

**The Monthly Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners
District #3, in the Township of Hanover
New Jersey County of Morris, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey
May 2, 2013**

The monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 2, 2013 in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 231.

Attendees: Commissioners Robert Callas, Peter DeNigris, Michael Dugan, Maria Florio, Thomas Quirk

Chief James Davidson was also present along with Assistant Chiefs Robert O'Hare and Craig Vagel.

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A statement of compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act was read by Chairman Quirk followed by a roll call with all Commissioners in attendance.

Correspondence

Commissioner Callas reported that there was correspondence from the local PBA regarding PBA 128's upcoming golf outing at the Skyview in Sparta on Thursday, June 13th with a shot gun start at 9:00 AM.

Chairman Quirk asked if the contract had been extended for Employment Horizons regarding cleaning of the Firehouse. Chief Davidson said that he had recently received the contract renewal which would be signed and returned to Employment Horizons.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The next order of business was the approval of the April 4, 2013 minutes. **Commissioner DeNigris made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2013 regular monthly meeting as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Florio, all in favor.**

The next order of business was the approval of the minutes from the April 18, 2013 monthly work session. Commissioner Florio suggested changing the paragraph regarding part of the conversation with Richard Braslow. **(See attached amended minutes). A motion was made by Commissioner DeNigris to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner Florio, all in favor.**

Report of Committees:

Finance/Budget

Commissioner DeNigris reported that it had been agreed that the cost report for April had been pushed back to the work session so that Mary Keyser would have more time to include all of the costs of the month. Also, the Commissioner reported that he had just received the audit report. He reported that he was pleased with the results with just a few issues that need to be addressed. He had discussed with Vincent Montanino from VM Associates, Inc., the fact that the Board keeps too much money in the payroll account which will be monitored with the Commissioner transferring enough money each month for expenses. Other items were discussed with Mr. Montanino including having an audit so that there is the correct amount of money in the pension. Commissioner DeNigris said he would make the changes discussed. **Commissioner DeNigris made a motion that the Board authorize Mr. Montanino to do an audit on the quarterly pension deductions, seconded by Commissioner Callas, all in favor.**

The Chief and Commissioner DeNigris discussed setting up a "hardship" policy with people who are delinquent for one reason or another.

Labor Relations

Chairman Quirk said that he had not heard anything back from the Board's attorney and Chief Davidson reported that he had not either.

Building and Grounds

Commissioner Dugan reported that they are still waiting for the contractor to set a date. They still don't know what they will be doing regarding the cupola. The cameras are up and working and are the Commissioner is waiting to hear back from vendors regarding pricing. One of the vendors lives in town (District #3) and came back and said he doesn't have the time to do it, but he would like to donate a 16 port VCR. The Commissioner suggested that a note should be sent in appreciation for the donation. He also is waiting for pricing on the 6 new cameras and a new monitor.

Planning Committee

Commissioner Callas received a memo from the Chief who had received an e-mail from Chief O'Hare stating that the Second Floor does have a Committee now with John O'Brien as President, Assistant Chief, EMS Bob O'Hare, Assistant Chief, Fire Craig Vagel, EMT Shirley Bergen and Firefighter Anthony Pizimento. Commissioner Callas said that they need to have another meeting within our group and then incorporate both groups and go from there.

By-Laws

Commissioner Florio said they went to the last 2 meetings and voted on the proposed change to the Chief's ability to appoint various positions within the Fire Department changing the wording to give him more discretion on the positions each year. Chairman Quirk read the by-laws with the new language and the Board voted on the entire by-laws which included the acceptance of the new amendment. Resolution 13-05-02-28 adopting the May 2, 2013 amended by-laws was introduced by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris, all in favor.

Insurance

Commissioner DeNigris asked if he had heard correctly that there was no change in insurance. The Commissioners had all received information from the insurance provider regarding the baseball coverage. Chief Davidson said that they probably could bring in a non-member, but it was not accepted as a regular practice and it was strongly encouraged not to do so even though they could sign a waiver that they would not be covered under the department's insurance. The Chief asked the soft ball managers to give him a roster -- there is one person who would not be covered.

EMS Billing

The Chairman previously had given Commissioner Callas copies of the e-mail chain that were spoken about at the last meeting to be put in the minutes regarding (look at 28 min) so that it is available.

Annual Inspection Night

Commissioner DeNigris said that he submitted the final number of 75 to the caterer for the Inspection. Assistant Chief Vogel reported that, as per last year, Chief Davidson, Assistant Chief O'Hare and he will be discussing bringing guest judges to go through the apparatus and, using a point system, announce the winning team for the Inspection. There will be an upcoming planning meeting regarding the inspection.

Old Business

Chairman Quirk indicated that he had been notified that the dedication will be scheduled to be in conjunction with Hanover Township Day. The details are not developed yet. The Commissioner asked John O'Brien to let the Board know what the plan is after the next meeting.

Chief Davidson also reported that he had been in contact with Bayer regarding the letter he had sent to them. Bayer had asked the Chief if he could send a less detailed letter, which he did.

New Business

Commissioner Florio questioned the vetting of new Junior members and why the Board has never asked for recommendations from people such as a high school principal who could give an assessment of junior members and whether they would fit in with the department. Chief Davidson said that the only time they look for references is for the paid positions – part time and full time. The Commissioner felt that it might be good to have someone who is not part of the department give a reference for someone who applies. Chairman Quirk said that he had been questioned by someone who came in to get an application about why his financial history would be necessary. Chief Davidson said that it is just a vetted application form which could be altered.

Commissioner Callas indicated that **Resolution 13-05-02-09** was assigned for appointing volunteer line officers as follows:

Robert O'Hare	Assistant Chief – EMS Division
Patti Sainato	Captain – EMS Division
David Charles	Lieutenant – EMS Division
Craig Vagell	Assistant Chief – Fire/Rescue Division
Joseph M. Martin	Captain – Fire/Rescue Division
Vincent Barisciano	Lieutenant – Fire/Rescue Division
John Fehir	Lieutenant – Fire/Rescue Division

The resolution was introduced by Commissioner DeNigris, seconded by Commissioner Florio, all in favor. However, Chairman Quirk recused himself since Patti Sainato is his sister.


Public Participation

None

There was no other business to discuss. Chairman Quirk asked to go into Executive Session. **A motion was made to go into closed session at 7:58 PM by Chairman Quirk, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris, all in favor.**

The monthly meeting reopened at 8: 16 PM. **A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner DeNigris, seconded by Commissioner Dugan, all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted by:


Robert Callas, Secretary