

February 18, 2025

WORKSHOP MEETING

DRAFT

Meeting called to order at 1749

Present were Chairman Buchner, Commissioner Strong, Commissioner Handel, District Manager Brewer, and District Secretary Lattman. Absent were Comm Gallino and Comm Staufer due to personal reasons.

Comm Strong thanked Comm Handel, Frank Wainwright, DM, and DS for working diligently to research and navigate through the process of switching over our phone and internet services on short notice as our current phone provider, Verizon, is switching over to fiberoptic by June 2025 and we need systems in place to support it.

At 1750 David and Mike from Flexible IT entered the meeting to present a proposal to the BOFC for their IT and phone services.

At 1845 David and Mike from Flexible IT exited the meeting.

At 1851 AJ Singh, a representative from Avaya, virtually entered the meeting through a Teams meeting to present their proposal for updating our phone services that we currently have with their company.

At 1914 AJ Singh virtually left the meeting.

At 1917 Chief Martin, Chief Bernier, and Chief Kowalchuk entered the meeting.

30 presented the personnel report. 30 stated there was (1) resignation from the department: Kirkwood Johnson. Motion by Chairman Buchner to accept Kirkwood Johnson's letter of resignation from the department as a member in good standings, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

30 requested a band for the St. Patrick's Day parade totaling \$1,200.00. Motion to accept by Comm Buchner, 2nd by Comm Handel, all in favor.

30 requested, on behalf of Co 3, Workrite Wildland Jackets for brush fires: (2) L, (3) X-L, (2)2XL. He presented (2) quotes: 1- MES Coastal: \$1,328.95 and Western Fire Supply: \$1,764.00. 30 suggested ordering them for all companies, but BOFC decided to only order for Co 3 to trial before ordering for all. Motion to accept quote from MES Coastal for (7) jackets at \$1,328.95 by Comm Buchner, 2nd by Comm Handel, all in favor.

31 requested printing of (12) DEC maps sized 24"x36" at \$41.66 each, totaling \$499.92 from Rocky Point Ship and Pack. Motion to accept by Comm Buchner, 2nd by Comm Handel, all in favor.

30 asked for an update on 26B from Proliner. Comm Strong stated no update at this time.

30, on behalf of 32, reported that the juniors went through the gear in the basement on 2/16, and 32 will have an update on count for surplus gear by next meeting.

30 requested preventative maintenance for brush trucks. Comm Strong agreed there should be preventative maintenance done on brush trucks and Comm Strong requested that the brush trucks should be started and moved preferably once per month if not more. 30 to advise the membership.

30 requested to add junior members to Red Alert to have their emergency contact information located within the system. The board was not opposed and 30 will work with Frank Wainwright to add.

30, on behalf of 32, asked if the board would be opposed to supplying jackets for the junior company for parades. The board suggested for the chiefs to get pricing and sizes.

DM Brewer advised to reach out to Co.1 officers for the updated WEX gas card for 95B, as the expired card was still in the truck and the updated card was given to the company officers for distribution at the end of 2024. 33 will check with the company officers.

DM Brewer supplied 31 with a new battery for his key fob for his chief car.

DM Brewer presented the chiefs with a Proclamation from Assembly Woman Jody Giglio for the Rocky Point Fire Department's service to the community.

At 1933 the chiefs requested to enter executive session to discuss personnel. Motion to accept by Comm Buchner, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

At 1938 the executive session ended and regular meeting resumed.

Comm Buchner asked the chiefs if there has been a change in policy regarding responding to mutual aid ambulance calls. He stated on two separate ambulance calls where we were requested for a mutual aid to Ridge FD, the dispatcher put out a signal 3 for manpower when the policy is to give the call back to FRES after one activation. 30 to review the dispatch policies with Frank Wainwright.

Comm Strong advised the chiefs to remind the membership to make sure the trucks are plugged in properly. This was brought up because of a recent issue with 28 being out of service due to the Kussmaul system being unplugged and the truck being dead.

Comm Strong reported there will be a department memorial site meeting on 3/11 at 1830 at Co. 2.

At 1942, Chief Martin and Chief Bernier left the meeting.

Comm Strong reported the trade in value for ambulance 8 from Proliner is \$55,000.00.

