall contain at least the following information and be provided to all covered employees within thirty (30) days of coverage being effective.

A.) General Information

- Enrollment procedures and eligibility.
- Dependent eligibility.
- When coverage begins.
- When can coverage be changed.
- When does coverage end.
- COBRA provisions.
- Conversion privilege.

B.) Benefits

- Definitions.
- Description of benefits.

Eligible services and supplies.
Deductibles and co-payments.
Examples as needed.
Exclusions.
Retiree coverage, before age 65 or after (if any).

C.) Claims Procedures

- Submission of claim.
- Proof of loss.
- Appeal procedures.

D.) Cost Containment Programs

- Pre-admission.
- Second surgical opinion.
- Other cost containment programs.
- Application and level of employee penalties.

18.) PROCEDURES FOR THE CLOSURE OF FUND YEARS

Approximately every six months after the end of a Fund year, the Fund evaluates the results to determine if dividends or additional assessments are warranted. Most claims are paid within twelve months of year end, and at that time the Fund begins to consider closing the year, unless excess insurance recoveries are pending or litigation is likely.

Fully insured plans are not considered in surplus retention. Entities with only Medicare Advantage/Employer Group Waiver Programs are not included in closed year balance shares.

When the Fund determines that a Fund year should be closed:

- A reserve is established by the actuary to cover any unpaid claims or IBNR.
- The Fund decides on the final dividend or supplemental assessment.
- A closure resolution is adopted transferring all remaining assets and liabilities of that Fund year to the "Closed Fund Year/Contingency Account".
- Each member's pro rata share of the residual assets are computed and added to its existing balance in the Closed fund Year/Contingency Account. Any member who has withdrawn from the Fund shall receive its remaining share of the Closed fund Year/Contingency Account six years after the date of its withdrawal.

19.) "RUN-IN" or "RUN-OUT" LIABILITY

The Fund covers the "run-out" liability of all members - i.e., liability for claims incurred but not reported by a former Fund member during the period it was a member. Upon approval of the Executive Committee, the Fund may also cover the run-in liability of a perspective member (i.e., the liability for claims incurred but not reported by a prospective member in connection with the provision of health benefits during the period prior to joining the Fund). When the Fund covers run-in liability, the prospective member shall be assessed the expected ultimate cost of run-in claims, as certified by the Fund's actuary and approved by the Executive Committee. The assessment shall be paid entirely within the Fund year the member joined the Fund.

20.) CLAIMS AND OPERATIONS AUDITS

The Fund retains a claim auditor experienced in auditing self-insured claims and operations. Annual claims and/or operational audits will be performed specific to the needs of the Fund and other variables impacting the health insurance market.

21.) CLAIMS - ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUSTMENTS

Fund policy is to delegate these decisions to the program manager and fund chairman. The program manager will include a report on any approved adjustments in his monthly report. The report will include a listing of adjusted items, the amount, and a year to date total of all such adjustments. Memoranda explaining and documenting such adjustments will be supplied, without "protected health information", to the fund attorney and executive director. Such memoranda shall be part of the fund's claims records and shall be subject to review and audit by executive committee members, auditors, and examiners.

If the program manager and fund chairman deny a requested adjustment, the claimant will be advised accordingly and will be able to file a claims appeal if necessary. The executive committee will not routinely review claims exceptions or adjustments and will limit its role to reviewing claim appeals.

22.) CLAIM APPEALS

The following procedures are to be followed in regard to claims appeals:

Claim appeals are to be summarized 10 days prior to a meeting by the Program Manager for review by the fund attorney and executive director.

Claim appeal synopses will be included in agendas after review and mailed to executive committee members 7 days prior to the meeting.

Synopses will include a summary of contractual issues, the financial impact upon the fund, reinsurance implications, the results of similar prior appeals, and a recommended disposition. Less emphasis will be placed upon the medical details of individual cases.

For appeals requiring medical judgment or expertise, professional assistance will be sought and summarized. Sources of such assistance are: Nurse case managers, claims agent medical directors, utilization management professionals accessible through the MRHIF and its reinsurers, and medical experts that might be retained by the fund on an as needed basis. The Program Manager has recommended CSG as the primary source for such independent advice. This firm can also be used to provide independent advice for other claims where intervention is requested or required.

