



NEW JERSEY COUNTY PLANNERS ASSOCIATION

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| President Tom Stanuikynas Burlington County | Treasurer Kamal Saleh Union County | Secretary Virginia Michelin Morris County | President Emeritus Francesca Giarratana Hudson County |
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NJCPA Regular Meeting

Friday, October 20, 2023 at 11:00AM

Virtual Meeting Only via Zoom

Minutes

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** - President Stanuikynas called the meeting to order and opened the meeting at 11:03 am. Secretary Michelin called the roll call. 10 counties were present. No quorum at the beginning of the meeting. 3 joined late (Camden, Cumberland and Essex). Final quorum of 13 counties present for voting matters.
2. **Business**
 - a. **Executive Committee Report:** President Stanuikynas had a walking tour of Burlington City, hot day on July 27th. Joint meeting with County Engineers on September 8th, both meetings were very successful. Working with NJDEP and OPA, meeting regularly regarding the State Plan and WMP efforts.
 - b. **May 2023 Meeting Minutes: Virginia Michelin** – Secretary Michelin minutes Ilene Lampitt (Camden) motioned, and Kamal Saleh (Union) seconded to approve the minutes. All voted in favor.
 - c. **Treasurer’s Report / Budget: Kamal Saleh** – Treasurer Saleh, beginning checking amount of \$14,002.32, ending assets of \$14,467.32. One county dues is pending and one is being tracked down, otherwise all counties paid dues. Ranea Fahr (Atlantic) motioned to approve the treasurer’s report Ilene Lampitt (Camden) seconded. All voted in favor. Monmouth County abstained as there was a donation to Monmouth County Parks in the budget.
3. **Presentation by Jeffrey Hoffman, NJ State Geologist, NJ Geological & Water Survey – New Jersey State Water Supply Plan**



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New Jersey State Water Supply Plan is supposed to be updated every 5 years. Citizens of state own all surface and groundwater. NJDEP administers all the programs to oversee water. Protection is more effective vs remediation of water. Allow equitable access. Water is a limited resource.

There have been a series of Water Supply Plans. This version of the plan was due last year. COVID delayed things. Hoping to get a draft out to the public this year. Adding climate change. Identify shortfalls of plans and actions to take. EJ actions. Project future water demands. Plan to be a living document. Next plan in 5 years as per law.

Plan will not solve every water supply problem. Not a regulatory tool. Plan also does not override other regulatory programs. Put the plan is a good tool to address water availability problems.

Water comes from three buckets: reservoirs (northeast NJ, some coast), unconfined aquifers and related surface water (statewide) and confined aquifers (southern NJ). Water usage peaked over 1 million gallons per year, now down to above 600,000 gallons per year. Surface water biggest use/source.

Using less water at coal fired powered plants, as they have been taken offline, so less water used for energy purposes.

1.15 million more people by 2050. Need to provide water for them.

Population estimates were completed by Rutgers, Dr. Dan Van Abs and his team.

Expect higher density areas to get denser and other areas to get denser as well.

Summer watering of lawns still are a big factor in water usage as well as summer community usage along the coastal areas.

Water loss is still an issue. Internal to homes and external infrastructure still need to be addressed.



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Climate change needs to be added. <http://dep.nj.gov/climatechange/>

Temperature is warming, annual temperatures increasing by 4.1 – 5.7 F by 2050

Warmest January 1933, coldest 1918.

Climate change impacts water supply, base flow, saltwater intrusion, reservoir availability etc.

Draft plan out this calendar year, presentations afterwards and adopted next year.

Just finishing 2021 stats on water usage now, so not 100% of water usage during COVID. Contamination and PFAS are bigger issues.

Water loss in the potable section is declining.

No capital costs for needs in this plan. Other groups in NJDEP are working on that. This plan will help guide those groups.

4. Presentation by Jef Buehler, Assistant Director, NJ Business Action Center – NJ BAC: Your Business & Prosperity Partner

Business and prosperity partner. Whether your town is rural, suburban or a city, NJBAC is there for you. They service the entire state, free and accessible to support businesses and guidance. Site location and realtors for businesses expanded and for new ones.

