



**NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING
WAS HELD AT THE ADELPHIA FIRE STATION ON MARCH 5TH 2022**

Meeting was called to order at 9:36 hours by Vice President Craig Aumack
Salute to the flag and a moment of silence for our past members

Roll Call: Vice president Craig Aumack & Secretary Artie Hayducka.
Dr. Harry carter was excused as well as Treasurer Edward Mc Dermott

Legislative report by Lynn Nowak – See attached pages

Treasurer's report – none given at this time – However their will be a full report by next meeting along with and audit of the books for over the last 3 years.

Secretary report FYI: our old website had crashed and was not able to add anymore information or documents to the site. So, we had to have a new website built which cost \$5,000.00 total. However, we now can add all new documents and other items and do not have to pay for updating the website each quarter. This will save us \$600. Pre year.

Our website address is still the same which is NJSAFD.Org / .Net / .com

I have a total of \$339.31 cash out of pocket the following items 190 copies of the minutes 195.32, 2 rolls of stamps 116.00, and a box of envelopes 27.99 / Artie Hayducka

Old Business - There was a lengthy discussion on our commissioner's salary which had to be approved by the town council before any of the budget would approve by the state. There were no other issues with this and most budget were passed without a problem.

New Business – Effective June 4th there will be no more copies of the minutes mailed out. Everyone will be able to view them online. This will save us about \$300 dollars a quarter.

We will need ever fire districts e-mail address, Commissioners Names and Phone number or a contact number we can reach out too. We are currently working on this. So, if you can please send a copy of your e-mail address and information to Hayducka426@GMail.Com it would be very helpful and thank you in advance.

Over the past few years several members of our executive board members had attend the Congressional Fire Service Institute Dinner in Washington DC. Dr. Cater, Roger Potts & Artie

Hayducka use to attend this yearly until Covid hit the nation. Now that Covid is under control they are starting to have the CFSI Dinner again. I (Artie Hayducka) am asking for us to allow several members to attend this years' service. So, I'm making a motion by asking that 3 member attend this dinner in Washington DC at a cost of \$800.00 a person.

Motion was approved by Frank Biddle III. and 2nd by George Patten to allow up to 3 members to attend the dinner at a cost of \$800.00 each. Artie Hayducka. & Nick Lombardi are 2 that will attend know one else was able at this time.

Elections Executive Board

President- Craig Aumack -732-742 5529
Vice President- Robert M. Donahue 732 496 9901
Treasurer- Edward McDermott 732 803 6851
Secretary- Artie Hayducka 732 803 5772

Our next meeting will be held at the Adelphia Fire Station located 933 Route 33 in Freehold NJ Meeting will start at 09:30 hours.

This meeting will be held in person and on Zoom (Zoom link to be posted on website)

Saturday, June 4, 2022 - 9:30AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88306502628?pwd=eHpqSW1EanVUdmlWVDRlOXo5cS9mZz09>

Meeting ID 883 0650 2628
Passcode 550028

**NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS
QUARTERLY REPORT
BY LYNN NOWAK- Porzio Governmental Affairs
March 5, 2022**

LAME DUCK (END OF LAST LEGISLATIVE SESSION – Dec 2021-Jan 18, 2022)

FIRE MUSEUM

A5075, Burzichelli/ S4001, Sweeney – Removes Fire Museum and Fallen Firefighters Memorial from auspices of DEP and establishes independent organization.

Signed into law on Jan 18, 2022, P.L. 2021, c. 463

COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS

S3810, Sweeney/A5862, Benson - "Responsible Collective Negotiations Act" – Revises various laws governing collective negotiations to provide greater power to the employees.

As amended the bulk of this bill now only pertains to State employees. Further, the definition of "employee" excludes firefighting employees of public fire departments.

Signed into law on Jan 18, 2022, P.L. 2021, c. 411

CANCER SCREENINGS

A6093, Stanley/S4201, Greenstein – Mandates periodic cancer screening examinations for firefighters enrolled in SHBP.

Signed into law on Jan 18, 2022, P.L. 2021, c. 478

OF NOTE: THESE BILLS OF CONCERN DID NOT MAKE IT THROUGH THE LAME DUCK AND ARE UNLIKELY TO MOVE (or even be introduced) IN THE NEW SESSION:

SHARED SERVICES

S1, Sweeney/A3389, McKeon – Encourages sharing of services.

OPMA AND OPRA REFORM

A748, Johnson/S379, Weinberg – Reforms Open Public Meetings Act.

A749, Johnson/S380, Weinberg – Reforms Opens Public Records Act.

NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WATER COMPANY MANDATES

A1345, Mosquera/Murphy – Prohibits water companies from assessing more than one charge per fire hydrant to fire departments, fire districts or volunteer fire companies for use of fire hydrants.

A1345 was introduced on Jan 11, 2022 and referred to the Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee.

The NJ State Association of Fire Districts has proposed amendments to this bill that would also place a limit on rate increases to no more than two percent per year and prevent an effective date for a rate increase prior to the first date of the ensuing fiscal year.

A1346, Mosquera/Murphy– Requires water companies to provide representative of fire department, fire district or volunteer fire company access fire hydrants for water flow rate testing purposes.

A1346 was introduced on Jan 11, 2022 and referred to the Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee.

I have a meeting with staff from both Asw Mosquera and Asw Murphy's offices on March 4 to discuss a plan of action to get these bills moving in the spring.

Note that in a meeting with Asw Murphy in September 2021, she agreed to work with Asw Mosquera to move these bills in the new legislative session.

CAPITAL PURCHASES

A2715, Dancer, Murphy – Permits fire districts to undertake capital projects upon resolution of board of fire commissioners. (Removes the voter approval mandate for fire district capital purchases and debt issuances.)

Introduced on Feb 14, 2022 and referred to the Assembly State and Local Government Committee.

At our Sept 2022 meeting with her, Asw Murphy agreed to work with us and Asm Dancer on language that will accomplish the fire districts' needs and pass legislative muster.

FIRE SAFETY/FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS/FIRE EXTINGUISHERS /SMOKE ALARMS

A1673, Quijano/S996, Ruiz – Requires fire suppression systems in new single and two-family homes.

A1673 was introduced on Jan 11, 2022 and referred to the Assembly Housing Committee. It has not yet received a hearing in committee. S996 was introduced on Jan 31, 2020 and referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee.

S281, Greenstein – “New Townhouse Fire Safety Act”; requires automatic fire sprinkler systems in new townhomes.

The bill was introduced on Jan 11, 2022 and referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee.

RAISING ALLOWABLE AGE OF SERVICE FOR FIRE CHIEFS

A2158, Verrelli/S1367, Scutari - Allows police chief and fire department chief members of PFRS to serve until age 67.

A2158 was heard and released by the Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee on Feb 7. It was then referred to Assembly Appropriations. S1367 was introduced on Feb 3 and referred to the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN -LOCAL NATIONAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

“Special purpose units of local government are not eligible for funding allocations.” “Special purpose units of government perform specific functions in the community such as fire....” However, “a state and may transfer funds to a special purpose unit of local government.” We need the state to transfer the funds to the fire districts. Regarding for what purposes a fire district could make the case for fund eligibility: funds can be utilized for “reduction of revenue forand FIRE and other public safety services.”

We met with John Butler, policy advisor to the Governor on these issues on Sept 15, 2021

We need to make the case that fire districts are eligible for these funds and show “reduction of revenue.”