For appeals having implications on reinsurance reimbursements, the effected reinsurer will be given the opportunity to provide input, including medical review by its agents.

Commissioners should recuse themselves from claim appeals if they have knowledge that it pertains to an employee from their respective municipality.

Employees may appeal executive committee decisions to the Independent Appeal Organizations designated by the Fund.

23.) ENROLLMENTS AND TERMINATIONS PAST 60 DAYS

Enrollments and terminations can be processed up to 60 days in the past. Should there be a need to enroll or terminate an employee past 60 days due to a missed open enrollment period or a qualified life event, the member must submit this request in writing. The Fund Small Claims Committee will anonymously review each request, including the financial impact to the Fund. The Committee will approve/deny the request within 45 days.

24.) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE/EGWP ONLY

The Fund may offer retiree coverage with a fully insured Medicare Advantage and/or Employer Group Waiver Program membership to an entity that does not have its active members in the Fund. The carrier will provide the Fund with a per employee, per month cost for a plan that matches equal to, or better to the current retiree plan. The Fund may add additional expenses to the price per employee. The entity would be required to sign an Indemnity and Trust agreement.

25.) DIVIDEND CAP POLICY

The targeted surplus range is between 2.5 months of claims to 5 months of claims. The Finance Committee will periodically review the Fund's surplus position. If the surplus exceeds a total 5 months of claims, a dividend recommendation of 50% of the surplus over the retention cap will be presented to the Executive Committee.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST: _____
SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-10

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
APPOINTING OF FUND COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER TO
THE MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND**

WHEREAS, The North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund has agreed to join the Municipal Reinsurance Health Insurance Fund; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the conditions of membership contained in the by-laws of the fund, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund must appoint a Fund Commissioner, and Alternate;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund as follows:

1. That Silvio Esposito is hereby appointed as Fund Commissioner.
2. That Tammeshia Smith is hereby appointed as Alternate to the Fund Commissioner.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-11

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
AUTHORIZING COMMISSION TREASURER TO PROCESS
CONTRACTED PAYMENTS AND EXPENSES**

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has deemed it necessary and appropriate to provide authorization to the Fund Treasurer to pay certain Fund contracted payments and expenses during the month(s) when the Commission does not meet; and

WHEREAS, payment by the Fund Treasurer of contracted payments and expenses for the month(s) in which the Fund does not meet shall be ratified by the Fund at its next regularly scheduled meeting; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund that the Fund Treasurer is hereby authorized to process the contracted payments and Fund expenses for all months in which the Fund does not meet during the year 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund shall ratify the contracted payments and Fund expenses so paid by the Fund Treasurer pursuant to the Resolution at its next regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
MUNICIPAL REINSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND
INDEMNITY AND TRUST AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT made this 25th day of January, 2024, by and between the Municipal Reinsurance Health Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as the "REINSURANCE FUND", and the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund, hereinafter referred to as the "FUND".

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, several local governmental units are desirous of forming a Reinsurance claims joint insurance fund as authorized and described in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq., and the administrative regulations promulgated pursuant thereto; and,

WHEREAS, the FUND has agreed to become a member of the REINSURANCE FUND and to share in the obligations and benefits flowing from such membership with other members of the REINSURANCE FUND in accordance with and to the extent provided for in the Bylaws of the REINSURANCE FUND, and in consideration of such obligations and benefits to be shared by the membership of the REINSURANCE FUND.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed as follows:

- 1.) The FUND accepts the REINSURANCE FUND's Bylaws as approved and adopted and agrees to be bound by and to comply with each and every provision of the said Bylaws, the pertinent statutes and administrative regulations pertaining to same and as set forth in the Risk Management Plan.
- 2.) The FUND agrees to participate in the REINSURANCE FUND with respect to the types of insurance listed in the FUND's Resolution to Join.
- 3.) The FUND agrees to become a member of the REINSURANCE FUND for an initial period not to exceed three (3) years, the commencement of which shall commence effective January 1, 2024.
- 4.) The FUND certifies that it has not defaulted on any claims if self-insured and has not been cancelled for non-payment of insurance premiums for a period of at least two (2) years prior to the date hereof.
- 5.) In consideration of membership in the REINSURANCE FUND, the FUND agrees that it shall jointly and severally assume and discharge the liability of each and every member of the REINSURANCE FUND, all of whom as a condition of membership in the REINSURANCE FUND shall execute a verbatim counterpart of this agreement, and by execution hereof the full faith and credit of the FUND is pledged to the punctual payment of any sum which shall become due to the REINSURANCE FUND in accordance with the Bylaws thereof, this agreement, the REINSURANCE FUND's Risk Management Plan, or any applicable statute.
- 6.) If the REINSURANCE FUND in the enforcement of any part of this agreement shall incur necessary expense, or become obligated to pay attorney's fees and/or court

