



## NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS

ANNUAL DUES FOR 2022 ARE DO. PLAESE SEND DUES TO NJSAFD PO BOX 8060, PISCATAWAY, NJ 08855

2022 ANNUAL DUES -----\$300

Attention: If you have a voucher that needs to be signed you can fax it to the following number.

Fax 732-752-4122 Please include a fax number where it can be faxed back to.

If you wish to send it via E Mail send it to HAYDUCKA426@GMail.COM

March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 we will hold nomination for all position. Its important that we get these positions filled because last year we had not held an election due to Covid 19.

Currently we looking to fill the executive board which holds the President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer positions Open, Craig Aumack, Artie Hayducka & Edward McDermott

Also, we have Trustees Position that have expired they included 2 South position Clifford Ruth, & Randolph Jager

If anyone wishes to be nominated, please e-mail me, or print your name and title you wish to hold and send it back with your Fire District Dues

Topic: NJ State Association of Fire Districts - March 2022  
Time: Mar 5, 2022 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84618222587?pwd=eTRRRVNyQUxaemoyclZHVTVsSHF4QT09>

Meeting ID: 846 1822 2587

Passcode: 077183 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kzGPvLccE>

# New Jersey State Association of Fire Districts

## December 4th, 2021, Quarterly Meeting

The NJSAFD December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Quarterly Meeting was held at the Adelphia Fire Station located at  
933Route 33 in Freehold, NJ 07728

Attendance: See website for Sign-in sheets

Time: 09:40Hours

Vise President Craig Aumack called the meeting to order.

Flag Salute / Moment of Silence was call

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### Roll Call of Officers:

President Dr. Harry Carter – Excused

Vise President Craig Aumack Present

Secretary Artie Hayducka Present

Treasure Edward McDermott Excused

Legislative report – Lynn Nowak            See Attached report

Treasure's report – No Report was available

Sectary's report - Artie Hayducka

185 copies of minutes \$110.46    US Postage stamps \$153.00    Website update \$150.00

Total -----\$413.46

### Old Business

Vice President Aumack will try reaching out to Ed Mullen and work on getting the 401c3 form from the IRS.

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### New Business

There was a very lengthy discussion on the topic of Municipal Approval of Elected Commissioners Compensation. New this year each district must report commissioners' salaries and have a resolution passed by the mayor's office. To get the budget approved.

The Question was asked are our meetings required to be posted in the News Paper and are they opened to the public? V/P: Aumack will send an e-mail to Mr. Breslow in reference the question.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 hours

**NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS**  
**QUARTERLY REPORT**  
**BY LYNN NOWAK**  
**December 4, 2021**

**MEETING WITH ASSEMBLYWOMAN CAROL MURPHY**

We had an excellent meeting with Assemblywoman Carol Murphy (D-7) on October 18, 2021. I was joined by Rich Braslow, Craig Aumack and by Chief Burnett from Mount Laurel and Chief Kramer from Cinnaminson. As you will recall, Asw Murphy was our legislative speaker at the annual meeting in Wildwood in September. Among the issues discussed were legislation to remove the voter approval mandate for capital purchases, an amendment to existing legislation (A1330) that prevents water companies making more than one charge per hydrant to fire companies and districts and the need to change the current threshold for fire districts' needing to pay prevailing wage.

**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 for ....and 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."*

**CAPITAL PURCHASES**

**A2352**, 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 3, 2020 and referred to the Assembly State and Local Government Committee.*

*We had a call with Senator Bob Smith on Dec 4, 2020 asking him to sponsor the bill in the upper house. He was frank and advised that he did not believe that the legislature would be amenable to removing voter approval on anything at this time. He suggested that we look at the statute that provides school districts with another option when voters reject a capital construction*

*referendum. He said he would be happy to take that to the Office of Legislative Services to draft a bill tailored to fire district needs and he would sponsor it. I found the statute (short title below). Rich and I agree that it is not ideal and we need to work on the language.*

N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-12 provides that a school district that has unsuccessfully sought to obtain voter approval for school facilities construction twice in a three-year period may apply to the Commissioner of Education for approval to issue school bonds for the local share of the project.

***\*Asw Murphy agreed to work with us and Asm Dancer on language that will accomplish the fire districts' needs and pass legislative muster. This will be done in the new session.***

### **SHARED SERVICES**

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

*Senate President Sweeney had this bill moving again: it was heard and released by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on Feb 11, 2021 and passed the full Senate on June 3, 2021 (31-0). It was referred to the Assembly Commerce Committee. **At this point, the bill has not been heard in the Assembly and with the remaining days of the lame duck waning, it very well may not be.***

### **STATE FIREMEN'S HOME**

**A5210, Burzichelli** – Revises composition and certain functions of State Firemen's Home.

*As soon as this bill was introduced, both Craig and Rich contacted me and said that this had many in fire service very angry. I spoke to the sponsor's chief of staff and she said that he did not intend to move it in the near future.*

