

The eight hundred and second meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #2, Gloucester Township was held in the Chews Landing Fire Station on Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Commissioners present were: Genzel, Reichert, Evans and Grady. Also present were Chief Millisky, Administrator Robb and Solicitor Carlamere.

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

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

Chief's Report: Chief Millisky reported that the County Chief's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 13th at the county training center. The Chief congratulated LT Jenkinson on his great job with the boy scouts and mentioned possibly setting up scheduled group visitations moving forward. The Chief provided updates on the Pierce Road Rally, Gloucester Township Day and the poor conduct of some of the attendees as well as changes regarding the State Highway 42 boxes and the need to be reviewed and rewritten. The Chief also discussed 8501 being on paternity leave, noting that Battalion 62 will cover in his absence. The Chief had received a per diem request by Chief Brown and initially did not want to be involved, however, he discovered that the existing MOA requires him to serve as the Station 82 liaison. The chief noted the MOA was signed in 2021 and will probably need to be revised in the future. FF Piepszowski is qualified on TL82 and LT Jenkinson is in the process of getting qualified as well. A meeting has been set for June 27th at GTFD #3 between the officers of 82 & 84 to discuss some ongoing issues.

Solicitor Carlamere requested a short, closed session after the meeting to discuss the per diem process and agreements.

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

Solicitor's Report: None

Group Report: "A" Building Maintenance, Park (K. Donahue) Absent Comm. Grady reported no report

Group Report: "B" Fire Prevention, EMS (J. Reichert) Comm Reichert reviewed the Fire Prevention Report provided by FM Young noting in particular the Gloucester Township Farmers Market that will be held on Thursdays and the start of the apartment complex inspections.

Group Report: "C" Apparatus & Equipment (R. Evans) Comm. Evans reviewed the apparatus & station maintenance report provided by Capt. Procopio.

Group Report: "D" Insurance, Hydrants, Radios & Uniforms (L. Grady) Nothing to report

Group Report: "E" Training, Personnel, Office (G. Genzel) Nothing to report but will go into closed session after the meeting as requested by Solicitor Carlamere.

Old Business: None

New Business: A motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Reichert to approve the bills presented for payment this evening in the amount of \$98,825.91.

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

A motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Evans to accept the receipts presented this evening in the amount of \$3,105.22

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

A motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Evans approving the purchase of various uniform items from Action Uniform of Pleasantville, NJ in the amount of \$4,965.00.

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

A Resolution (24-22) was made by Evans and 2nd by Grady authorizing the purchase of emergency lighting and other necessary options for the new Chief's vehicle from Vineland Auto Electric of Vineland, NJ for the state contract price of \$17,573.79.

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

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Grady to authorize the painting of the new Chief's vehicle by Auto Images of Blackwood, NJ to have the vehicle match the fleet for the low quote cost of \$3,847.00.

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

Good of the District: LT Jenkinson questioned if the proposed EMR level training would be required for substitutes as well as the career staff. No definite decisions have been made yet but it was agreed that as a substitute on the career staff this would be a benefit. Comm. Evans expressed his gratitude to both LT Comisky and LT Jenkinson for all their efforts and dedication as Officers. Comm Grady questioned the status of 85/86 shared services agreement which Solicitor Carlamere advised he will answer in the closed session.

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Reichert to go into closed session at 7:48pm

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

Issues discussed remain pending.

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Reichert to go back into open session at 8:14pm.

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

There being no other business a motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Evans to adjourn at 8:15pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Read and approved:

Chairman: *Greg H. Genzel*

Submitted:

Clerk: *Marionie E. Robb*

Date: *July 10, 2024*

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Bill Robb – Administrator

RE Meeting – June 12, 2024

1. Shared Service Program:

- a. Minutes of the last meeting were forwarded. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Station 84.
- b. Further contact with NJ American Water Company representatives is pending information from Chief Millisky regarding the number and location of hydrants in our district with Jones Snap fittings.
- c. The topic of required EMS training for the career firefighters was discussed at the last Shared Services Committee meeting. It was unanimously agreed to recommend that the Boards of Fire Commissioners consider requiring annual certification in CPR/AED, First Aid, Bleeding Control and Oxygen Administration. Based on previous research, the training will cost approximately \$100.00 per student, and require 8 hours of annual training. I'm hoping to have the exact costs and required training hours confirmed to assist the board with making an informed decision.
- d. The repairs to the broken leaf springs on Squad 88 have been completed and the rig was returned to service on May 30, 2024. The total cost for the repair is \$15,755.59, to be shared evenly with District 4. Although the truck is no longer under warrant, Fire and Safety and Pierce have agreed to pay \$7,500.00 toward the cost of the repair. This will reduce the D2 out of pocket cost to \$4,127.80. Thanks to Captain Procopio for his efforts in securing this payment, and to Pierce and fire and Safety for standing by their product.
- e. As approved by Chairman Genzel, Captain Procopio was transferred to the C Platoon effective May 13th to fill the vacancy resulting from Captain Giambri's medical leave, expected to last until at least June 26th.