costs, the FUND agrees to reimburse the REINSURANCE FUND for all such reasonable expenses, fees, and costs on demand.

- 7.) The FUND and the REINSURANCE FUND agree that the REINSURANCE FUND shall hold all monies paid by the FUND to the REINSURANCE FUND as fiduciaries for the benefit of REINSURANCE FUND claimants, all in accordance with administrative regulations.
- 8.) The REINSURANCE FUND shall establish a Trust Account entitled "Claims or Loss Retention Fund". The REINSURANCE FUND shall maintain the Trust Account in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq., N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1, and such other regulations or statutes as may be applicable. More specifically, the Trust Account shall be utilized solely for the payment of claims, allocated claim expense, and excess insurance or reinsurance premiums for such risk or liability or as "surplus" as such term is defined by the administrative regulations.
- 9.) Each FUND who shall become a member of the REINSURANCE FUND shall be obligated to execute this agreement.

NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

ADOPTED: JANUARY 17, 2024

Chairman

Attest:

Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 24-13

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2023 AND JANUARY 2024 BILLS LISTS**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund held a Public Meeting on **January 25, 2024** 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 November 2023, December 2023 and January 2024 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 December 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 November 2023, December 2023 and January 2024 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: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-14

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
AMENDING BANKING EARNINGS BASE RATE**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund (hereinafter the Fund), finds it necessary for the proper conduct and order of business that official depositories for the Fund be designated and named; and

WHEREAS Citizens Bank (formerly Investors Bank) for Banking services - at an earnings rate based on a combined average balance of \$20,000,000 of participating joint insurance funds which will earn base of 4.20% as of 7/1/2023 plus 80% beta on Federal Fund Target Rate increase / decrease when utilizing the fully (FDIC) insured sweep product for the funds - is hereby proposed by the Board of Fund Commissioners as the official designated depository in accord with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5-15.1(f)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the _____ Joint Insurance Fund, that Citizens Bank (formerly Investors Bank) for Banking services - at an earnings rate based on a combined average balance of \$20,000,000 of participating joint insurance funds which will earn base of 4.20% as of 7/1/2023 plus 80% beta on Federal Fund Target Rate increase / decrease when utilizing the fully (FDIC) insured sweep product for the funds-is hereby approved by the Board of Fund Commissioners as the official designated depository in accord with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5-15.1(f) and that sums so deposited may be withdrawn upon a check, draft or order of the Board of Fund Commissioners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution, duly executed, be delivered to the proper officers of Citizens Bank.

ADOPTED: January 25, 2024

BY: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

APPENDIX I

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
OPEN MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2023
RANDOLPH MUNICIPAL HALL- 9:30 AM**

Meeting of Fund Commissioners called to order by Scott Heck, Chair. Open Public Meetings notice read into record.

ROLL CALL OF 2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FUND COMMISSIONERS

2023 Executive Committee		
Scott Heck, Chair	Borough of Ringwood	Present
Tom Russo, Secretary	Town of Newton	Present
Barbara Russo	Township of Berkeley Heights	Absent
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park	Absent
Tammy Smith	Knowlton BOE	Absent
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover	Present
Carinne Piccolo- Kaufer	Township of Hardyston	Present
Executive Committee Alternates:		
Cathy Shanahan	Township of West Milford	Present
Adam Brewer	Township of Pequannock	Present
Greg Poff	Borough of Randolph*	Present