Comm Strong reported that Tanker 20 is posted on Garage Tech website for sale at \$15,000.00.

Comm Strong reported that the new fire police vehicle is still delayed but hoping to be delivered by next week.

Comm Strong stated Rose Mechanical will not come for their scheduled preventative maintenance or service calls on our HVAC system until they are paid. Payments are to go out this week so they should continue to service us after that.

Comm Strong stated Soundview HVAC will be working on the heated ramps in the parking lot of Co 2.

Comm Strong reported that the columns on the bay floor of Co. 2 are starting to get damaged, and he is looking into aluminum diamond plate to protect the columns.

The department memorial site will be having a meeting on 3/11 at 1830 and this meeting will be talking about site preparation. Robert Bentivegna and Ex-Chief Adam Delumen will hopefully be in attendance to help discuss the preparation.

Comm Strong gave an update on the proposed cancer prevention program. Comm Strong and Comm Staufer have been researching information for hoods and gear to be trialed. They have a possible vendor for hoods and should have prices by next week. They have a vendor in mind for gear for a trial set. More to follow.

Comm Strong reminded the board that back in November, he discussed potential policy changes for accident prevention, re-application to the department, and medical leave. He wants the board to continue to review.

Comm Strong asked the board if there were any ideas for our old low band radios and related equipment. His idea is to possibly use it in the maintenance and mechanic's trucks for communication in areas that do not have cell phone service.

A motion was made by Comm Handel for the District to cover a portion of the cost of the awards for the department at the Installation Dinner in the amount of \$2,000.00, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

Motion by Comm Handel to approve purchase of badge and collar devices for members totaling \$187.80, 2nd by Comm Buchner, all in favor. District to purchase.

Motion by Comm Handel to approve purchase of 5-year stars, 15 year pins, tie bars, breast bar, and badges for members totaling \$2,578.50.

Comm Handel reported that we have a good amount of memory that we are not using with Firehouse Solutions, the vendor for our department website and emails. Comm Handel asked the board if they would be opposed to allowing all district employees to have access to the website and email. Additionally, she would like the district cleaning employees to be emailed, on their district email, to be notified of events booked at their respective buildings. The board was not opposed. DS Lattman to create the accounts for employees.

Comm Handel stated there are two different modules on Red Alert that we pay for and have access to and suggested that we start to use them. The first module is for elections- Red Alert has options for users to sign in for the election using their key fob or fingerprint, camera view, vote, counting ballots, and to set a date/time for the election to open and close. The second module is for district employees to clock in/out for their shifts. A discussion was held amongst the BOFC. More to follow.

Comm Handel asked the board if they would be opposed to letting 7 employees from Miller Place Fire District attend our PESH class on 2/26. The Board stated that the 4/12 date would be better. Comm Handel to speak to MPFD regarding this matter.

On 3/12 Miller Place Fire District is hosting Firefly, a vendor for LOSAP, for a meeting and invited us to attend.

Comm Handel reported that the department agreed to split an ad for Mastic Fire Department for its 100th anniversary, and the department will issue a check to the district for \$150.00.

Comm Handel stated that the dispatch and EMS employees asked if they could create a policy regarding overtime shifts being converted to comp hours. More to follow.

Comm Handel attended a commissioner's meeting where they discussed the topic of insurance for fraud activity. She is reviewing policies with our current insurance providers.

Comm Buchner, on behalf of Comm Staufer, presented a memo to be reviewed by the District Manager regarding all personnel to ensure they are shutting the bay doors when they leave the firehouse. More to come at the next meeting.

Comm Buchner, on behalf of Comm Staufer, presented a policy change regarding sleeping on shift. The District Manager will review and the BOFC will speak on this at the next meeting.

