

The seven hundred and ninety second meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #2, Gloucester Township was held in the Chews Landing Fire Station on Wednesday, August 16th, 2023 postponed from August 9th.

Commissioners present were: Genzel, Reichert, Evans, Donahue and Grady Also present were Chief Millisky and Administrator Robb

Chairman Genzel opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the flag salute and acknowledgement of the meeting being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act and having been advertised as such.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Evans to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Chief's Report: Chief Millisky provided updates on National Night Out and the fireworks display, Utility 84 and TAC 81 being in service, as well as thanking Administrator Robb and FF Comisky for the 9/11 presentation for Mission BBQ representatives. We have 3 firefighters attending FF1 school, and four members who took and passed the FFII Challenge Test – Chief Millisky, Captains Giambri, Procopio and Haines.

Administrator's Report: Admin Robb reviewed the attached agenda report.

Solicitor's Report: Absent

Group Report: "A" Building Maintenance, Park (K. Donahue) Comm. Donahue reported that the boiler inspection has been completed and has passed inspection.

Group Report: "B" Fire Prevention, EMS (J. Reichert) Comm. Reichert provided updates on the Fire Prevention Open House scheduled for Monday, October 9th from 7:00pm till 9:00 pm. This year we will be adding to the children's event with a magic show, airbrush tattooing and a balloon artist. Comm. Donahue will be looking into a helicopter for display.

Group Report: "C" Apparatus & Equipment (R. Evans) Comm. Evans reviewed the monthly report submitted by Capt. Procopio of the various repairs and maintenance completed as well as provided an update on the hose testing recently completed and the possibility of having to purchase one more length of 5" in a different color. Admin Robb added that the fee for the hose testing for the Squad and reserve engine this year was paid by GTFD #4 as agreed in our shared services agreement.

Group Report: "D" Insurance, Hydrants, Radios & Uniforms (L. Grady) None

Group Report: "E" Training, Personnel, Office (G. Genzel) None

Old Business:

New Business: A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Grady to approve the bills presented for payment this evening in the amount of \$118,372.09

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Grady to accept the receipts presented this evening in the amount of \$6239.13

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Reichert to approve Joint Operating Guide 23-01 -PPE and 23-03 on Riding Assignments

Admin Robb reported that the annual 9/11 ceremony will start at 7:00 am not 8:00am this year and will include Ofc. Erica Marconi, singing the national anthem, the GTPD Honor Guard and Msgr. Mannion.

Good of the District: None

There being no other business a motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Genzel to adjourn at 8:00 All in favor, motion carried.

Read and approved:

Chairman: *Serge Genzel*

Submitted:

Clerk: *Marianne Robb*

Date: *9/13/23*

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Bill Robb – Administrator

RE Meeting – August 16, 2023 (rescheduled from August 9, 2023)

1. Shared Service Program:
 - a. The next meeting of the Shared Services Committee is scheduled for tomorrow evening at 7:00 pm at Station 84.
 - b. A meeting between Chairman Genzel and D4 Commissioner Vannoni to determine the feasibility of sharing the cost of the fifth firefighter for the C Platoon is still pending.
 - c. A new thermal imaging camera and charger for Squad 88 has been purchased and placed in service. The \$4,175.00 cost has been funded by a grant from Zallie Corporation obtained by D4.
 - d. The results of a survey of the career firefighters have been shared with the Board. The survey revealed a high level of interest in developing a consolidated labor agreement and consolidated civil service hiring and promotion lists.
2. Equipment:
 - a. The modem for the FM82 vehicle has been received and installed. Also ordered and received was a SIM card and a monthly cell plan. The cell plan for the modem in TL82 has been suspended pending delivery of the new tower ladder.
 - b. Approval for the order of fifteen portable radio batteries will be requested at next month's meeting, with delivery expected in early 2024.
3. New TL82 Purchase
 - a. In production – the original anticipated completion date of 9/19/2023 has been pushed back by Pierce to mid-October.
4. Training:
 - a. I'm please to report that Captain Procopio and Captain Giambri both passed the FFII Challenge Exam, held at the Gloucester county fire Academy on
5. Significant interaction with representatives of Fire Districts 2 and 4, IAFF Local 3249 and Conner Strong has taken place in the last few weeks to ensure we had all pertinent information to make an informed decision to switch from the NJSHBP to the SNJHIF. Significant progress was made and everyone seemed satisfied that it would be prudent to request approval for the change at tonight' meeting, with an anticipated effective date of November 1st. However, upon viewing the SHBP vs SNJHIF rate comparisons forwarded to us by Conner Strong late Monday afternoon, we observed that cost savings for this year were less than 1%, which is far below the promised 7% savings. We are in further communication with Conner Strong on this matter, but I do not recommend making a decision until we confirm the exact cost and savings. On the positive side for switching, the state has announced a 7.3% SHBP rate increase for 2024, and the Conner Strong quote is valid through 12/31/2024 with no 2024 cost increase.

