

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Montgomery Township Fire District 2
PO Box 264
Blawenburg, New Jersey 08504**

MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order by Chairman Sartorio at 7:30 p.m. following proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Annual meeting notice published in the Courier News (official newspaper of the district) and provided to two other newspapers, filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, Board offices and fire district web site, and provided to any person requesting same prior to the meeting.

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners R. McGeady, B. Bonder, A. Sartorio and A. Mozumdar.
Absent: M. Ruppert Also present: Chief Adam Verducci, Deputy Chief Rendall, Lt. J. Nieves, Engineer J. Kabis, QPA W. Newberry and Attorney E. Perkins.

Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Commissioner Sartorio, seconded by Commissioner Bonder, the minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2021 were unanimously approved.

Public Comment - None

Meetings

Emergency Services –no meeting held.

Fire Prevention – No meeting held.

Chief's Report

Chief Verducci reported that there were 31 calls in the month of May the most significant of which involved a fatal motor vehicle accident. Upcoming events include a hazmat lecture by county hazmat, a water shuttle set-up drill and a hose deployment drill. The company participated in the Montgomery and Neshanic Memorial Day events. June events will include school commencements as well as an out of county cover assignment on June 19th.

The Chief noted that a number of pieces of PPE had to be sent out for cleaning and decontamination after the accident call. Extra gear may be required to cover when gear is out to be cleaned. The fatal accident also highlighted the potential need to employ grief counselors to speak with persons involved in such calls. There was no apparent need after this incident, but the Chief noted that he might seek to employ counselors if the need develops after a future call.

Chief Verducci noted that 600 feet of 5" hose had failed annual pressure testing. He will provide a report on the age of the defective hose at a future meeting. In the interim the hose has been replaced from reserves.

The Chief requested payment of the invoice to the Hunterdon County Fire Academy so that the certification for firefighter Dave Halloway can be released.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Kabis reported he is awaiting a revised re-quote from Campbell on the CAFS/PTO pump issue on E107. The apparatus continues to respond to calls and produce foam but is unable to use CAFS.

The T46 Jib Boom speed issue will continue to be monitored with a review of options in September or October.

All of the Ford chassis batteries on B46 need to be replaced. A requisition for the replacement is to be considered at this meeting. Mr. Kabis indicated that he is continuing to review options for the repair/replacement of the inoperable lights on B46.

The Engineer reported that all of the batteries on E107 failed and had to be replaced on an emergency basis. He obtained BOFC approval for the emergency expenditure in the amount of \$1,200.00 to keep the apparatus in service. The air conditioning on E107 is not functioning properly. The apparatus will be taken to BCI in Flemington to have the system recharged at a cost of \$400.00.

T46 alignment has been delayed due to the weather. Four Lanes is ordering parts for the repair of the apparatus master drain which is leaking.

C46-1 has an outstanding GM recall for a wheel speed sensor. Chief to schedule.

A recall has been issued for the passenger side airbag on the deputy chief's vehicle. The parts are not yet available.

Engineer Kabis reported that he has completed the annual PM specs and provided them to Mr. Newberry.

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. Additional detail is included in the Treasurer's report.

Invoices from the 2021 Budget:

Cost of Operations: 2021

Administration: Elections: \$1,170.81; Office \$3,260.00;
Professional Fees: \$5,025.00; Apparatus Housing: \$16,000.00;

Operations: Insurance: \$9,040.00; Repairs and Maintenance: \$1,439.30
Training and Fire Prevention: \$1,702.00; Utilities: \$616.24

Total Cost of Administration and Operations \$38,253.35.

Resolution 2021-15 Payment of Bills

The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient unencumbered funds remaining in the 2021 budget to pay the bills as presented and having designated the accounts to which each should be charged, the Board authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to pay bills in the total amount \$38,253.35.

On Motion of Chair Sartorio, 2nd by Commissioner McGeady, the BOFC unanimously approved payment of the bills.

Mr. Newberry noted that he continues to be unable to reconcile the PNC account statement in a timely fashion as it had not been received as of tonight's meeting. Commissioner Bonder will follow up with PNC.

The State Department of Community Affairs has extended the deadline for the 2020 fiscal year audit until September 30, 2021.

A bill was received from the Somerset County Board of Elections in the amount of \$1,070.00 for the April referendum and election. The amount was consistent with what had been anticipated.

BOFC expenditures to date are all within the budgeted norms. We are awaiting information from the Township on the transmission of the tax revenue.

Purchasing

The purchase requisitions approved at the May meeting have been issued. Some items have been received but there are a couple of outstanding items.

Requisitions

A requisition in the amount of \$5,182.70 was submitted for the purchase of eight rear tires for T46 from Bergey's under State Contract. Additional requisitions for the replacement of the batteries in B46 in the amount of \$281.28; and to Four Lanes for recharging the A/C in E107 in the amount of \$400.00. Total of requisitions \$5,863.98.

Motion to approve the requested requisitions by Commissioner Mozumdar, seconded by Commissioner Bonder and approved unanimously by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

LOSAP Update – Gene Keller Jr. gave a brief history of the LOSAP program in the district. The program was created as an incentive to promote people to volunteer their time to the fire company. He explained the methodology of accumulating LOSAP credit and the projected cost of the program in the current year. Based on the current call response, training activities, meetings and work session he expects the cost of the program will likely be a little less than in the 2020 year.

OLD BUSINESS

Fire Police Vehicle: Chairman Sartorio noted that the fire police vehicle has been donated to the BOFC. Commissioner Bonder indicated that he had titled the vehicle with the Division of Motor Vehicles. It is currently being outfitted.

Financial Disclosure Filings – All filings are complete with the exception of Commissioner Bonder who will file before the June 30th deadline.

Fire Prevention Fines – The Chief and officers are considering utilization of the money for the purchase of equipment not included in the regular 2021 BOFC budget.

VFIS – The Chief indicated the VFIS motor vehicle recommendations have been incorporated into the SOGs. Driver records will be reviewed to ensure that all are in compliance.

Viburnum Underground Tanks – A training activity will be scheduled in July to determine if the tank floats are operational. Commissioner Ruppert or Gene Keller will be present to assist.

Online Banking – Commissioner Bonder reported that new signature cards have been mostly completed. Commissioner Ruppert needs to execute a card and Commissioner Mozumdar must go to Northfield Bank in person to sign a card.

Expired Turnout Gear- Commissioner Bonder reported that the pod has been filled with excess expired gear from Station 46 and other companies in the surrounding area. It will soon be transported to the stations in need in the south.

T46 Lighting – The vendor Island Tech is waiting for the delivery of all required parts before scheduling the work.

Long Range Capital – Chairman Sartorio stated that the committee had met once and was scheduled to meet again on Sunday, June 13th.

Renewal of Rocky Hill Agreement: Deferred to a future meeting.

Travel SOGs- The Chief reported that the fire company will modify their SOGs consistent with the BOFC policies.

Communication Policy – Chair Sartorio indicated that he is working on a draft and will distribute the draft to the BOFC when it is complete.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 8th, 2021.

Motion by McGeady, 2nd by Mozumdar. Motion passed without objection.