2. February 24, 2024 Crash:

- a. As noted last month, insurance payment for replacement of the damaged carport has been received. Captain Procopio is handling the necessary arrangements.
- b. **Request adoption of Resolution 24-22, authorizing the purchase of emergency lighting and other necessary options for the new Chief's vehicle, from Vineland Auto Electric of Vineland, New Jersey, for the state contract price of \$17,573.79.**
- c. **Request a Motion to authorize the painting of the new Chief's vehicle by Auto Images of Blackwood, New Jersey for the low quote cost of \$3,847.00.**

3. **Request a Motion to approve the purchase of multiple uniform items from Action Uniform of Pleasantville, NJ in the amount of \$4,965.00.** the items on the list have been reviewed and approved by Commissioner Grady and Chief Millisky.

4. Representatives of IAFF Local 3249 have been working on their proposal for a successor contract. Same will be forwarded to the board once received.

6. On Monday, June 3rd, a representative of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, NFIRS Unit, presented training to department members on the NFIRS system. The next step will be to schedule training for department members on the First due software. I am working with Captain Gant and Chief Hall to schedule.
7. Our annual Worker's Compensation Insurance audit is complete, resulting in an invoice in the amount of \$7,709.00. Same is included with tonight's bills.
 - a. As approved last year, members of the CCG Premium Recovery Group continue to review our Worker's Compensation costs to confirm no calculation errors by the provider. They recently discovered an apparent overcharge of \$48,000 in salary for the 2020-2021 audit year, and have communicated same to representatives of Benchmark Insurance Company. I will advise the Board of the results of their efforts once known.
8. I was advised by the auditor yesterday that our 2023 audit is not as close to completion as she initially thought. The notice came with a request for a number of additional documents, along with a notation that they're still waiting for the state to provide the GASB medical insurance report. In light of same, we do not have an anticipated date for completion of the audit.
9. With the approval of Chief Millisky and Commissioner Evans, Lt. Comisky is planning to submit an application for a Lt. Joseph P. Dibernardo Foundation grant to fund the purchase of bailout kits for our firefighters. The grant program was created in the aftermath of the 2005 Black Sunday fire in New York City, and provides up to \$25,000 annually to eligible departments for the purchase of the kits and training. The deadline for submission is June 30th, and the grant is being submitted in the name of Chews Volunteer Fire Company #1. Lt. Comisky will request funding for 37 kits, which would be enough to cover all active 82 volunteer firefighters and all D2 and D4 career firefighters. If the grant is awarded, carrying of the kits will be optional, but any firefighter who wants to carry it will be required to undergo initial qualification and recertification training. I will keep the Board updated on the progress.
10. As a follow-up to last year's project to confirm compliance with state standards for firefighters, I created a spreadsheet listing the qualification of elected and appointed department officers, along with those qualified to serve as Acting Officers. All of our officers, along with all of our career firefighters and six volunteer firefighters meet the state and departmental standards to serve as a company officer. The list has been e-mailed to the Board for your review and information.
11. Pending confirmation of the availability of Chairman Genzel and Commissioner Evans, a meeting has been scheduled for August 8th at 7:00pm with representatives of D2, D3 and D4 to discuss renewal of the shared services agreement for 2025 and the amount of compensation sought.
12. In January of this year, owners of the Blackwood Falls Apartments in Station 84's local made upgrades to their alarm system, which included connecting the unit smoke detectors into the central station system. Prior to the change, only the common area detectors were connected to the central station. The change has resulted in a total of eighty-one responses to the complex from January 21st to June 11th, with most responses resulting from unit alarms activated by smoking, cooking smoke or shower steam. Fire Official Urso and D4 representatives are working diligently with complex ownership, state and township officials to resolve the issue but have not yet arrived at a solution.