***Then, in a very rare move for the NJ Legislature, the sponsor withdrew the bill from the files on June 9, 2021.***

### **FIRE MUSEUM**

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

*Passed the Assembly (72-1) on March 24, 2021 and the Senate (40-0) on June 24, 2021. It needed to return to the Assembly for concurrence on Senate amendments. **The bill was on the Assembly's December 2 Board List but the concurrence was not considered as the session was cut short due to Assembly Republicans' objections to vaccine/COVID test mandate for entry to the State House.***

## **WATER COMPANY MANDATES**

**A1330**, 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.

*A1330 was introduced on Jan 14, 2020 and referred to the Assembly State and Local Government Committee. It is awaiting a hearing in 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.***

**A1331**, 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.

*A1331 was introduced on Jan 14, 2020 and referred to the Assembly State and Local Government Committee. It is awaiting a hearing in committee.*

*No further action*

***\*Asw Murphy agreed to work with Asw Mosquera to move these bills in the new legislative session.***

## **LIGHT FRAME CONSTRUCTION**

**S2051**, Weinberg - Establishes fire safety standards and protocols for certain light frame residential construction; requires project labor agreements for this construction; requires placards identifying primary structural systems of buildings.

*Scheduled to be heard by the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee on Mon, Sept 21, 2020 but it was held. It was heard by the Committee on Nov 15, 2021 and released with amendments. Opposition came from the builders and other business groups. I registered support of the NJ State Association of Fire Districts.*

## **IMMUNIZATION FROM CIVIL LIABILITY**

**A306**, Danielson/S1648, Lagana – Provides immunization from civil liability for first responder who forcibly enters property to provide emergency assistance.

*A306 passed the full Assembly on July 30, 2020 (73-1). S1648 was introduced on Feb 13, 2020 and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.*

*No further action.*

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

**A5200** , DeAngelo/ **S1406**, Pennachio - Requires bidders on public works construction projects to submit information on fire safety features.

*A5200 was released by the Assembly State and Local Government Committee on May 12, 2021 and is awaiting consideration by the full Assembly. No action in the Senate.*

*No further action.*

**A1656**, Quijano/**S1805**, Ruiz – Requires fire suppression systems in new single and two family homes.

*A1656 was introduced on Jan 14, 2020 and referred to the Assembly Housing Committee. It has not yet received a hearing in committee. S1805 was introduced on Feb 24, 2020 and referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee, and likewise has not yet been heard.*

*No further action*

**A2600**, DeAngelo/**S1518**, Greenstein – “New Townhouse Fire Safety Act”; requires automatic fire sprinkler systems in new townhomes.

*Both bills were introduced on Feb 13, 2020 and referred to committees, in the Assembly to Assembly Housing Committee, in the Senate to Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee. **S1518 is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Committee on Mon, Dec 6, 2021. I will register NJ State Association of Fire Districts’ support.***

*NOTE: This bill passed both houses last session but was pocket vetoed by Governor Murphy.*

**A859**, Chiaravalloti - Requires Division of Fire Safety to annually distribute smoke alarms; appropriates \$1 million.

*A859 was introduced on Jan 14, 2020 and referred to the Assembly Housing Committee. It has not yet had a hearing.*

*No further action*

## **OPMA AND OPRA REFORM**

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

*Both bills were introduced on Jan 14, 2020. A748 was referred to the Assembly State and Local Government Committee, S379 was referred to the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee, neither has had a committee hearing yet.*

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

*Both bills were introduced on Jan 14, 2020. A749 was referred to Assembly State and Local Government Committee, and S380 was referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee.*

**Majority Leader Weinberg has indicated that she is making this one of her legacy issues before she retires at the end of this session. The bills were included on a Senate State Government Committee agenda in November. However, the committee could not secure enough votes to release the bill. This probably effectively ends the effort to expand these two laws.**

## **BILLS RECENTLY SIGNED INTO LAW**

### **EXEMPT FIREMAN CERTIFICATES**

**A4745, Armato** - Raises from 45 to 57 maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Fireman's Association.

**S1634, Doherty** – Raises from 45 to 60 maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Fireman's Association.

***These bills were made identical – age of 57. After passed both houses unanimously, Governor Murphy signed it into law on June 24, 2021: P.L. 2021, c. 123***

***I registered the Association's support for the legislation as it have moved through the process.***

### **JUNIOR FIREFIGHTERS**

**S238, Singleton/A2899, Space/ A1106, Murphy** - Revises law governing training and duties of Junior Firefighters' Auxiliary members.

*S238 was heard and released by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on Jan 30, 2020. I registered the support of the Association. It passed the full Senate unanimously on Feb 10. It was heard and released by Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee on Oct 19 and passed the full Assembly unanimously on Oct 29. The Senate concurred on Assembly amendments on the same date.*

***Signed into law, Nov 20, P.L. 2020, c. 126***