Fund Commissioners		
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale	Present
Michael Restel	Township of Wantage	Present
Grant Rome	Township of Sparta	Absent
Diana Francisco	Andover Township*	Absent
Ralph Blakeslee	Borough of Netcong*	Absent
Keith Kazmark	Borough of Woodland Park	Absent
Rey Julve	Township of Dover	Absent
Andrew Fiore	Borough of Harding	Absent
Katie Yanke	Borough of Montville*	Absent
Joe Sabatini	Township of Byram*	Absent
James Burnett	Borough of Madison*	Absent
Open	Township of Prospect Park*	Absent
John Shepherd	Township of Roxbury*	Absent
Debra Millikin	Township of Jefferson*	Absent
Open	Kinnelon	Absent

Gabby Evangelista	Borough of Wharton	Absent
Fund Commissioner Alternates		
Ashleigh Frueholz	Township of Byram*	Absent
Jennifer Dodd	Town of Newton	Absent
Lisa Spring	Township of Roxbury*	Absent
Joseph Kovalcik	Borough of Wharton	Absent
Perry Mayers	Borough of Lincoln Park	Absent
Jasmin Azcona	Township of Bloomingdale	Absent
Michele Lantau	Township of Sparta	Present
Open	Borough of Netcong*	Absent
Victoria Dobrusin	Township of Dover	Absent
Sandra Emmerich	Borough of Madison*	Absent
Nancy VanHorn	Township of Wantage	Absent
Deborah Bonanno	Mountain Lakes	Absent
William Egan	Township of Jefferson	Absent
Dana Vitz	Township of Hardyston	Absent
	Town of Boonton	Absent
	Madison Housing Authority	Absent

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services	Brandon Lodics Emily Koval
Program Manager	Vozza Agency	David Vozza Randi Gerber Brittany Vozza
Attorney	Dorsey & Semrau	Edward Pasternak Fred Semrau
Claims Administrator	Aetna	Jason Silverstein
Dental Administrator	Delta Dental	Luhra Ebarle
Prescription Administrator	Express Scripts	Charles Yuk
Treasurer	Michael Soccio	Present
Auditor	Nisivoccia	Absent
Actuary	John Vataha	Absent
Wellness Coordinator	Civitas	Absent

PRESENT FUND PROFESSIONALS:

Cindy Bronco, Skylands Risk Management

Staci Grant, Henry O Baker
Charles Yuk, Express Scripts
Frank Covelli, World Insurance

FLAG SALUTE

CORRESPONDENCE - None

APPROVAL OF OPEN SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 MINUTES:

MOTION TO APPROVE OPEN MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2023, AS AMENDED:

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Esposito
VOTE:	9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention

REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PRO FORMA REPORTS

Fast Track Financial Report – Associate Executive Director Koval reviewed the Financial Fast Track through August 2023. She stated that August showed 8 high cost claimants that his in the month which shows a slight loss. Mrs. Koval stated it is not a concern as they are seeing this State wide. She stated that Mr. Vozza will touch on the trends the fund is seeing.

2024 NJHIF BUDGET - ADOPTION

Mrs. Koval stated that there is no change to the budget since introduction. Mrs. Koval stated that the rates that were sent out are now final and please contact Emily if there are any questions.

MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2024 BUDGET

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Poff
VOTE:	All in Favor

Discussion of Budget and Assessments -

MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION:	Commissioner Poff
SECOND:	Commissioner Russo
VOTE:	10 Ayes, 0 Nays

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 32-23 AND APPROVE THE 2024 NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,700,093

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Brewer
VOTE:	10 Ayes, 0 Nays

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/CONTRACTS

Medical TPA RFP – Mrs. Koval stated that the Medical TPA RFP was due on 9/21/2023. The Fund received two responses, from Aetna and UMR, a subsidiary of United Healthcare. Enclosed is a memo that was sent to the Contracts Committee for review and consideration. Mrs. Koval stated that we are only able to award the contract to one carrier. The committee agreed to the recommendation to contract with Aetna at no increase in administrative cost over 2023.

