

**The Monthly Work Session of the Board of Fire Commissioners
District#3, in the Township of Hanover
County of Morris, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey
July 15, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on July 15, 2010 in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 231.

Attendees: Commissioners Thomas Harrington, Paul Pilipie, Thomas Quirk

Absent: Commissioners Gary Keyser, Joseph Martin

Chief James Davidson was also present.

The Board stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Davidson indicated that he would prepare a resolution for the next regular meeting for the Board to vote on regarding the Regional grant.

Chairman Harrington said that the Board did not have enough members present to go over the by-laws which had been previously distributed to the Commissioners so it will be discussed at the next regular meeting on August.

The Chairman reported that the interest payment has been paid to the State pension system.

The Chairman asked Commissioner Pilipie if he had any further information regarding keychains as a suggestion for recognizing outstanding efforts from volunteers and the Commissioner reported that he had not had a chance to follow up on the idea further. Commissioner Quirk said that he had seen some keychains that had a maltese cross on the keychain. Commissioner Pilipie said he had seen something like that also and was working on getting both the maltese cross and a caduceus which could be overlaid on the key chain.

Chairman Harrington indicated that the Board received the SOGs from Chief Davidson regarding active member physicals. Chief Davidson said he forgot to put in the SOG for pre-application physicals for drug screening. The Board needs to decide whether they want drug screening on any further physicals and how to handle the career firefighter/EMT who does not pass the physical. Commissioner Quirk agreed, but said the Board needs to abide by the contract for disciplinary actions if anyone fails the drug screening. It's not random drug screening, but scheduled drug screening. The Chief said that the Board needs to decide, if someone fails the physical, is the Board going to allow a corrective action plan to give that person time to correct whatever needs to be done, i.e., with pay or without pay, will the Board keep the person on light duty or whatever. The Chairman said a doctor would be the person to determine if the person is taken out from

active duty. The doctor would also indicate whether he needs physical therapy, exercise, diet, light duty, etc. Chief Davidson felt that needs to be spelled out especially for career staff. Commissioner Pilipie asked what would happen if the person could not fulfill his duties and Chief Davidson said that person would apply for retirement if he is in the pension system long enough. If that person is not in long enough, he would apply for a disability pension. All of the information would go to the pension board and they would decide if that person is disabled enough to be put out on a disability pension. Commissioner Quirk said, outside the line of duty, that person would not automatically have the pension granted. The Chief also said that the Medical Director could say that the person in question could not be a firefighter and that person would not automatically be eligible for a disability pension. Commissioner Pilipie asked what would happen if the career person could not fulfill the requirements of his job description, i.e., EMT/Firefighter, and was told by Chief Davidson that the Board could decide to change the job description or let the individual go.

The Chairman asked about compliant lettering regarding NIMs and the Chief said he was working on it.

The Chairman also noted that the Chief had sent out the update on calls and drills to the membership.

Chairman Harrington asked Chief Davidson how to cancel receiving updates on Title 40A. The Chief said he would have Jim Schultz handle it.

Chairman Harrington said he would follow-up with Commissioner Keyser regarding the discrepancy discussed at the July 1, 2010 Board meeting in which the Treasurer's Report listed District #2's EMS payment as \$16,000.00 vs. the \$18,500.00 regular quarterly payment. The Chairman said he just received the Second Quarter's \$18,500.00 reimbursement from District #2.

Chief Davidson said he spoke with Dr. Manis regarding career personnel wearing shorts underneath their turnout gear as a means of keeping them cool. Dr. Manis said he would be happy to attend a meeting to discuss why it would be important to do that. Chief Davidson indicated this would be the only change to the current SOG. The Chairman said it would be discussed at the next meeting since the Board could not vote on the topic at a work session.

There was no other business to discuss. **A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Quirk at 7:22 PM, seconded by Commissioner Pilipie, all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Paul Pilipie, Secretary

