

# **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1**

MINUTES OF  
January 28, 2013

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by President Nelson at 8:05 p.m. President Nelson announced that the meeting is being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act". Public Notice of this meeting was hand delivered to the Clerk of the Township of Ocean and posted at the Oakhurst Firehouse on March 2, 2012, and advertised in The Coaster and in the Atlanticville on March 8, 2012.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was observed.

## **ATTENDANCE:**

The following Board members were present: Thomas Reu, Jim Hiers, Scott Nelson and Stu Newman. Russ Williams was unable to attend due to work. Fire District Administrator J. David Hiers, Fire Marshal Chris Pujat, District Mechanic Michael Fiorentino and the Fire Department and First Aid Squad Officers were also present.

## **MINUTES:**

Minutes of Previous Meeting were placed on the table for everyone's review, comments or corrections. There were no questions pertaining to the December 17, 2012 minutes. Nelson moved for them to be accepted as written. It was second by Reu. No questions to the motion. Roll call vote of Newman, Reu, Hiers and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The following items of correspondence were read for information:

**Outgoing to:** Pete Delisa thank you letter from the Board for his generous donation to the fire department; Thank you letter to Russ Bey for his donation of an air compressor to the Fire Bureau.

**Incoming from: None**

## **EXPENSES:**

The Bills this evening were reviewed by the Commissioners prior to the meeting and found to be OK. Copies of the bill list were on the table for anyone to review. A Resolution to pay the Bills totaling \$65,748.98 was presented by

Commissioner Reu. It was seconded Hiers. There were no questions. Roll call vote of Newman, Reu, Hiers and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the Resolution.

### **DISTRICT NO. 1 ORGANIZATION's REPORTS:**

**CHIEF John Morrow** – gave the December monthly report. He reported 59 activities for the month. Average response time was 5 minutes 41 seconds. Average firefighters per call were 13, for a total of 752 members responding, experiencing 757 total man-hours. Mutual aid was given 5 times and received 0 times. Morrow thanked the Board for the annual dinner meeting. The Chief said there is a truck committee meeting tomorrow night at 7 pm. The truck committee had another demo of a Crimson this past Saturday, On Wednesday, there will be a Chief's drill and everyone is urged to come.

**1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Bob Nelson** – also thanked the Board for the dinner meeting. There was a boat demo on the new inflatable boat by the salesman this night at 7 pm. It looks to be a useful tool in helping rescuing people during flooding conditions. We put the bar codes supplied by the Monmouth County Fire and Sherriff's department. This will be useful to see what fire vehicles have what on them during a major incident.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Chris Sorrentino** – was not present

**Captain John Kruse** – was not present

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. M. Guarda** – said he has obtained water main maps from the Water Company and is setting up a program for them.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Josh Shamosh** – had no report

**FAS Captain Karen Dougherty** – Thanked the Board for the dinner meeting. She gave the Captain's report for the month of December. She reported 41 total activities for the month, which included 31 Emergency calls. Average response time was 8 minutes. A total of 218 Emergency Call Man Hours were experienced. Mutual aid received 3 times and given was 5 times. Captain Dougherty stated that she will be attending the Monmouth County meeting to review and revise the first aid's dispatching plan so there will be better response time for District 2 to respond for mutual aid.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Andy Beringer** – Also thanked the Board for the dinner. He said the Blood Borne Pathogen meeting went well with a very good attendance.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Judyth Brown** – Thanked the Board for the dinner. It was her first attendance and felt it was productive.

**Sergeant Jon Friedman** – not present.

**FIRE MARSHAL C. Pujat** - reported 232 inspections, including 63 State Registered Establishments, revealing 156 violations, and 1 investigation was conducted during the month. Fees collected for the month totaled \$9,742.65. The new Inflatable boat has arrived. The OTPD is online with Spillman CAD system. Deal Golf & CC will have a fireworks display on June 30<sup>th</sup>. A walk through/preplan

review has been scheduled with the OFD for Primrose Place on Wednesday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>. The 2012 Fire Prevention Grant has been submitted. The Oakhurst Getty gas station is believed to have leaking tanks or fuel lines. Our office has been working with the State DEP. The Hurst Crash Software license has been renewed. Our 2012 annual report has been submitted to the Division of Fire Safety.

**DISTRICT MECHANIC Fiorentino** – reported that “No Smoke” made repairs to our vehicles. The annual boiler inspection certification has been completed and everything passed. Three Pedi-Epipens for the first aid replaced the 3 that expired. On 37-1-90, the rear tires have been replaced. Replaced exit signs at station 1 & 2.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Nelson** – commented on the officer/employee dinner. He again reiterated the great work that everyone is doing and should be proud of their efforts. We had again a very busy year, finishing the floor project, our computer system upgrade, the new phone system, not to mention the devastation of Hurricane Sandy, the damage done by the nor'easter, plus what I missed. Everyone endured a lot of pressure and dedication to the District and the community in getting us into 2013. The Board certainly acknowledges all your efforts and we say thank you to all.

**Nelson** – touched on the accident on Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>. The drivers of all the vehicles need to remind themselves all the time to be aware of the elements out there. It does not do any good if the driver cannot make the scene for the emergency. Thank God there were no serious injuries. We need to remember the slogan “Arrive Alive “.

**Reu** – We have a Fire District #1 Website in place now. This was mandated by the State Legislature, effective February 1, 2013, so the Fire District’s audits, minutes, budgets, meeting schedules, and whatever else occurs at the District level, would be more transparent to the residence within their District. Our Board is compliant with the State’s requirements. To access this site, go to: [tofd1.org](http://tofd1.org).

**Hiers** – A reminder, the annual Board of Fire Commissioner’s Election will be held on Feb. 16, from 2 pm to 9 pm here at the fire house. Two candidates have filed their petitions, Tom Reu and Russ Williams. I urge the officers of both organizations to get their membership out to vote. We have been having low turnouts. The Board does not understand the reason for this. Everyone should make the concerted effort to support the Budget and the candidates of their choice. The Commissioners look to support the entire operation of our district. A small group could easily pull off an upset of the budget if they wanted to with the low turnout. If that occurs, budget cuts would be eminent and not to every one’s liking. If anyone needs absentee ballots, see the FDA or the Board clerk.

**Newman** – The District Mechanic got a price quote of \$430 for the re-lettering of 2 vehicles, 131 & 137. The fire marshal lettering will be removed by Brian Penta. The new lettering will say “Fire District No.1” in 22k gold leaf lettering. I offer the Resolution to re-letter the 2 vehicles for \$430. It was second by Reu. There were no questions. Roll call vote of Newman, Reu, Hiers and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the Resolution. Brian Penta is going to give us an estimate to prep both vehicles prior to the re-lettering.

Comments from the audience:

**Doug Schenck** – gave a presentation on behalf of the company he is working for. His company, Defender Emergency Products – Sales & Service, offers mechanical & maintenance work on fire apparatus. They recently did work on Engine 37-1-75, replacing the radiator. Doug left his sales brochure with the Commissioners who passed it along to the district mechanic.

There was no further business presented before the Board. The meeting adjourned 8:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. David Hiers  
Fire District Administrator

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