She stated that they are working with the Comptrollers office to go out for Medical TPA next year at the MRHIF level. Mr. Vozza stated that Aetna has a more favorable administration

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 33-23 AWARDING THE EUS CONTRACT TO AETNA:

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Kaufer
VOTE:	10 Ayes, 0 Nays

Fund Treasurer – the Fund Treasurer RFP has been re-released, as per the decision of the committee last month. The responses are due 11/9/2023. We may either meet later this year to formalize or handle in January at re-org. Mrs. Koval stated that there will be a contracts committee meeting prior to the January meeting.

Mr. Chairman Heck appointed Mr. Poff to join the contacts committee.

INDEMNITY AND TRUST AGREEMENTS

The following member's Fund agreements have expired or are expiring at the end of this year. Please include the Resolution to renew on your next local meeting.

PRORAM MANAGER REPORT - Program Manager reviewed the following items from the report included in the agenda:

2023 OPEN ENROLLMENT

The NJMEBF will be holding open enrollment for the 2023 plan year from 10/30/2023 – 11/10/2023. All changes must be processed online in Benefits Express by 11/17/2023 in order for ID cards to be generated for any members making plan changes and in member's hands by January 1, 2024.

NJMEBF – CLAIMS REVIEW

Please find attached a claims and prescription review covering the period of 1/1/2023 – 8/31/2023 vs the same period for 2022. Mr. Vozza handed out a PowerPoint presentation with the medical trends and reviewed that with the committee.

NEW MEDICAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

We have two potential new members that have expressed an interest in becoming a member of the NJMEBF. One member is currently with the SHBP, the other is self-funded with Horizon. Information received is still currently under review. If our review has been completed and the operations committee has had an opportunity to review prior to the meeting, we will forward an additional supplement outlining new members for review and discussion. Resolution 37-23 offers membership to Rockaway Borough.

WELLNESS PROGRAM

Miss Brittany Vozza stated that the Wellness committee met via conference call on October 4th, 2023 to discuss the RFP proposals received and to review program layout ideas for 2024 and 2025.

We received one proposal for each RFP that was issued. All were from the current vendors. The committee recommended moving forward with all contracts at the last meeting for a one-year term. After further review and negotiations, we received a revised proposal from Lifeline screening which locked in the screening type and price through 2025. The committee would recommend committing to two years on this contract.

Other items discussed were the future of the program and how to move forward with a growing population while containing the budget. The committee agreed to start placing a larger focus on the personal growth of the participants and allowing them to use the education and tools they have been provided with along with additional required screenings. We feel this shift will help offset the per participant cost for Towns who have been in the program for over five years.

We discussed the scope of services for a new wellness coordinator RFP and while we have not finalized the new scope yet, the committee has recommended continuing the contract with Civitas NJ through March 31st, 2024, at the current monthly fee. This will allow us time to develop a proper scope of services and also allow the current consultant to assist with the 2024 Program rollout and provide support to the new consultant in understanding the consultant's role and scope of services.

New Member – The Town of Dover has submitted their formal application for the 2024 wellness program. The wellness committee is recommending approval of their application to be effective with the 1/1/24 program year.

MOTION TO ALLOW THE TOWN OF DOVER TO JOIN THE WELLNESS PROGRAM EFFECTIVE 1/1/24

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Poff
VOTE:	All in Favor

Lifeline Screening - The following health risks were identified in total of 134 screened:

Carotid Artery Disease: 1 critical

Peripheral Arterial Disease: 3 abnormal
Osteoporosis: 20 moderate- high risk
A1C: 29 pre-diabetes & diabetes
C-Reactive Protein: 57 average –high risk
Liver Enzymes: 35 abnormal
Testosterone: 9 abnormal low

Reminders:

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. According to www.Breastcancer.org

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers diagnosed in women (30%). In 2023 an estimated 297,790 new cases are expected to be diagnosed in women and 2,800 in men. The earlier it's detected, the higher the chances of successful treatment. Regular mammograms remain the frontline defense in breast cancer detection. Women aged 40 and over are generally advised to have mammograms every one or two years. However, guidelines may vary, so it's essential to consult with a healthcare provider about individual risk factors and the best screening plan.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 34-23 AWARDING WELLNESS VENDOR
CONTRACT TO HEART SCAN**

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Kaufer
VOTE:	10 Ayes, 0 Nays

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 35-23 EXTENDING THE WELLNESS
COORDINATOR CONTRACT**

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner KAufer
VOTE:	10 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention

