

JOINT FIRE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 20, 2019 – 6:00 PM
EGG HARBOR TOWN HALL – COUNTY I, CARLSVILLE

1. Call meeting to order.

Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Bill Edwards, Ulla Walser, William Miller, Clarence Scherer, Rick Malkemus, Chief Steve Schopf and Lynn Ohnesorge. Deborah Wiegand was absent. Those also in attendance were Andy Staats and John Heller.

2. Adopt agenda.

Scherer moved to adopt the agenda, second by Walser, motion carried.

3. Open session – Ten minutes.

- Edwards received a call from Wiegand, she will not be at the meeting tonight because her brother passed away.
- Within the next month the Commission is responsible for reviewing the Chief. It will be done at next month's meeting. Edwards passed around a packet from last year's Chief's review.

4. Review and approve minutes of May 16, 2019 meeting.

Miller moved to approve the minutes from May 16, 2019 with corrections, second by Malkemus, motion carried.

Edwards asked Ohnesorge to send corrected minutes to all commission members.

5. Annual election of Fire Commission Officers.

Malkemus moved to elect Bill Edwards as President, Clarence Scherer as Vice President, Ulla Walser as Secretary, second by Miller, motion carried.

6. Fire Chief / First Responder report.

- 2 Fire calls
 - ✓ Gas Leak on Hwy. 42 turned out to be a false call.
 - ✓ A mutual aid call was a corn field on fire, we were dispatched and cancelled.
- 9 First responder Calls
- The Fire Association is looking at purchasing command vehicle. Porta Count used to do the annual fit test to make sure the face masks are fitting properly. The test wasn't being done properly in the past. The quote to purchase the machine for the department to do the test themselves is \$13,000, which includes a 5 year warranty. This item will be brought back to the next officers meeting.
- The Egg Harbor Town Board passed the resolution to keep the EMS public.
- Chief Schopf applied for a DNR grant for wildland boots and foam. The grants are awarded around the end of July. About 1/3 of the fireman have been fitted with the wildland boots last year. The grant will cut the cost of the foam in half.
- Edwards asked about the recommendation of washing gear before it is taken off and washing all the gear after a fire.
- Chief Schopf stated that regulations may change to having the turn out gear in a separate cabinet. The firemen would ride to the fire and back in street clothes. Some of the foams are dangerous. The Egg Harbor Fire Department uses USDA approved foam. It won't

harm the men or the environment. It is safe and the only thing that can be purchased with grant money.

- Chief sent a termination letter to a fireman by certified mail and we received it back.
- Malkemus asked what is the value of the gear the terminated fireman has. The pager is worth \$300 or \$400 and the dress blues around \$100. It is a security risk to let someone no longer in the fire department keep the dress blues.
- A letter to be written by the commission will give him 15 days to return the items or it will go to small claims court. Edwards asked Scherer to draft a letter. Chief asked Scherer to get together with Ashley.

7. Warranty / acceptance issues for Tender #5.

- Staats contacted by Gary at Custom Fabrications about tender #5 warranty issues. Staats contacted the owner of Custom Fabrications, but he didn't want to talk to Staats. Staats wanted the owner to be aware of where the fire department stands on the issues. The lack of response on Custom Fabrications end is awful. Staats received a response from the manufacturer to take care of the overflow issue and the foam system repair. Staats contacted the manufacturer one week later to find out dates. Staats will send another E-mail to follow up. The truck will go down there for the foam and overflow system repair.
- The driver that runs the motor for the foam doesn't have any voltage coming out of it.
- Waterous states that we have to buy the part and send the old part in; they will test the old part, then they will decide whether to refund us.
- The problems were talked about and known before the warranty ran out.
- Edwards asked if it needs to come to legal action, since it has been one year.
- Chief Schopf would like to wait until the last resort to before involving the attorneys.
- The dealer doesn't want to do what the tank and foam manufacturer states to do.
- The water tank is filled more than 100 gl./minute and over flows over the electrical panel.
- We have a contract with the builder not the manufacturers.
- Heller stated that the Village will back Chief Schopf whatever he decides to do.
- The commission asked Staats to contact the manufacturer again to set up dates on the calendar by July 1, 2019 to fix the problems or they will take legal action. Edwards asked Staats to copy all the commissioner members on the E-mail and send a copy to the Village.

8. Future refurbishing of truck #6.

- Chief Schopf received quotes to refurbish truck #6 and # 24. The quote for truck #6 is around \$241,614. The truck new would be over \$500,000. It would be like a brand new truck at less than half the price of a new truck. Replacing substructure that the tank sits in and substructure for cabinets. Adding corrosion package. E-coat paint heals itself when there is a scratch. This gives the truck another 20 years of life. They would have to meet the code of when the truck was built. It would take six months to fix. The price will go up 10% every year.
- We are about 3 years from needing to do anything.
- The quote to refurbish truck #24 is around \$356,594. It is higher because of the new frame that needs to be put in. Less than half the cost of a new truck.
- Walser asked what the insurance would say it is worth after refurbishment. Our insurance gives us replacement cost.
- The turnout gear can't be in the cabs anymore.

9. Approval of bills for month.

- Everything on annual ladder test passed.
Malkemus moved to approve the bills for the month, second by Scherer, motion carried.

10. Set time, location and agenda items for next meeting.

The next meeting is on July 18, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Bertschinger Center

- Need to have the Chief review at the next meeting.

11. Adjourn

Scherer moved to adjourn, second by Miller, motion carried.

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Lynn Ohnesorge
Village of Egg Harbor
Clerk-Treasurer*