

The eight hundred and eleventh meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #2, Gloucester Township was held in the Chews Landing Fire Station on Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Commissioners present were: Genzel, Reichert, Evans, Donahue 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, Donahue-yes

Prior to commencing the meeting with routine business, Solicitor Carlamere proceeded to swear in newly re-elected commissioners, Reichert and Donahue each for full three-year terms along with the re-organization resolutions.

Chairman Genzel reviewed the positions and departments for each commissioner requesting each commissioner to maintain their current positions and departments as outlined below:

Genzel -Chairman
Evans-Vice Chairman
Donahue-Secretary/Treasurer

Commissioner Donahue	Department A- Building Maintenance & Park
Commissioner Reichert	Department B-Fire Prevention & EMS
Commissioner Evans	Department C-Apparatus & Equipment
Commissioner Grady	Department D-Insurance, Hydrants, Uniforms & Radios
Chairman Genzel	Department E-Personnel, Training & Office

Motion made by Genzel and 2nd by Evans to approve the Board positions and departments as identified by Chairman Genzel in the motion.

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

Chairman Genzel identified the following recurring positions and professionals for 2025:

Kenneth P Young	Fire Official
Nicholas Giambri Nicholas Procopio, Nicholas Ritz, Rick Knight, Robert C Lindell, Daniel Foley	Fire Inspectors
David F. Carlamere, Esq.	Solicitor
Passarella & Smarra. CPA	Certified Public Accountant
Bowman & Company	Auditor
Remington & Vernick	Engineering
TD Bank	Banking
Courier Post	Legal Advertising
Nottingham Insurance	Broker

Concentra & Interstate Mobile

William J. Robb

Archer & Greiner

Richard Braslow

Occupational Health Providers

Certifying Officer Pensions/Benefits

Labor Attorney

Attorney Apparatus Purchasing & Shared Services

Motion by Genzel and 2nd by Grady to approve these recurring positions and professionals as identified by Chairman Genzel

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

A Resolution was made by Evans and 2nd by Grady to hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm and workshops on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Chews Landing Fire Station.

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 minutes of the previous meeting.

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

Chief's Report: Chief Millisky reported that he has received from Mayor and Council framed copies of the award given for the January 5th ice rescue call, one each for display in Station 82, Station 84 and the Squad 88 building. The Camden County Fire Chiefs meeting is being held at our station on Wednesday March 13th. The Chief said he awaiting the minutes of the 4th Legislative District Fire Chiefs roundtable meeting held on February 21st, and said he's mentioned to fire company members an issue involving missed responses to alarm system calls by TL82. Also noted was that the Camden County Fire Academy is again open for live burns, and that we are scheduled to provide a flag arch on April 5th for the Blackwood Little League opening day festivities.

Administrator's Report: Admin Robb reviewed the attached agenda adding his request to register for an online class sponsored by Curt Varone on the topic of Firefighter work schedules at a cost of \$150.00. In regard to the annual renewal of our worker's compensation insurance which has increased by 70% since 2023; Admin Robb noted that we are still paying less than the state plan that is offered.

Solicitor's Report: None

Group Report: "A" Building Maintenance, Park (K. Donahue) Comm. Donahue reported that our operating budget for 2025 has been approved by the voters and we are no longer operating under a temporary budget.

Group Report: "B" Fire Prevention, EMS (J. Reichert) Comm. Reichert reviewed the report supplied by Fire Marshal Young outlining some proposed changes by the township fire officials and pricing updates for these services. Comm. Grady questioned if there was any pushback regarding the fire code change regarding mulch. Comm. Reichert explained that the code change only affects commercial buildings, not residential.

Group Report: "C" Apparatus & Equipment (R. Evans) Comm. Evans reviewed the report submitted by Capt. Procopio detailing the various apparatus that were out of service and their repairs as well as the new Chief's vehicle progress, the LED lighting project and station and shop back flow preventors that were installed on the domestic water system.

Group Report: "D" Insurance, Hydrants, Radios & Uniforms (L. Grady) Comm. Grady thanked Admin Robb and the firefighters involved in getting the outdated fire hydrants in our district updated even though it is a slow process at least it is being addressed and corrected.

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

Old Business: A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Reichert to approve the revised JAP 25-001 regarding Voluntary (Non-Mandatory) recall to Duty.

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

New Business: Chairman Genzel expressed his gratitude to Chief Millisky for his many years of dedicated service to the fire district, acknowledging that he will be stepping down as Chief in a few months.

A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Evans to approve the bills presented for payment this evening in the amount of \$271,708.77.

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 \$651,582.35

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

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Genzel to approve FF Pozniewski to attend this years FDIC Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana from Sunday April 6th to Saturday April 12th, attending classes Monday through Friday.

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

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Grady to assemble a committee for the future purchase of SQ82, to include Captain Procopio, Chief Millisky, Capt. Gant, FF Foley, and Commissioners Evans and Reichert, noting that the committee members may change.

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

A motion was made by Genzel and 2nd by Evans to approve Administrator Robb to register for the online class offered by Curt Varone on Firefighter Work Schedules at a cost of \$150.00.