Targeted expansion grants cannabis and special projects to municipalities.

Office of Small Business advocacy, office of business advocacy, office of export promotion are some of the businesses they have.

1-800-Jersey-7 business hotline.

There are specialized sectors: Film/digital media, life science/technology, food beverages and advanced manufacturing.



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Export promotions for physical items or virtual. Provide guidance and assistance with exporting items. Targeted grants as well.

Cannabis training academy coming online in 2024.

Helping with re-writing the State Plan.

Business enhancement projects, done 35 this year so far, virtual and in-person. Still more happening this year. These types of projects includes: best practices, real-time problem solving (i.e. noise ordinance in Bayonne assistance), state agency/departmental networking. Enhancing district management (BIDs etc).

Helping to provide a punch list of things business can do to help improve their business. Not required to implement, but options for the businesses.

Pushing street scape enhancements can be as simple as painting/restriping. County planners could help advocate for changes on county roads with county engineers.

Productivity and fit equal prosperity. Not just about growth.

Stakeholder driven, seek to create tangible change, make small changes, implementable change, reuse ideas and implement in other places as practicable, you can do things, fail fast and learn from them – NJBAC!

Business.nj.gov or 609-954-3209

Jef has a spreadsheet of all 35 projects that are completed and 25 more in works state wide. Will send info to President Stanuikynas for distribution to County Planners as well as his presentation.

5. Presentation by Alan Miller, Manager, NJDEP Office of Brownfield and Community Revitalization – NJDEP’s Brownfields Development Area (BDA) relaunch

BDA was created in 2002. BDA is a voluntary program for municipalities. Took applications until 2009. Program took a long break, NJDEP had other priorities.



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Steering committee consists of municipalities/local government, applicant, NJDEP and stakeholders that meet regularly. Applicant is any entity authorized to exercise redevelopment powers pursuant to NJ Local Redevelopment and Housing law (C.40A12A-4).

BDA keeps remediation and redevelopment moving forward. There are grants available. Municipalities can get up to \$5 million per year thru this program.

Steering Committee will also have potentially responsible parties (PRP), technical experts, community groups and residents as well as those listed above.

31 BDAs, 3290 acres, 310 sites from 2003-2009. Looking to expand this.

BDAs communities have received \$187 million in 20 years, for investigation and remediation. Created 10,000 jobs and 2,233 housing units (some affordable), 553 acres of new open space.

BDA applications should open soon, next 30 days. Application form, guidance documents and criteria on website. Application will be open for 180 days. Not just for large urban municipalities. Brownfields assistance center at NJIT to assist with this.

Looking for applications from nontraditional municipalities. Highlands communities have opportunities. Closed machine shops, old manufacturing sites are also options for BDAs – can assist with redevelopment.

6. Agency / Partner Updates (NJTPA, DVRPC, SJTPO, OPA, NJDEP, NJAC, RPA, etc.)

Donna R (OPA) have had 6 of 8 webinars held so far for the State Plan. Two more, one Monday and one Wednesday. Planning more outreach to under represented communities is in the works. Also looking for youth groups. High school students are an option, need ideas. Presenting to SPC on 11/1/2023 on Cross Acceptance document. Present preliminary document in February. After 45 days then they need to have



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hearings statewide. Rowan University is producing a NJMapper sandbox. Beginnings of interactive map to be shown to SPC on November 1st.

SPC has a session at the NJLM with the NJPO. Tuesday morning at 10:45am.

No other partner updates.

7. Discussion – updated bylaws, scholarship award, holiday party

President Stanuikynas presented the changes to the by-laws. Updated Association to NJCPA, added revised mission statement:

- To support and advocate for sound, collaborative regional planning amongst all levels of governments to ensure a prosperous future for all New Jersey residents and to highlight the value of County Planning efforts. To provide a forum to encourage cooperation and exchange ideas, concepts and procedures between County Planning agencies.

