

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**Montgomery Township Fire District No. 2**  
**PO Box 264**  
**Blawenburg, New Jersey 08504**

MINUTES OF JUNE 5, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order by Chairman Devin Davis at 7:46 pm, following proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Annual notice published in the official newspaper of the district and provided to two other newspapers, posted at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building and Board offices).

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners D. Davis, L. Laughlin, J. Plimpton, S. Weingart. Absent: Commissioner C. Lewis. Also present: Chief Kabis, President Kaufman, Attorney Griswold and L. Franchino.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes of the May 1, 2014 meeting.

*A motion was made to accept the minutes of the May 1, 2014 meeting as presented.*

*Motion made by Plimpton. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Weingart. Motion passed without objection.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**BILLS**

A copy of the Treasurer's Report was made available to each commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. The Chief Financial Officer certified that there were sufficient unencumbered funds to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged. Two additional bills were presented for payment – \$21.12 9.95 from the Courier News for publishing a Notice of Bid and \$2,299.78 from Air Power International for the Cascade system yearly service contract (\$1809.00) and repairs (\$490.78). Two items on the list of bills should be deleted – \$23.33 payment to Cammps Hardware (fire company expense) and \$500.00 to Somerset Cty. Emergency Services Training for the Public Information Officer training class (cancelled).

The second invoice from Combat Support Products billing for shipping on a previously paid invoice may be in error. A representative of the company will confirm.

The treasurer requested the transfer of \$15,000.00 from the TD Bank equity account to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

When the township budget is approved this year's Supplemental Fire Services money will be forthcoming.

*A motion was passed to accept the Treasurer's Report, to approve payment of the bills as presented, supplemented and amended, and to transfer money to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.*

*Motion by Laughlin. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Plimpton. Motion passed without objection.*

**RESOLUTION 2014-25 Payment of Bills and Transfer of Funds.**

*Approval of payment of the bills as presented in the total amount of \$38,274.90, which amount includes payment to the Courier News in the amount of \$21.12 chargeable to the 2014 Advertising appropriation and payment to AirPower International in the amount of \$2,299.78 chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation; deletion of the \$23.33 payment to Cammps Hardware and of \$500.00 to the Somerset Cty. Emerg. Services Training Academy; and authorization to transfer \$15,000.00 from the TD Bank equity account to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.*

*Resolution Ayes: Davis, Laughlin, Plimpton, Weingart.. Nays: None. Absent: Lewis.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**MEMS Agreement** – Final review underway by all parties.

*A motion passed authorizing the Chairman to execute the document on behalf of the Board.*

*Motion by Laughlin. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Weingart. Motion passed without objection.*

**Financial Disclosure Forms** - The forms and PIN numbers have been forwarded to board members and the chief; the filing deadline is June 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Cellular Telephones** – Chairman Davis will determine whether the board's authorized contacts were successfully changed with Verizon.

**Disposition of old 46-107** – Chairman Davis distributed and asked for comment on a specification sheet and pictures of the apparatus that will be used to help locate potential vendors and determine the value of the vehicle. Further discussion will follow.

**Human Resources** – Commissioner Plimpton continues his review and updating of the district's human resources policies and procedures.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

The fire company responded to 28 calls during May, 2014.

**Activities** –

1. The fire company was well represented in the Memorial Day parades.
2. 4 members attended the Harrisburg Fire Expo and brought back useful data on current trends and values of equipment, tools, apparatus, etc.
3. The fire company will attend a flag retirement ceremony at the Elks Club on June 14<sup>th</sup>, will standby at fireworks at Bedens Brook on June 27<sup>th</sup>, and will participate in the township's fireworks display on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. The Wet Down for the new Engine 46-107 will be held on July 26<sup>th</sup> at the firehouse.

Knox Box – The township fire official is researching options and costs for installing a box in the fire inspector’s vehicle.

Fire Inspector Position – The fire inspector hired last year has left Montgomery Township and the position is open, leaving Fire Marshal Mondy shorthanded again.

MEMS – Will have their suggestion for materials/supplies ready for the next meeting.

Engine 46-108 – Faulty discharge valve. Absolute will repair.

Rescue Engine 46- The EGR cooler recently replaced under warranty cracked and needs repair again. The motor warranty on the apparatus expires soon, and if a new EGR cooler is installed the warranty on the part will expire simultaneously with the motor warranty. The chief was instructed to contact Cummins Power Service, Absolute Fire Protection and E-One in writing explaining the issue, expressing disappointment with the design and quality of the system (defects in workmanship and materials), and demanding a solution at no cost to the board.

Minitor VI Pagers – Hardware issues exist that Motorola is addressing. No pagers will be ordered (approved last month) until the problem is rectified.

