

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY INSURANCE COMMISSION
OPEN MINUTES
MEETING – MARCH 1, 2024
ELECTRONICALLY
11:00 AM**

Meeting called to order. Open Public Meetings notice read into record.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS:

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| Joseph Sileo | Present |
| Art Marchand | Present |
| Sandra Taylor | Absent |
| Harold Johnson | Absent |
| Jeffrey Ridgway | Present |

ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER:

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| Antonio Romero | Absent |
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FUND PROFESSIONALS PRESENT:

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| Executive Director | PERMA Risk Management Services Bradford Stokes, Karen Read |
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ALSO PRESENT:

Anthony Bontempo, Cumberland County
Paige Desiere, Cumberland County
John Carr, Cumberland County
Kathy Doran, Cumberland County
Christina Violetti, Hardenbergh Insurance Group
Danielle Colaianni, Hardenbergh Insurance Group
Brandon Tracy, PERMA
Jennifer Conicella, PERMA
Glenn Prince, JA Montgomery

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Nancy Ridgway

CORRESPONDENCE: None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Request for Proposals – The County Purchasing Department solicited and received multiple responses for re-issued RFP’s for the positions of Risk Management Consultant and Executive Director. A report will be provided at the meeting.

Executive Director said enclosed on page one of the agenda is Resolution 16- 24 awarding a fair and open contract for Risk Management Consultant for the Insurance Commission. This was for the resubmissions and the bid award will go to a Hardenburg Insurance Group with amount not to exceed \$174,824. The contract will commence today March 1, 2024 and be effective through February 28, 2025.

Motion to Approve Resolution 16-24 Awarding a Fair & Open Contract to the Hardenbergh Insurance Group as the Fund’s Risk Management Consultant

Motion: Commissioner Ridgway
Second: Commissioner Marchand
Roll Call Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Executive Director Stokes said there were two submissions received for the position of Executive Director. Resolution 17-24 enclosed in the agenda is awarding a fair and open contract for the Executive Director position for the Insurance Commission. This was a resubmission, and the award goes to Perma Risk Management Services not to exceed \$108,790.00 effective March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2024.

Motion to Approve Resolution 17-24 Awarding a Fair & Open Contract to PERMA Risk Management Services as the Fund’s Executive Director

Motion: Commissioner Ridgway
Second: Commissioner Johnson
Roll Call Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Executive Director Stokes said Resolution 18-24 is appointing PERMA as Agent for Service of Process and custodian of records for the Commission for the year 2024. This is a typical reorg resolution but it was pulled until the official appointment of the Executive Director was made today.

Motion to Approve Resolution 18-24 Appointing PERMA as Agent for Service of Process & Custodian of Records for the Commission

Motion: Commissioner Ridgway
Second: Commissioner Johnson
Roll Call Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

2024 Property & Casualty Budget Introduction – Attached on **Page 6** for your review and discussion is the 2024 proposed Property and Casualty Budget in the amount of \$4,408,592. The introductory budget represents a 9.86% increase compared to the 2024 budget.

Executive Director said there was a little sneak preview of the 2024 Budget last month. Starting with the loss funds lines one through four, these are the actuary’s loss funds that are provided to us. They give us three levels of funding low, mod and high. Typically, we stay right around the mod level and that is where we are at, which is a little below the mod. The loss funds are at 8.63% Moving on to the CEL JIF Executive Director said another rough renewal, especially in the property

market. The CEL saw about a 27% increase on the property excess. Property came in at 21% and excess flood came in around 19% a tough renewal again. Executive Director said there is a little light at the end of the tunnel on the property side and barring any major storms during the summer the property market may be softening a bit. Executive Director said hopefully there will be better numbers for the 2025 renewal. Expenses, fees and contingency contractual increases from the recent RFPs are reflected in the budget, overall mostly in the 2% range. Bowman & Company that has been doing auditing services for many, many years and where we have seen JIF-wide increases simply because they were not making money. Bowman and Company was very upfront about it and it was fully anticipated. Executive Director said \$5,000 was removed from miscellaneous, expense and contingency line for the wellness program since the Commission is faced with an almost 10% increase. The commissioners felt we could make a reduction for that item. Ancillary coverages are placed outside of the Commission, and there is a 5.67% increase on those lines of coverage. Overall, the 2024 budget is at 9.86%. In response to Commissioner Ridgway, Executive Director said he would send the assessments broken down by lines of coverage. Proposed assessments for member entities are included on **page 7**. Executive Director said with no other questions being heard a motion to introduce the 2024 Budget in the amount of \$4,408,592 and schedule public hearing for April 4th would be in order.

Motion to introduce the 2024 Property and Casualty Budget in the amount \$4,408,592 and schedule a public hearing on April 4, 2024 at 11:00 AM.

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| Motion: | Chairman Sileo |
| Second: | Commissioner Ridgway |
| Roll Call Vote: | 3 Ayes, 0 Nays |

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Executive Director Stokes thanked the Commission for the Reappointment of Executive Director.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

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| Motion: | Chairman Sileo |
| Second: | Commissioner Ridgway |
| Vote: | Unanimous |

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:17 AM

NEXT MEETING: WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 4, 2024 AT 11:00 AM

Minutes prepared by: Karen A. Read, Assisting Secretary