

June 18, 2026 Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners

District #3 in the Township of Hanover

County of Morris, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on June 18, 2026 in accordance with the Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 231. The Board observed a moment of silence for all those who have given their lives in service of their communities and nation.

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Dugan Sr., Thomas Harrington, Robert Gallagher, and Gary Keyser were present. Commissioner DeSimone was absent.

Administrator Hark Jr., Chief McGuinness, other District 3 staff and members of the public were also in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Cedar Knolls resident George Poole, asked about what was going on with the additional parking lot that used to be utilized by USPS. Administrator Hark responded that for over a year the board had been renegotiating the lease with USPS and had not reached an agreement. More recently during these negotiations USPS identified some concerns with the lot and so the lot has been closed off for the time being out of an abundance of caution to the public while the matters are addressed. Administrator Hark stated an official letter with more information would be posted in the next 48 hours once conversation is had in closed session and with legal.

Cedar Knolls Resident Mary Poole thanked the department for their response to her yoga class a few weeks ago. Mary stated that the department staff is always very professional and that she also enjoys coming to our meetings.

Whippany resident Blanche Lopez reported that before the upcoming Hanover Fireworks on July 1, 2026 there will be a parade with reenactors celebrating not just America's 250th anniversary but Whippany's 350th.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: None.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported – we are “Status Quo” however there were some more unanticipated expenses that came up. We remain within budget at this time.

Report of Fire Commissioner Board Committees and Chief of Department:

MONTHLY REPORTS: Chief McGuinness gave his report. EMS annual reviews are underway. A39 continues to have AC issues and is awaiting a diagnosis and The air compressor has been replaced but now the plymavents are not working.

EMS: No report.

BUDGET: Commissioner Dugan Sr. Reported that budget meetings have begun.

PERSONNEL: Commissioner DeSimone reported that the Board needs to go in to Executive Session.

NEGOTIATIONS: No further correspondence at this time. Board announced that there would be no additional hire or promotion for the rest of this year.

LIAISON TO THE VOLUNTEERS: Commissioner Harrington reported that he is in the process of still trying to schedule a meeting date with Deputy Chief Costello.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Commissioner Gallagher asked if the urinal work had been completed. Administrator Hark reported that the work was completed and was \$350 as anticipated.

APPARATUS/EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE: Chief reported all preventative maintenance was completed but due to a miscommunication we are still awaiting the brakes to be done.

INSURANCE: Administrator Hark reported that the VFIS and Liability packages were renewed but that we are still awaiting the new workers comp renewal for next meeting.

BY-LAWS: Commissioner DeSimone reported the bylaw changes were completed at the last meeting and so there is a resolution on tonight's agenda adopting the changes.

WEBSITE: Up to date.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Commissioner Dugan reported that the town is still in the process of working with the consultant and that we are awaiting the report which was anticipated to come out in Mid July.

LIASON TO EXEMPTS: Nothing to report.

RECORDS RETENTION: Nothing to report.

LIAISON TO HANOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: Administrator Hark reported that the workers comp renewal was received and although the total cost has increased it is due to the number of personnel, and that the individual rates dropped. The policy is within budget and set to be renewed. Commissioner Keyser reported that we received the new LUCAS device and it is in service on our ambulance. Commissioner Keyser thanked the taxpayers for approving the purchase of this chest compression device in the capital election.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Keyser reported that he attended Hanover Township Fire District 2's June meeting and during the meeting they suspended Chief Perrello with pay and have appointed Derrick Shearer as interim Chief and Tim Culver as the Fire official. Commissioner Dugan reported that we purchased two air purifiers for the building. They have been installed in the dayroom and second floor.

REMINDERS:

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be held on Thursday, July 2, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

There will be a Joint Fire Prevention meeting on Thursday September 3, 2026 at 6:30 P.M. at the District 3 Firehouse.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Cedar Knolls resident Deanna Atkinson thanked the Board for everything they do and always answering all of her questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Gallagher read Resolution 26-06-18-80 to enter into executive session. Commissioner Dugan Sr. made a motion to introduce the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Harrington. All were in favor.

The Board went into closed session at 7:29 p.m.

Personnel matters were discussed, and action will be taken.

The Board came out of closed session at 7:52 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS: **RESOLUTIONS:** Motion made by Commissioner Dugan Sr. for adopting Resolutions 26-06-18-81 (A Resolution Appointing Volunteer Pragada), 26-06-18-82 (A Resolution Appointing Permanent LT), 26-06-18-83 (A Resolution Appointing F/T EMT Thomas Weinert), 26-06-18-84 (A Resolution Declaring Property Surplus), 26-06-18-85 (A Resolution Appointing Luke Addeo Regular

Member) as a consent Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Harrington. All were in favor. Commissioner DeSimone was absent.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Commissioner Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Gallagher, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Commissioner DeSimone was absent

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Robert Gallagher, Secretary