

**Northern New Jersey NIGP
Minutes of the Regular Meeting – September 14, 2017
The Imperia Conference Center, Somerset New Jersey**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by President James Jorgensen. After the flag salute, a moment of silence was observed. New guests were welcomed and self-introductions were made by the attendees.

The Treasurer's Report a/o 6/14/17 was read. Both the report and the previous meeting's minutes were approved by motion.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Shannon Hudak, Esq.

Shannon spoke about several issues concerning QPA renewals, and mentioned that over 6,000 licenses were issued in the State, of which QPAs were about 1800. Shannon mentioned the requirements for QPA certification requires a grade of 80% or better to pass the test, and that approximately 60% of test takers do pass. As to renewal, the 20 required contact hours include 2 CEU's in Green Purchasing, and 3 CEU's in Ethics.

Shannon explained that the CEU's earned cannot be banked from one renewal period to the next. The renewal is three (3) years, and the Contact hours must be earned in the three years, and not carried from prior to. This would defeat the purpose of continuing education. However, if you take a class in a grace period, this can be applied to the next renewal.

Regarding the QPA exam, in December, the passing rate was 50%. The rate for the exam prior to this was 66%. You must get 80% to pass the exam. It is not supposed to be a rubber stamp.

Kathleen Cupano, Rutgers Center for Government Services

The 2018 Forum will be held at the Golden Nugget, in Atlantic City, just as it was last year. An effort to limit the number of attendees in sessions will be made. Jim McQueenie will be key note speaker. Program is almost complete. The dates are May 2nd and 3rd, 2018. Fall classes are listed and available to take. Send suggestions to Ms. Cupano for the class offerings.

Patrick Moran, BA Board Secretary for ESCNJ

The Educational Services Commission of NJ (ESCNJ), is the Operate the largest approved cooperative in NJ State, with over 1,100 members. Mr. Moran explained the purchasing options for the cooperative, including energy and much more.

Mr. Moran provided a walk through of the ESCNJ website, and demonstrated how to find the due diligence documents for each vendor and how to look up the award notices.

ESCNJ can provide a lease purchase finance for public entities, and for more information interested parties should contact the ESCNJ directly.

Break for Lunch

John Donnadio, Esq., Executive Director of NJAC

Spoke about the General Election and potential changes. The 2% cap on municipalities could have been a forever consideration, but the 2% cap on binding arbitration for negotiations expires end of year.

A push to equalize pay to play and the Bid Threshold is being considered during lame duck session.

December 8th is the Summit on Opioid Abuse.

Marc Pfeiffer, Senior Policy Fellow and Asst. Director Rutgers University

Spoke about the early changes to Public Purchasing. The challenges of such changes were many. Directed members to look to LFN 2012-10 guidelines for National Contract use. Named a few national cooperatives: Value Point, H-GAC, and US Communities.

Value Point – state approved cooperative, WISCA and NASPO have combined to create Value Point (M0483)

Old Business

none

New Business

none

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.



Next Meeting Date: December 14, 2017 at 10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Jorgensen