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

Good of the District: Comm. Reichert asked legal counsel Dave Carlamere if there is a way that the district can bill the gas company for calls that are not the responsibility of the residents, but under the jurisdiction and responsibility of the gas company. Comm. Reichert also commented that he commends Capt. Knight for the consistent training he provides for his platoon. Asst. Chief Haines questioned if in the process of purchasing a new SQ82-will we be selling the rescue & engine or just the rescue. Comm. Evans replied that a final decision has not been made, but discussions to date have concerned staffing, finances, and the possible need for an additional reserve engine. Comm Evans added that a final decision will not likely be made until closer to the delivery time for the new apparatus, which is not expected until 2029 or 2030. Solicitor Carlamere will look into the gas company question posed by Commission Reichert.

I motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Evans to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue at 8:04pm.

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

Discussion held during closed session included a personnel issue involving FF Michael Scott.

A motion to go back into open session was made by Grady and 2nd by Donahue at 8:33 pm.

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

A Resolution was made by Grady and 2nd by Evans to permanently remove the privileges of Michael Scott to serve as a volunteer firefighter for Fire District #2 due to his failure to cooperate with a misconduct investigation initiated by the Board of Fire Commissioners in September of 2023.

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

There being no other business a motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Grady to adjourn at 8:35 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Read and approved:

Chairman:

George H. Genzel

Submitted:

Clerk:

Marianne Cobb

Date:

4/9/2025

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Bill Robb – Administrator

RE: Meeting – March 12, 2025

1. Shared Services / Interlocal Agreement Programs:
 - a. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 20th at 7:00pm at Station 84.
 - b. D4 has announced their intention to appoint a Career Fire Chief on or about April 1, 2025. In light of same, the possibility of a shared D2/D4 decision regarding this topic is no longer under consideration by D4.
 - c. Subscription to the Curt Varone and Brad Pinsky Must Have Policies service is still pending. For the time being the policy sub-committee is working on a Code of Conduct / Discipline Policy.
 - d. A meeting with Fire District #1 to discuss a possible Squad 88 Interlocal Agreement is pending.
 - e. As approved at the February meeting, the Interlocal Agreement between Fire Districts 2, 4 and 6 for Squad 88 to assist Fire District #6 with incidental calls for service has been extended to March 31st. I spoke with Chief Brown today, and he is confident that they will have their staffing in place by Sunday, March 30th.
 - f. District 4 is concerned with the use of the word "Voluntary" in J.A.P. 25-001, Voluntary Recall to Duty, fearing that it suggests recalled personnel would not be compensated for their time. In light of same they did not adopt the policy at the February meeting. Edits to the language are pending, after which the policy will again be presented for approval.
2. The annual fire district election was held on Saturday, February 15, 2025. Congratulations to Commissioners Reichert and Donahue on their re-election to three year terms. Voters approved the operating budget, along with the shared purchase with District 4 of a new Squad 88, and the District 2 funded purchase of a new Squad 82. All necessary election result paperwork has been forwarded to the township and the state, and has been posted on the district website. Per state purchasing laws, we are not permitted to sign the apparatus purchase contracts until the 2026 year. The truck committees have been asked to utilize the remainder of this year to develop specifications for the trucks so we are prepared to place the orders next year.
3. Captain Reiss has proposed using qualified, instructor certified in-house personnel to train our personnel on topics that are not certified by New Jersey Division of Fire Safety (i.e Ice Rescue training). Lesson Plans would be developed, and in-house training certificates would be provided. Please advise if there are any objections to this concept.
4. Installation of the backflow preventers approved at last month's meeting has been completed.
5. Captain Giambri reports that programming of the new TL82 MDC will be completed within the week.
6. Upfitting of the new chief's vehicle continues.
7. The seven sets of PPE for the career staff, purchased with funds from the American Rescue Grant, has been delivered. The personnel are very happy with the gear, reporting that it is significantly lighter than their previous gear.

8. The LED Lighting Upgrade project is complete. Captain Procoio is waiting for a quote for replacement of the apparatus room motion sensors.
9. As decided at the February meeting, an award committee comprised of Commissioner Reichert, Captain Giambri and Ff Piepszowski has been formed to determine the appropriate awards for the January 5th ice rescue. Suggest we also use the same or a different committee to determine the appropriate awards for the August 21, 2024 tree rescue in Station 84's local. C Platoon members and Station 82 volunteer staff were involved.
10. We have received the renewal for our worker's compensation insurance policy for the time period of April 13, 2025 to April 13, 2026. The policy cost has increased from \$65,357 to \$80,662 an increase of \$15,305 / 23%. Since 2023 our worker's compensation costs have increased by \$33,103 / 70%. I've consulted with our insurance broker representative, but they did not have any suggestion for lowering the cost.
 - a. Consistent with ongoing practice, I approved CCG Premium Recovery Group of Staten Island, NY to review our 2024 WC policy audit for accuracy. Consistent with our original agreement, there will be no cost to the board unless they find errors that result in savings.
11. As verbally approved by the commissioners, FF Pozniewski has registered to attend this year's FDIC Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. He plans to fly to Indiana in the late evening of Sunday, April 6th and return on the morning of Saturday, April 12th. He will be staying in an DIC sponsored hotel for 6 nights, and attending classes from Monday to Friday. **Request a Motion to approve.**
12. Twenty-one (21) members of the department attended a recent Ice Rescue Awareness class.
13. Request permission to solicit letters of interest and resumes from personnel interested in the position of Department Fire Chief. If approved, please advise of the preferred deadline for submission of the documents. The commissioners have been provided with a copy of Policy 16-4, Department Fire Chief, for reference.