Comm Buchner, on behalf of Comm Staufer, reported that the replacement of the kitchen exhaust fan at Co. 3 is complete and works. The representative from Captivaire who installed the new fan did mention to us that the stove is too big for the hood and some smoke does escape due to this. He suggested putting stainless steel sides on the side of the stove up to the hood. Rob Bentivegna received a quote from Soundview for (2) pieces of stainless steel for a total of \$440.00 and Rob will install. Motion by Comm Buchner to purchase (2) pieces of stainless-steel totaling \$440,00, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

Comm Buchner, on behalf of Comm Staufer, requested a blue tooth speaker for Co. 3 backroom for their laptop and projector for PowerPoints. There were two quotes presented for the JBL Bluetooth Speaker: Amazon at \$362.63, and PC Richards for \$299.95. Motion by Comm Buchner to approve the quote from PC Richards for \$299.95, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

Comm Buchner, on behalf of Comm Staufer, presented a request from Co 3 for a table on their truck bay floor by the sign-in desk. There were two quotes presented: Uline for \$390.00 and Global Industrial for \$515.00. Motion by Comm Buchner to accept quote from Uline for \$390.00, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

Comm Buchner reported he is waiting to hear back from Andrew at IWT to schedule an appointment for Co 1 and Co 2 overhead speakers on the bay floor. He is also looking forward to hearing back from IWT regarding the 800-radio equipment to start installation.

DM Brewer reported he received a call from 31 who complimented Rob Desantis for his professionalism and efforts on calls with employees, volunteers, and patients. DM to write a letter and put it in his personnel file.

DM stated 30 asked for access to the GPS tracking system to monitor the vehicles. The BOFC decided to not grant access to 30.

DM updated the BOFC that all FEMA grants are on hold as per a federal directive from Washington D.C. after working with the team for August 2024's storm.

DM presented a thank you from Ex-Chief Terry McCarrick and family thanking the BOFC for the Edible Arrangement.

DM, on behalf of Captain Malhotra at Co 3, reported that Co 3 would like to know how to go about getting rid of their pool table in the backroom. The board advised DM to let the Capt. know to get estimates to sell.

Frank advised the portable phone for dispatch is no longer working and cannot be repaired as per the Global Technician. Comm Handel is working on getting a replacement.

DM reported the price of chest x-rays that we have scheduled for department physicals has gone up from \$60 to \$80 with Nassau Diagnostics.

DM reported that the post-entitlement authorizations were scanned and emailed to Donna at Hometown on 2/11. Members will receive their checks directly.

The thermal imaging cameras ordered for 31 and 32 have been delivered and given to the chiefs. They are inventoried and in service.

The (8) CO meters for EMS were ordered on 1/22/25. They are not yet delivered.

Jessica from Precision Art came to the District Office today, 2/18, to make suggestions on lettering for 28b.

DM Brewer stated the lightbars for 28b are underway, and mechanics are to install as time permits.

DM Brewer stated there have been no bidders for heating oil, diesel, and unleaded fuel after the district has given notice in Times Beacon Record newspaper.

DM reports that we are using a large amount of unleaded fuel. We are getting fuel deliveries monthly. Comm Buchner suggests possibly pulling the reports from the gas pump to search where the most amount of fuel is being used.

DM, on behalf of Heather Stewart, presented three quotes:

Hammer Medical for assorted medical supplies totaling \$4,190.22

Teleflex for needles totaling \$1,700.00

Bound Tree for IV bags and EMS dressings totaling \$398.22

Motion to accept all three quotes by Comm Buchner, 2nd by Comm Strong, all in favor.

DM reported the toilets in the first responder room and old fire police room are continuously backed up. Rob Bentivegna tried to assess but it seems to be a bigger issue. Rob Bentivegna will be in contact with Neal Freund to schedule a service call to assess further.

DM received an email from Donna Elliot regarding the fit testing. Any member who is going to a different location for their physical must bring with them an N95 mask and face piece. Additionally, she reminded us to make sure members are clean shaved. 33 to remind members.

DM reported member Dave Singer stated his key fob was not working. After review, Dave Singer is an honorary member of the department. The district policy states honorary members are not permitted to have key fob access to the buildings. DM questioned if the BOFC would like to amend that policy, and the BOFC decided not to. The policy will remain the same. The BOFC also suggested that the key fob access will need to be audited to address key fobs that should no longer be activated in our system.

DM informed the BOFC of some questions and concerns that were brought to his attention by member Harry McCabe. There were 10 items on the list. Some of the items are addressed by Rob Bentivegna. The BOFC asked 33 to have 30 contact Mr. McCabe and advise him that he must follow the proper chain of command. He is not to discuss issues such as these with District employees.

Motion by Comm Buchner to adjourn meeting at 2045, 2nd by Comm Strong. All in favor.