MOTION TO ADD RESOLUTION 37-23 TO THE PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Kaufer
VOTE:	All in Favor

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 37-23 OFFERING MEMBERSHIP TO ROCKAWAY
BOROUGH**

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner Kaufer
VOTE:	10 Ayes, 0 Nays

Mrs. Gerber reviewed the informational portion of the Program Manager Report below:

AETNA

Gag Clause Prohibition Compliance Attestation - Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA), group health plans and health insurance issuers are prohibited from entering into agreements with service providers restricting certain information that the plan may make available to another party. Plan sponsors and issuers must make a Gag Clause Prohibition Compliance Attestation (GCPCA) annually to confirm their compliance with the prohibition.

What is a gag clause?

For purposes of the GCPCA, a “gag clause” is a contractual provision that directly or indirectly restricts a plan or issuer from sharing specific cost and quality information with another party. For example, a provision in an agreement between a third-party administrator (TPA) and a self-funded group health plan that allows access to provider-specific cost and quality of care information only at the TPA’s discretion would constitute a gag clause. However, the guidance clarifies that healthcare providers, networks, TPAs, and other service providers may place reasonable restrictions on public disclosure of information.

The first “Gag Clause “attestation must be submitted before December 31st, 2023, and then annually thereafter. Our office is currently reviewing the requirements of the attestation and will be handling the submission(s) on behalf of the NJMEBF.

Covid and RSV Vaccines

Some Aetna members have recently experienced challenges when attempting to receive the newly approved COVID-19 and RSV vaccines at retail pharmacy locations (i.e. CVS Pharmacy, Walgreens, Walmart, Rite Aid) when **covered under the member’s medical benefit**. This is because it takes pharmacies several days to update their systems to bill health plans for vaccines under the medical benefit.

Background

This is an industry-wide issue and not Aetna/CVS Health specific. Aetna has provided the information needed for our contracted pharmacy chains to bill directly for these vaccines; however, we cannot control the time it takes for pharmacies to update their billing systems.

Aetna’s provider relations team has been in communication with our contracted pharmacies to ensure they are clearly communicating vaccine coverage to members and have the information needed to bill Aetna directly.

Current status

As of September 28, several large pharmacy and grocery chains, including **CVS Pharmacy, Walgreens, Walmart, Albertsons, Giant** and **HEB** have confirmed that their billing systems are now updated to bill Aetna directly under the medical benefit for the new COVID-19 and RSV vaccines.

Other pharmacy and grocery chains are still working to update their systems over the next two weeks.

Member options

If a member experiences a challenge accessing the COVID-19 or RSV vaccine at their pharmacy, they have several options, subject to their plan benefits:

- Members can access these vaccines from their physician or healthcare provider.
- Members can access these vaccines at one of the pharmacy chains noted above.

- Members can pay out of pocket and submit for reimbursement.

For members who may have already paid out of pocket for the COVID-19 or RSV vaccine, they can request reimbursement by submitting a claim. Any members who have paid out of pocket for their vaccine will be made whole. Our customer service representatives have been informed of the issue and are prepared to respond to member questions.

AETNA MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

Effective January 1, 2024, Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO plans will transition to a new CMS contract. As a result of the transition, retirees will receive new ID cards prior to January 1, 2024. **Aetna ID numbers and the service center information currently listed on retiree ID cards will not change.** The only change to the ID card will be the contract number, located under the ID number. Any retirees moving to the Medicare Advantage plan for December 2023 will receive the new member ID card. Aetna notification letters will be mailed to affected members the first week of December.

UHC MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

Effective January 1, 2024, there is an ID card change that will affect our UHC Medicare Advantage members. This is only an administrative change and will have no impact on the coverage of services provided to the members. This change will allow UHC MA the ability to deploy future pharmacy initiatives to improve the health of our members and overall member pharmacy experience.

Beginning in November or December, members will be receiving new member ID cards along with plan information as part of the standard renewal process. Members should discard their old ID card and begin using the new card as of January 1, 2024.