6. E82 was picked up from Lee's Emergency Equipment on Friday, August 4th and returned to service. RE88 was used for the next week by D4 while Squad 84 was out of service, and then returned to the EMS building by D4 on August 11th.
7. Our contract with eSafety expired on July 31st, and our transition to Fire Rescue 1 continues. Last evening representatives from Districts 2 and 4 participated in an orientation meeting with a Lexipol representative. Next step is to ensure that all of our members set up their accounts, to be followed by the assignment of training. The total cost for the subscription of \$4,156.00 will be shared with D4 based on each districts number of users. Lexipol agreed to extend our subscription from 12 to 15 months for the same price to assist with the transition costs.
8. Policies:
 - a. The policies approved by our district at last month's meeting (Joint Administrative Policy 23-002, Social Networking, Joint Operating Guideline 23-002 Incident Response / Response Priority and Joint Tactical Consideration Document 23-01 Post Fire Decon) were approved by D4 at their meeting on July 19th. The policies have been communicated to all personnel, and stored on our Company Share Drive, Career Staff Drive and Aladtec.
 - b. **Request a Motion to approved Joint Operating Guidelines 23-001 PPE, and 23-003 Riding Assignments.** Both policies have been reviewed and approved by the Shared Services Committee, to include Chiefs Millisky and Cipriano.
9. Plans for the reprogramming of the D2 and D4 portable radios are moving forward, and scheduling with Wireless Communications to have the work performed is expected in the near future.
10. New member Applicant Ashlynn Klavins completed her pre-membership requirements and was approved for membership with the Chews Volunteer Fire Company #1 as a Probationary Firefighter on July 28, 2023. New member applicant Samuel Rodriguez was scheduled for his pre-membership physical / drug screen today and is expected to be approved for membership once the results are known.
11. The 2022 financial audit by Bowman and Company continues, with additional documentation forwarded to the auditor by me and the Fire Prevention Clerk.
12. The project to ensure we have on file all certifications required by the Division of Fire Safety for New Jersey firefighters continues. As of today, 18 members are in full compliance. The majority of the remaining members are missing only one certification and/or awaiting delivery of certs from DFS. I will work with Chief Millisky to develop a plan for the few members who have not responded to communications regarding missing certs.
13. We received a nice e-mail from Fire District 6 Chief Chris Brown regarding the actions of Captain Giambri while responding to a reported motor vehicle crash with entrapment in Station 86's local on August 1, 2023. After reviewing the call information on the MDC and noting the number of closer resources already on the street, Captain Giambri made the proactive decision to place Squad 88 on reduced speed. Chief Brown commended Captain Giambri for his action, which took into account the safety of his crew and the motoring public, along with the need to limit the apparatus in that geographic area of the township in the event of a subsequent emergency.

A copy of the e-mail has been placed in Captain Giambri's personnel file, and I ask you to join me in commending him for his maturity and situational awareness.

14. Per my e-mail the other day, I'm requesting permission to register for a 3 ½ hour seminar on Social Media issues. The webinar is hosted by Chief Curt Varone and covers recent court cases involving social media related disciplinary issues. The cost is \$150.00.