



Fire Commissioners Meeting – February 13, 2014

Present: Frank Barney, Bonnie Helfter, Sue Wood, Carl Pitts, Jim Hollenbeck, Ron Streeter, Dale Nicholson

Guest: Ernie Wood, Steve Parker, Dick Daby

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chairman Barney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Barney asked for a motion to accept the agenda. Dale Nicholson requested that attorney follow up be added to the agenda. Dale Nicholson (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to accept the revised agenda. All in favor; motion carried.

The minutes from the January organizational and regular meeting were presented. Dale Nicholson (Ron Streeter) made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. All in favor; motion carried.

The following claims were submitted for audit:

[MX Fuels	\$1000.13
[AC Auto	\$36.14
[Nicholville Telephone	\$66.38
[Evans & White	\$26.98
[Bicknells	\$87.92
[Wilbers	\$38.25
[Champlain Communications	\$50.00

[Lamphere Trucking	\$9.00
[Kussmaul	\$280.71
[National Grid	\$167.33
[Fire-End & Croker	\$2200.00
[MX Fuels	\$883.28
[MX Fuels	\$1131.63
[Fire End & Croker	\$274.92
[Evans & White	\$20.67
[Environmental Health	\$150.00
[Northern Newspapers	\$21.32
[Champlain Communications	\$105.00
[Champlain Communications	\$60.00
[Admiral Fire & Safety	\$4024.50
[Northern NY Newspapers	\$16.47
[Active 911	\$220.00

Sue noted that Fire End & Croker were paid in December in the amount of \$2200. Dale Nicholson (Carl Pitts) made a motion to approve payment of February claims, excluding the payment of \$2200. All in favor; motion carried.

Bonnie Helfter presented the February financial report. There is a current balance of \$5,050.75 (\$2200 added back in). There are two (2) checks which need to be deposited: \$2550 from Auction International and \$18.90 from the fire department). This will bring the balance to \$7619.65. Jim Hollenbeck (Ron Streeter) made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. All in favor; motion carried.

Chief's Report: Chief Parker reported there is no known building or mechanical equipment issues to report. All trucks are in working order at this time. Members logged in 77 man hours responding to calls; 26 man hours of training and 73 man hours doing general station work/work details. All truck training has been logged. Training was conducted on the department Standard Operating Guides (SOG) for responding to the station and order of trucks to scenes for various calls. All members are properly equipped at this time. The Self Rescue demonstration kit has arrived. The system has been reviewed and approved by most of the interior firemen. The order is pending on clarification of training. All Hands Fire offers a class for \$3500; other companies offer training for around \$500/person. The state offers a "Train the Trainer" class that would teach 3 or 4 of the members how to safely instruct the rest of the members. The chief is in contact with Scott Edkin, OFPC representative, to see what can be set up. He suggested it would be nice to have a portable radio capable of communicating with Franklin County departments when responding to their calls. At the recent call in St. Regis Falls, there

was no way for them to inform us to advance to the scene. Also, once on scene, there is no way to communicate with the Incident Command. The cost is approximately \$640.

The fire department will be hosting a Ham dinner fundraiser on February 22. A truck may be sent to Tri-Town's Winter Festival parade on Saturday, February 15. Due to the expected weather, it will probably be R71.

There was a small incident at the station. R71 was backed in too far and tapped the air compressor tank. There appears to be no major damage and everything is working.

Calls for the month:

- [1/20/14 – lift assist with Tri-Town Rescue; 3 members
- [1/29/14 – roll over on 11B; 11 members
- [1/31/14 – mutual aid to St. Regis Falls for a structure fire; 12 members

A short discussion was held on the request for a radio. No decision was made. Dale Nicholson (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to accept the report. All in favor; motion carried.

Correspondence: There is a conference on legal matters at the Turning Stone from March 27 – 30. The cost is \$195 for registration plus expenses. Dale Nicholson (Carl Pitts) made a motion to not send anyone. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business: A letter of resignation was received from Bonnie Helfter, Treasurer, effective February 15, 2014. Carl Pitts (Dale Nicholson) made a motion to accept the resignation with regrets. All in favor; motion carried.

Old Business:

- [Wildland gear – the gear has arrived. Frank Barney will contact the DEC office to obtain the voucher and paperwork to get the \$1000 reimbursement.
- [Port-a-tank – the tank has been ordered and should arrive here by March 3.
- [ETA-49 ABS light – Northern Fire reported that the previous owner had taken this to the International dealer several times and they could not repair this. It was suggested to run a magnet over to reset it. Northern Fire did say they would pay if we were able to find someone to fix this if the magnet solution doesn't work. This isn't a major deal as it will still pass inspection.
- [Attorney - At the January meeting a discussion was held on contacting Scicchitano & Pinsky for representation as the district attorney. Dale Nicholson will contact and ask for rates, retainer fee, carry over, etc. Dale Nicholson (Carl Pitts) made a motion to table this until the March meeting. All in favor; motion carried.
- [Frank Barney gave a receipt for the sale of (old) ETA-49.

Ron Streeter has arranged a meeting with Bill Dashnaw regarding hiring him for the district accounting.

Jim Hollenbeck (Ron Streeter) made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the treasurer position. All in favor; motion carried. Executive session entered at 7:33 p.m.

Carl Pitts (Dale Nicholson) made a motion to adjourn executive session, with no action taken. All in favor; motion carried. The regular meeting resumed at 7:49 p.m.

Ron Streeter requested permission to purchase a sheet of plywood to finish the dividers in the truck. Carl Pitts (Dale Nicholson) made a motion to approve the purchase. All in favor; motion carried.

Dale Nicholson mentioned that the lights on R71 were not working. Ron Streeter stated that he had fixed the switch and everything was now working. Ernie Wood mentioned he had a light bar that he is willing to donate if it is needed. This would be more energy efficient.

Dale Nicholson (Carl Pitts) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sue Wood, Secretary