Communication is being sent to pharmacies, notifying them of the change. If an old ID card is used, the member may be told the ID card presented does not show them as having coverage and the pharmacy should ask the member to present their new ID card. Members should contact customer service at the telephone number provided on the back of their member ID cards if they have any issues filling their prescription. Customer Service is aware of the changes and can assist the member with obtaining a replacement ID card, if necessary or speaking with the pharmacy to ensure the member has access to care.

TREASURER: Mr. Soccio reviewed the bills list for the month of October and the treasurers report.

MOTION TO ADD RESOLUTION 36-23 APPROVING THE OCTOBER BILLS LIST

MOTION:	Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND:	Commissioner
VOTE:	All in Favor

ATTORNEY: Fund Attorney stated that they are working on a pre litigation case on an Out of Network matter. They met with the claims committee to review. Mr. Pasternak was able to come to a settlement of \$69,000 to settle the case. Mr. Semrau requested permission from the claims committee asking for authorization to settle the case.

MOTION TO ADD RESOLUTION 28-23 TO THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND: Commissioner Esposito
VOTE: All in Favor

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 28-23 TO ALLOW THE FUND ATTORNEY TO SETTLE THE CASE WITH THE RECCOMENATION OF THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE

MOTION: Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND: Commissioner Brewer
VOTE: 10 Ayes, Nays

AETNA: Mr. Silverstein reviewed the claims report for the months of August 2023, included in the agenda. He stated that there were 8 high-cost claims above the threshold of \$50,000. He reviewed the dashboard report.

EXPRESS SCRIPTS: Mr. Yuk reviewed the August 2023 report included in the agenda. He stated that all costs continue to stay down. Mr. Yuk reviewed the top indication and top medications utilized by the fund.

DELTA DENTAL: No report

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

MOTION: Commissioner T. Russo
SECOND: Commissioner Brewer
VOTE: Unanimous

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 10:21 am

NEXT MEETING: January 25, 2023, 9:30 am
RANDOLPH MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Jordyn DeLorenzo

For

Tom Russo, Secretary

NJMEBF Finance Committee Meeting

December 15, 2023 – Zoom

Attendees:

Thomas Russo
Adam Brewer
Scott Heck
Mike Soccio
Dave Vozza
Bandon Lodics
Jordyn DeLorenzo

Mr. Lodics reviewed the Dividend illustration that was distributed to the finance committee.

- Vernon and Chatham's is now included.
 - Past practices are to keep 2.5 months worth of claims
 - October was a good month for surplus growth.
- 1) North Dividend Illustration thru 10/31- good news is we had another revenue generating month for October. Also, based on the bank intel Mike shared, November claims were under budget as well.
- a. Tab 2 of this document is an overview of the Surplus position going back to 2015. This is informational, but a good overview of the happenings over the past few years.

Based on the continued improvement of the Fund and surplus earnings. We would be comfortable with either of the below dividend distributions:

25%	\$1,508,643	\$12,298,318	3.1
33%	\$1,991,409	\$11,815,552	2.9

These would leave the Fund with 3 months of 2024 claims reserve.

We understand the importance of dividend payments being received by EOY. In the chance that the Committee decides to proceed with a dividend, we went ahead and advertised an Executive Committee meeting for Tuesday, 12/19 at 9:30 am. This would be a virtual meeting with this being the only agenda items.

The committee agreed to do with the 33% option.

Meeting Adjourned.

**NORTH JERSEY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND
OPEN MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2023
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL- 9:30 AM**

Meeting of Fund Commissioners called to order by Scott Heck, Chair. Open Public Meetings notice read into record.

ROLL CALL OF 2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FUND COMMISSIONERS

2023 Executive Committee		
Scott Heck, Chair	Borough of Ringwood	Present
Tom Russo, Secretary	Town of Newton	Present
Barbara Russo	Township of Berkeley Heights	Present
Dina Valente - Stoel	Borough of Lincoln Park	Absent
Tammy Smith	Knowlton BOE	Present
Silvio Esposito	Township of Hanover	Present
Carinne Piccolo- Kaufer	Township of Hardyston	Present
Executive Committee Alternates:		
Cathy Shanahan	Township of West Milford	Present
Adam Brewer	Township of Pequannock	Present
Greg Poff	Borough of Randolph*	Present