Added more objectives to reflect scholarship and outreach and professional development. Modified how we collect dues, fund scholarship. Clarified voting, budget and archiving documents digitally. Looking to finalize our 501(c)(3) status. Need by-laws to do this. A second vote was needed as there was a change proposed after the first. The by-laws as amended by Monmouth County were motioned by Elena Gable (Cumberland) and seconded by Tom Boccino (Somerset). Roll call vote taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Ranea Fehr (Atlantic) went over the award of the scholarship awardee for the 2nd year of the scholarship. One application submitted by Adriana Zarza, Rutgers University, Urban planning major, Passaic County Planning Intern. Scholarship Committee recommends awarding the full amount of \$1,000 to her. Francesca Giarratana (Hudson County) motioned, seconded by Kamal Saleh (Union) county. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed unanimously. A letter will go out to the winner soon.



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President Stanuikynas - Holiday Party – December 8th. Originally budgeted \$250 for the party but didn't spend money for all items in the budget, proposing to move those items to our holiday party budget. This would give a total of \$950 for the holiday party.

Proposing covering 1 person per county for the holiday party (\$40) and each additional person attending per county would cost \$20 for the attendee and \$20 for the NJCPA.

Adam Bradford (Passaic) motioned, seconded by Kamal Saleh (Union). Monmouth County abstained. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously with one abstention.

8. **Committee Updates** (Open Space & Environment, Utilities & Transportation, Legislative, Housing & Community Development, Statewide Planning & Smart Growth, and Education & Technology).

By-laws subcommittee meeting – bylaws approved.

Legislative committee no update.

State Plan subcommittee meeting monthly.

Education subcommittee – scholarship approved.

Open Space committee – Kate Katzer (Somerset) new soils standards, comment period extended until November 6th. These new rules will impact farms and not allow them to grow and change. SADC put together a letter which 11 counties signed onto it.

Counties did send their own letters. Somerset holding a Q&A session with its CADB next Thursday. Reach out to Kate Katzer with questions.

Committee also talked about Park Commissions and setting up a Park Commission. Cumberland looking to set up one.

Transportation Committee update by Treasurer Saleh. The committee did not meet but there are items of note to pass on to the membership. September 6th, NJDOT traffic incident management training available online. A self-guided course for first responders.



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September 19th released safe routes to school recognition (NJDOT). Winners on website. September 22nd, fixed guideways safety oversight rules came out - public comments due by November 17th. Contact for that is Steve Shapiro 609-963-1975. On October 2nd a local freight impact fund \$30.1 million grants, grants accepted until December 13, 2023. There are 5 categories for grants. 609-649-6395 for questions.

NJ Transit Bus/garage and modernization program as part of the zero emission busses to be accepted in these garages. October NJBPU awarded money to non-revenue fleet vehicles as part of overall grant awarded in 2023. Check website for more info.

Wastewater Management Plan Subcommittee meeting every other month.

- Next meeting will be the annual meeting on December 8th location in Burlington County, TBD. Elena Gable (Cumberland) motioned, and Kamal Saleh (Union) seconded. Meeting ended at 1:23pm.

County Attendees

Ranea Fehr
Tom Stanuikynas
Ilene Lampitt
Elena Gable
Nicholas Cressman
Francesca Giarratana
Mark Serrano
Katherine Fullerton
Andrew Lloyd
Matthew Zochowski
Harriet Honigfeld
Virginia Michelin
Joseph Barilla
Jason Rotter
Emily Lescano
Andras Holzmann
Adam Bradford

Affiliation

Atlantic
Burlington
Camden
Cumberland
Gloucester
Hudson
Hudson
Hunterdon
Mercer
Mercer
Monmouth
Morris
Morris
Morris
Morris
Passaic
Passaic



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Tom Boccino
Kate Katzer
Kamal Saleh
Liza Betz

Somerset
Somerset
Union
Union

Partners/Presenters

Donna Rendeiro
Jeff Hoffman
Jef Buehler
Alan Miller

Affiliation

NJOPA
NJGWS
NJBAC
NJDEP