

JOINT FIRE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 16, 2019 – 6:00 PM

Bertschinger Center – Hwy 42 Egg Harbor

1. Call meeting to order.

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

2. Adopt agenda.

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

3. Open session – Ten minutes.

- Scherer asked if it would do any good to send the county a letter in support of leaving the EMT the way it is.
- Chief Schopf stated the chiefs are working on a letter that will go to all the municipalities for approval.

4. Review and approve minutes of February 21, 2019 meeting.

Wiegand moved to approve the minutes from February 21, 2019 with corrections, second by Miller, motion carried.

5. Fire Chief / First Responder report.

- 2 Fire Calls in February
 - ✓ Combustible Gas at Hwy. 42
 - ✓ Carbon Monoxide at Market St.
- 3 Fire calls in March
 - ✓ Structure Fire at Hwy. 42
 - ✓ Structure Fire, Schartner's Barn
 - ✓ Put out Hot spots at Schartner's
- 4 Fire calls in April
 - ✓ Cancelled en route at East Shore Dr.
 - ✓ Medical assist for Knox box to open at Bayshore Dr.
 - ✓ False alarm at Winged Foot Ct.
 - ✓ Smoke removal at the Kress Pavilion
- 6 first responder calls in February
- 2 first responder calls in March
- 5 first responder calls in April
- The County wants to privatize the EMS.
- The County put EMS out for RFQ.
- The Fire Chiefs discussed this and decided it should be publicly run. They feel like you will get the best care for your dollar.
- They would only have to staff one EMS rig for the whole county.
- The wait times would go up.
- The first responders would dissolve or the municipalities would have to pick them up.
- Fire departments with fire medics would become a full time station with an ambulance
- The EMS will cost more money if it changes.

- State statute requires municipalities to provide medical service to its constituents.
- EMS doesn't fall under the levy cap.
- Part of the wages of the county treasurer, administrator and the attorney are put under this service.
- Gold Cross is a large EMS company and they won't touch the Door County because they can't make money here.
- Inter hospital transports are not done by our paramedics.
- The Fire Chiefs will keep moving forward so everything is in place if needed.
- Talk to your representatives on the county board and let them know how you feel.
- The County is selling it as a money saving item. 3.5 million dollars will be off the counties budget if the County privatizes EMS.
- In the long run the tax payers will pay more.
- The first emergency services in the county were done by the funeral homes until 1974 when the County took it over. Gradually EMS has grown.
- We could correct some of the problems. There needs to be another rig in this area.
- It will cost more money to create a district.
- Edwards asked Chief Schopf to keep the Fire Commission up to date on this.
- The officers decided to go ahead with purchasing a command vehicle. Estimate amount is \$50,000 for an SUV. This is on hold until the 2020 pricing comes out.
- The annual ladder test passed.
- At the Easter Egg Hunt there were about 1300 eggs put out. About 116 children registered for the Easter Egg Hunt. About 125 children attended. By using Harbor View Park for the Easter Egg Hunt they had no way to control the people coming into the park. They will have more eggs next year for the Easter Egg Hunt. Everybody got something. They had snacks. They are looking at where to hold it next year. It was a good event for the wife's to do together.
- Our members that took the confined space training are certified.
- One of the members stopped showing up at meetings and training. Chief Schopf sent him a letter to find out what is going on. He never responded. Chief Schopf sent him a letter terminating his service.

6. Warranty / acceptance issues for Tender #5.

- There is one major issue. The water tank overflows. UPF is the manufacturer of the tank. They will send someone out to repair the overflow.
- Foam doesn't work on tender #5. The pump won't run. No power is going to the pump. This has been turned over to the manufacturer.
- It took a while to fix issues with the aerial, about two years.
- Custom Fabrications seems to assume the department is operating tender #5 wrong and this is why there are problems.
- If tender #5 doesn't get fixed the commission will be asked to do a letter to the company.
- Chief Schopf doesn't want to pay his employees to take it back to the company for repairs.
- UPF is coming to make changes to the fill tower. Waiting to hear how they will fix the foam issue.

7. Future refurbishing of truck #6.

- Chief Schopf met with pierce and it is doable to refurbish truck #6.
- Chief Schopf hasn't gotten a proposal yet for the refurbishment of truck #6..

- For the refurbishment of truck #6 the engine, transmission and pump will need to be gone over. The frame rails are ok. The fuel tank is getting bad. The sub structures are getting bad. All of the electrical will need to be upgraded. Truck #6 will need to be painted. The standard to the year the truck was built is the code that is required to be met. Will need chevron put on the back, new graphics, new windshield, all new roll up doors. The generator would need to have the live PTO removed.
- If refurbished, truck #6 would have a 20 year life expectancy.
- Truck #6 should be able to be refurbished for about \$250,000. It would cost \$500,000 to build a new truck.
- The time truck #6 would need to be out of service is about 5-6 months.
- Scherer asked Chief Schopf to have figures for the next Joint meeting in October.

8. Approval of bills for month.

Scherer moved to approve the bills for the month, second by Miller, motion carried.

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

The next meeting is on June 20, 2019 at Carlsville at 6:00 p.m.

10. Adjourn

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

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