Fund Commissioners		
Mike Sondermeyer	Borough of Bloomingdale	Present
Michael Restel	Township of Wantage	Present
Grant Rome	Township of Sparta	Absent
Diana Francisco	Andover Township*	Absent
Ralph Blakeslee	Borough of Netcong*	Present
Keith Kazmark	Borough of Woodland Park	Absent
Rey Julve	Township of Dover	Absent
Andrew Fiore	Borough of Harding	Absent
Katie Yanke	Borough of Montville*	Absent
Joe Sabatini	Township of Byram*	Absent
James Burnett	Borough of Madison*	Absent
Open	Township of Prospect Park*	Absent
John Shepherd	Township of Roxbury*	Absent

Debra Millikin	Township of Jefferson*	Absent
Open	Kinnelon	Absent
Gabby Evangelista	Borough of Wharton	Absent
Fund Commissioner Alternates		
Ashleigh Frueholz	Township of Byram*	Absent
Jennifer Dodd	Town of Newton	Absent
Lisa Spring	Township of Roxbury*	Absent
Joseph Kovalcik	Borough of Wharton	Absent
Perry Mayers	Borough of Lincoln Park	Absent
Jasmin Azcona	Township of Bloomingdale	Absent
Michele Lantau	Township of Sparta	Present
Open	Borough of Netcong*	Absent
Victoria Dobrusin	Township of Dover	Absent
Sandra Emmerich	Borough of Madison*	Absent
Nancy VanHorn	Township of Wantage	Absent
Deborah Bonanno	Mountain Lakes	Absent
William Egan	Township of Jefferson	Absent
Dana Vitz	Township of Hardyston	Absent
	Town of Boonton	Absent
	Madison Housing Authority	Absent

Executive Director	PERMA Risk Management Services	Brandon Lodics Emily Koval
Program Manager	Vozza Agency	David Vozza Randi Gerber Brittany Vozza
Attorney	Dorsey & Semrau	Edward Pasternak Fred Semrau
Claims Administrator	Aetna	Jason Silverstein
Dental Administrator	Delta Dental	Luhra Ebarle
Prescription Administrator	Express Scripts	Charles Yuk
Treasurer	Michael Soccio	Present
Auditor	Nisivoccia	Absent
Actuary	John Vataha	Absent
Wellness Coordinator	Civitas	Absent

CORRESPONDENCE - None

REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DIVIDEND DISCUSSION - The Finance Committee met on December 15th virtually to discuss the below dividend options. They are recommending the distribution of \$1,991,409. This leaves the Fund in a comfortable surplus position going in to 2024. The Committee reviewed the financials through October as well as got a peak of what November looked like and both showed a slight gain. Mr. Lodics stated that they discussed that around 3 months worth of claims is safer to keep in surplus. The committee agreed on 53% which is 1.9 million.

North Jersey Regional Employee Benefits Fund			
Dividend Options			
Financial Transactions through 10/31/2023			
1) 2024 Monthly Proposed Claims Budget		\$4,023,048	
2) Surplus Target @ 2.5 Months of Budgeted Claims		\$10,057,620	
3) Surplus as of October 31, 2023		\$13,806,961	
Available for Dividend		\$3,749,341	
Available for Dividend Distribution Options			
Distribution %	\$ Amount	Remaining Surplus	# of Months of Claims
53%	\$1,991,409	\$11,815,552	2.9

Tom Russo said they were super conservative in the approach to make sure that the committee was comfortable for the fund. He stated that everyone was collaborative.

Mr. Brewer echoed the appreciation of everyone involved to get this completed before the end of the year.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 39-23

MOTION: Commissioner Brewer
SECOND: Commissioner B. Russo
VOTE: 11 Ayes, 0 Nays

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

MOTION: Commissioner Blakeslee
SECOND: Commissioner Esposito
VOTE: Unanimous

APPENDIX II

OATH OF OFFICE

State of New Jersey

County of Morris

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of New Jersey; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the governments established in the United States and in this state, under the authority of the people and that I will faithfully, impartially, and justly perform all the duties as a member of the Executive Committee of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund according to the best of my ability. (so help me God).

Sworn and subscribed to

before me this (25th day of January 2024)

_____, Esquire

Attorney-at-law of New Jersey