

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

**MINUTES OF
March 25, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Williams at 8:02 p.m. Commissioner Williams 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 February 28, 2013, and advertised in The Coaster and in the Atlanticville on March 7, 2013.

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

ATTENDANCE:

The following Board members were present: Russ Williams. Fire District Administrator J. David Hiers, Fire Marshal Chris Pujat, the Fire Department and First Aid Squad Officers were also present. Reu and Hiers were out of State and Nelson and Newman were out of town.

Williams – This evening the scope of our business is very limited due to the fact that a quorum is not present. Tom Reu and Jimmy Hiers are out of the State and Scott Nelson and Stu Newman are out of town. Tonight we will only have discussions and not act or vote on any District #1 business. The bills will be held over to our work session on April 1, 2013.

MINUTES:

Minutes of Previous Meeting were not acted on.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following items of correspondence were read for information:

Outgoing to: None

Incoming from: None

EXPENSES:

The Bills this evening are being held over to the work session on April 1, 2013.

DISTRICT NO. 1 ORGANIZATION'S REPORTS:

CHIEF John Morrow – is out of State.

1st Assistant Chief Bob Nelson - gave the February monthly fire report. He reported 59 activities for the month. Average response time was 6 minutes 18 seconds. Average firefighters per call were 6, for a total of 465 members responding, experiencing 389 total man-hours. Mutual aid was given 8 times and received 0 times. On April 3rd there is a driver's training drill. All drivers are urged to attend. On April 10th there will be a fit test. Hopefully the new SCBA equipment will be here. At the last fire meeting, 2 new members were brought in, Zach Bell and Erinn Wilkinson.

2nd Assistant Chief Chris Sorrentino – not present

Captain John Kruse – not present

1st Lt. M. Guarda – not present

2nd Lt. Josh Shamosh – not present

FAS Captain Karen Dougherty – out sick

1st Lt. Andy Beringer – here but had to respond to a first aid call.

2nd Lt. Judyth Brown – here but had to respond to a first aid call.

Sergeant Jon Friedman – not present

FIRE MARSHAL C. Pujat – said that he will give his monthly report at the work session when there is a full Board. The FM did give some updates. He stated that the new cellular modem for 37-1-57 is in and is currently being programmed by Verizon. The new radio console is in and in service in the FOC.

DISTRICT MECHANIC Fiorentino – was not here due to a family emergency.

OLD BUSINESS:

Williams – the FDA made some phone calls to truck dealerships (Pierce & KME) and asked for info on the State Bid process with them. The warrantees are in full affect and they do help in setting up or customizing the vehicle with anything on the State Bid List for upgrades. The Board advises the truck committee to look into what trucks on State Bid could be utilized. The Board also recommends that the truck committee continue and finish the bid specs. Get the bid spec back to the FDA and he will have the attorney start the bid process. The Board is not required to accept any bids once they are submitted. This will give us an opportunity to see what the difference is between State Contracts and the Bidding process. Our attorney will be involved throughout the whole process and advise us accordingly.

Williams – the blacktop project for station 1 is moving along. The attorney has received the bid package from Nelson Engineering. The Board is hoping for this project to start sometime June or July. There will most likely be some mass confusion at times but no way will there be a hindrance allowed for responding to any emergency calls. The fire and first aid will be involved in the work process to be assured that they can respond to any calls.

Williams – The FDA is waiting to hear back from Scott in reference to our SCBA order. NJ Fire Equipment Company said per Scott, that the bottles were scheduled for delivery March 15th. They have not arrived. The FDA requested and was granted a 60 day extension from FEMA on the grant because we haven't received them as of yet.

Williams – I would like to do a follow up on the progress for the approval of the minor sub-division from the Memorial Association. Where do we presently stand?

NEW BUSINESS:


Williams – The Board was awarded 2012 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for replacing our old Hurst extrication equipment with new Hurst hydraulic equipment. The total amount of the grant is \$ 70,229. The Federal share is 90% of the grant or \$ 63,207. The Board's share is 10% of the total or \$ 7,022. The FDA will be getting together with the District Mechanic along with the fire officers to begin to finalize an order for the equipment. Just to say, so far we have realized over \$250,000 in total grant money from FEMA's AFG Grant Program. With the assistance of the grant writer, GrantMasters, and the fire officers, DM, FM and the FDA, a lot of hard work by all paid off. This amounted to a very nice tax savings to the residents in Fire District #1, a job the Board is proud of.

Williams – The Board would like the ambulance committee to begin looking into a new ambulance. The committee is comprised of Stu Newman, Tom Reu, Karen Dougherty, Doug Willms, Mike Fiorentino and the FDA. A meeting will be scheduled shortly to start the process.

FDA Hiers – reported that FEMA approved to include "donated resources" (Volunteers) in the Hurricane Sandy FEMA Grant. The FDA met with the FEMA representative and provided the additional info needed. Good record keeping by the fire department along with good data inputting by the FM's Bureau, the FDA was able to provide the additional information as requested. That resulted in another \$4777.50. The total amount of the Hurricane Sandy & Nor'easter disaster relief grant which we received amounted to \$28,473.98. Out of that grant the Board received 75% of that amount or \$21,355.49. That was a big help in defraying the cost the Board incurred during that disaster. Again the Board recognizes everyone for doing a fine job in recouping our additional costs during those storms. The Board again thanks both departments and employees for their hard work in dealing with some very difficult issues. Thank you.

There was no further business presented before the Board. The meeting adjourned 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. David Hiers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

J. David Hiers
Fire District Administrator

MINMAR13