

New York State Association of Self-Insured Counties
General Business Meeting
Friday, October 3, 2003

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Way-Hartmann at 10:15 AM at the Lodge at Woodcliff, Rochester, New York.

The minutes of the last Business Meeting, held May 16, 2003, were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read by Joe Peckham and approved as written, indicating a combined checking and savings account balance of \$16,494.12 as of Sept. 30, 2003. It was noted that expenses for the Fall Conference were still outstanding.

Joe Peckham advised that the incorporation papers for NYSASIC had been filed with New York State and the association was waiting to receive the tax-exempt number from the Internal Revenue Service. He also reviewed the necessity of incorporation for NYSASIC members and municipalities.

Paul Casey updated members on the status of 207-c legislation. It is expected that the State Legislature will re-visit 207-c in the very near future. Paul requested that members provide him with their email addresses so he can keep them informed of legislative action on this important issue. He encouraged all member municipalities to stand in opposition to this legislation.

Members were advised of the dates and location of the Spring Conference. It will be held on May 5 - 7, 2004, at The Riveredge Resort, Alexandria Bay, NY. The Board will meet in January 2004 to plan the conference, so members were again encouraged to contact Board members with suggestions for seminars, workshops, roundtable topics, and vendors to include in the conference. The need for more member involvement was stressed. It was mentioned that the NYSASIC membership roster needed updating, and Joe Peckham advised that he would update and distribute an updated membership list prior to January 1, 2004, the next renewal date for membership.

Nominations were received for members of the official Nominating Committee for NYSASIC officers. Chris Gozza, Sullivan County, was named Chair of the committee, with Colleen Capwell of Broome County and Doug Dillon, Allegany County, rounding out the committee.

Bill DePersis, Marsh USA, advised the members that there is an increase in mass tort liability claims concerning lead paint in New York State. He advised that Marsh USA was pro-active in addressing this potentially expensive issue and offered their services to any municipality facing this problem.

A general discussion of the Fall Conference was held, with most of the feedback on location being positive. The possibility of returning to the

Woodcliff was discussed, with additional activities being considered in the future, such as an early golf meeting or a wine tour with dinner. It was noted that the Woodcliff was more expensive than Canandaigua, although the feeling was that Canandaigua's rates were based on being off-season. The possibility of changing the Fall Conference dates was mentioned, but it was decided to leave the dates as is. The possibility of having one longer conference a year, instead of two, was also mentioned, and a general discussion followed regarding the utilization of scholarships, inviting other self-insured municipalities, and the purpose and goals of NYSASIC. The members were advised that no fall scholarships were utilized, although they were offered. It was decided that the scholarships would be more heavily advertised for the Spring Conference, in order to encourage attendance.

A "lively" discussion followed, regarding NYSASIC membership and meetings. Some would like to keep NYSASIC intact for only self-insured counties, while others would like to expand the organization's focus to include other self-insured municipalities, such as towns and cities, and expand the subjects addressed to other self-insured venues, such as health insurance and liability concerns. It was felt that New York State counties have been provided lots of information and incentive to become involved in NYSASIC in the past, and perhaps it is time to include other self-insured municipalities in the group. A comparison between PRIMA and NYSASIC took place, with a general feeling that NYSASIC was evolving into a Risk Management group with the potential to be a valuable resource to many municipalities. The group was encouraged to reach out to other self-insured municipalities in order to increase membership and conference attendance. Chris Gozza volunteered to get a NYCOM membership directory for contacts, and Dan Ross volunteered to try to obtain a list of self-insured towns.

Ed Castellana, Steuben County, updated the membership on a regional meeting he recently hosted, with Marsh USA, to address renewal issues several of the counties are facing with property/casualty insurance. He encouraged continuation of these meetings, and suggested that counties try to organize one in their area for neighboring counties.

The general theme of the Business Meeting seemed to be the need to strengthen the organization and encourage its members to stay focused on the self-insurance issues and work together.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.