Hurst Combi-Tool – The handle on the newer tool is slightly too long to fit on the new rescue truck. The chief will check with Hurst to see if there is another handle that can be substituted, and if not, he will research alternatives to accommodate the tool.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The board discussed the following:

1. The hose, pump and ground ladder testing quote from Fire Flow Services, LLC is \$6,263.25. The quote includes the cost of Rocky Hill’s testing (for which the district will be reimbursed). MFD2’s cost should be \$4,788.35; Rocky Hill’s should be \$1,474.90. Pending approval, the testing will be done on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
2. Hydrostatic testing of the Cascade air bottles (done about every five years) by Air Power International will cost \$2,130.00. The price includes pick up, cylinder testing, valve replacement, delivery and labor.
3. Annual physicals for responding members and fire police by Professional Health Services will cost an average \$322.50 per person. There could be up to 48 members utilizing this service. The vendor has performed this professional service for the district for a number of years, is competitive with other providers, brings a mobile unit, doctors and technicians to the firehouse for 2 days for testing and provides a valuable service in record maintenance, review and comparison for members from year to year. Firefighter clearance (respirator and fitness for duty) certification is included.
3. It is time to change the filters in the air handling units of the diesel exhaust system. From sole provider (manufacturer’s area rep) Air Technology Solutions, the cost is \$6,956.00, including freight.
4. Flow testing of the air masks and air packs (SCBA) is due. This is an NFPA required annual testing. The cost is \$1,750.00 per written quote from Firefighter 1 Professional Safety Services.
5. Some head nets and straps for the SCBA need replacement. On NJ State Contract from Firefighter 1 the cost for 10 (ea) of both is \$983.10.

6. Two thermal imaging cameras have failed. Due to their age it doesn't make economic sense to diagnose and repair (if parts are available). Quotes for replacement (all NJ State Contract): MSA Evolution 5800 camera w/ truck charger, the same model in use now, so firefighters are familiar with its operation and supplemental equipment like chargers will not be necessary \$13,015.01 with a \$2,000.00 trade-in credit; USED MSA Evolution 6000 camera w/ truck charger and with no trade-in allowance \$9,479.20; NEW MSA Evolution 6000 camera w/ truck charger \$13,300.00 with a \$2,000.00 trade-in credit.

*A motion was passed to move forward with the foregoing expenditures 1 through 5 above, and to do further pricing on the thermal imaging camera purchase and revisit it at a future meeting.*

*Motion made by Davis. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laughlin. Motion passed without objection.*

**RESOLUTION 2014-26 Authorizing expenditures.**

*A Resolution passed authorizing the following expenditures:*

*1. Hose, pump and ground ladder testing pursuant to written quote from Fire Flow Services, LLC in the amount of \$6,263.25, chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation.*

*2. Hydrostatic testing of Cascade air bottles pursuant to written quote from the manufacturer's authorized dealer Air Power International at a cost of \$2,130.00, chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation.*

*3. Annual firefighter physicals, tests, lab work, record keeping, etc. pursuant to written quote by Professional Health Services, Inc., as a professional services contract, at a cost not to exceed \$15,480.00, chargeable to the 2014 Training appropriation. This contract is on file and available for public inspection at the fire district offices.*

*4. Seven (7) sets of AirMATION filters for the diesel exhaust system pursuant to written quote from sole supplier Air Technology Solutions at a cost not to exceed \$6,956.00 chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation.*

*5. Flow testing of SCBA pursuant to written quote from Firefighter One at a cost of \$1,750.00 chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation.*

*6. Ten (10) ea. Speed-On head harness assemblies and ten (10) ea. Mask straps for SCBA pursuant to NJ State Contract # A81357 from Firefighter One at a cost of \$983.10 chargeable to the 2014 Supplies appropriation.*

*Resolution Ayes: Davis, Laughlin, Plimpton, Weingart. Nays: None. Absent: Lewis.*

Rescue Engine 46-156 – Commissioner Laughlin recommended the chief have the vehicle weighed to determine it is in balance and not overweight. He suggested the board adopt a policy of having all apparatus weighed annually.

ISO Letter to Township – Chairman Davis distributed a draft letter to the mayor and township administrator advising them of the fire district's excellent PPC rating and thanking them for the support of the township fire official's office.

Wireless Beacon System – Chairman Davis expressed concern over the safety of the apparatus leaving the firehouse and entering onto Rt. 518. The wall-mounted controller for the traffic signal on Rt. 518 is difficult to access and cumbersome to operate - the purchase of remote control activators for each truck would remedy the difficulty in activating the traffic signal and would provide a measure of added safety for drivers on Rt. 518 and for fire personnel and apparatus. Signal Control Products, Inc. quoted \$2,550.00 for the purchased and installation of the system. Another quote was unavailable.

*A motion was passed to move forward with the purchase and installation of the remote traffic control activation system.*

*Motion made by Laughlin. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Weingart. Motion passed without objection.*

**RESOLUTION 2014-27 Authorizing Purchase & Installation of Wireless Beacon System.**

*A Resolution passed authorizing the purchase and installation of a Wireless Beacon System to increase the safety of local traffic and fire personnel and apparatus by allowing remote activation of the traffic warning signal on Rt. 518 by emergency vehicles entering the roadway, from Signal Control Products, Inc., for a total cost of \$2,550.00, chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation.*

**HOSE BIDS**

Two bids were received for miscellaneous hose on May 15, 2014:

1. FF1 Professional Safety Services, LLC, 26 Gail Court, Sparta, NJ 07871  
Base Prices: Vary depending on item – combined unit price for all sizes \$820.80  
Exceptions: Yes  
Delivery: 60 days
  
2. Continental Fire & Safety ,Inc., 2740 Kuser Road, Hamilton, NJ 08691  
Base Prices: Vary depending on item – combined unit price for all sizes \$827.55  
Exceptions: No  
Delivery:

*A motion was passed to receive the bids for miscellaneous hose subject to compliance with the legal and technical specifications.*

*Motion by Plimpton. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laughlin. Motion passed without objection.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 10, 2014.

*Motion by Laughlin. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Plimpton. Motion passed without objection.*