

HIGHLAND FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES

April 9 2013

7:00 PM

**Commissioners:** Stephen DiLorenzo, Chairman (Present)  
Benjamin Bragg (Absent)  
Christian Erichsen (Absent)  
John Fraino (Present)  
Dominick Palladino (Present)

Secretary/Treasurer Jim Passikoff (Present)  
District Clerk Denise A. Holzberger (Present)  
Chief John Gallagher (Present)

**1. Opening of Meeting-**Commissioner Stephen DiLorenzo called the meeting to order, led the salute to the flag and asked for a moment of silence for fallen firefighters.

**2. Minutes-**Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2013 regular meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lindy Palladino moved to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2013 regular meeting as submitted, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried. 2013Apr9-62

**3. Bills-** Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to approve payment of the bills as reviewed by Commissioners Lindy Palladino and John Fraino and Assistant Chief Miller on April 8, 2013. District Clerk Holzberger reported that the Check for \$3321 was found and deposited by Northeast Computers and therefore the replacement check would be voided and that amount is deducted from the abstract of bills.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Fraino moved to approve the bills as reviewed by Commissioners Palladino , himself and Assistant Chief Miller on April 8, 2013, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried. 2013April9-63

**4. Correspondence-**District Clerk Holzberger reported the following was received:  
2013 Current Officers

American Legion-letter re: Memorial Day Parade

Haight Fire Equipment & Supply-Letter re: Open house

D&D Property Maintenance.-2013 lawn proposal

Requests for Use of the Community Room-

**Friday April 12, 5 PM to 8 PM Birthday Party** for granddaughter requested by Lindy Palladino Check enclosed for kitchen deposit

**MOTION:** Commissioner Fraino moved to approve the Birthday Party as requested by Lindy Palladino, seconded by Commissioner Steve DiLorenzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion was carried unan. 2013April9-64

**Wednesday May 8, 2013 6 PM to 10 PM CSX Railroad Safety training** requested by Chief Gallagher. Maximum 75 persons with 2 instructors.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Palladino moved to approve the Safety Training as requested by Chief Gallagher, seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion was carried unan. 2013April9-65

**Wednesday September 18, 2013 1 Pm to 3 PM for meeting of Lloyd Health**

**Volunteers**, requested by Adele Gibbons.

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve the request for the Lloyd Health Volunteer meeting as requested by Adele Gibbons, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion was carried unan. 2013April9-66

**Friday September 27 5Pm to 8 pm, Saturday September 28, 2013 8 AM to 8 PM, Sunday September 29, 2013 8 AM to 3 PM Friends of Highland Public library Book Sale** requested by Angela Grieco.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Palladino moved to approve the **Book Sale** as requested by the Friends of Highland Public Library, seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion was carried unan. 2013April9-67

**5. New Member Interviews/Approvals-none.**

**6. Committee Reports:**

Buildings and Grounds: St. 1-Chairman Dilorenzo reported that the air compressor is 75% completed. The SCBA air compressor was delivered.

Ceiling Tiles-Chairman DiLorenzo reported that he is trying to find a vendor to replace them.

Sprinkler Pipe-SRI moved the pipe last week.

Dutchess Overhead Doors-preventive maintenance due. District Clerk to call them.

Safeco- Chairman DiLorenzo reported that they came back and made it better; we had issues with the alarm going off due to the sprinkler pipe being moved. Problem has been resolved.

M&O- Chairman DiLorenzo reported that M & O will be coming out to clean out the grease pit in St.1's kitchen and St. 2's pit and drain.

Mowing Prices for 2013-Chairman Dilorenzo reported that we have received from D & D Property maintenance and will open in the business session of this meeting. Also received updated Certificate of Insurance.

**St.2** -Commissioner Fraino reported that we do not have estimates for the painting as yet. Chairman DiLorenzo reported that the shed and pavilion need to be painted. There is fading and some rotten boards. Perhaps we can contact George Ottaviano. Treasurer Passikoff noted that there is a stain on the roof facing the Hess Station.

**7. Apparatus Repair:** Chief Gallagher reported that it is good.

**8. Insurance/Workers Compensation:** Chairman DiLorenzo reported that we received an application for coverage regarding the tank at Station 2 from our agent. Commissioner Fraino asked regarding the proximity to the stream. Chairman Dilorenzo reported that we will have to see if it qualifies for coverage or the proximity to the stream would make in uninsurable.

**9. Physicals/Health Program**-Physical Exam letters have been sent out for those who are due in July 2013.

**10. Physical Fitness Program**-Received activity report for one member at Crossfit Mike Artega's Allsport report pending.

**11. Public Comment**-Chairman Dilorenzo asked if there were any comments from the floor. Town of Lloyd councilman Jeff Paladino stated he had two items to bring up: one was regarding a proposal from Onforce Solar for a solar field at the landfill in the capped area. Cost would be \$8 million to construct with a reduction in unit cost for energy. We are exploring shared services with the school district. There would be no cost to the school or town. This proposed project is in its early infancy of exploration. This may be something that the Fire District may be interested in participating in. Councilman Jeff Paladino stated that the second item he wanted to present to the Board was the possibility of amending the lease for the police station as a way of offsetting part of the cost of the funding for the Fire Inspector's position. This would involve amending the \$12,000 maintenance cost on a year to year basis. The Fire Inspector position would be beneficial to the Town and the Fire District. As a side note we have received two applications so far for the position.

Chairman DiLorenzo stated that there is clearly a need for the personnel at the Town. We have been happy with Dave's response. The question is whether we can fund it or not. Chief Gallagher asked if the Town will hire local as it is civil service. Town councilman Jeff Paladino stated that the time constraint is an issue; we would be looking at a minimum of a 2 year commitment. Chairman Dilorenzo stated that more discussion is needed. We pulled the expenses for the Police Station and they total \$7000. Treasurer Passikoff asked what difference does it make whether the Town or the Fire District were to raise taxes.

**12. Capital Improvement-** nothing to report

**13. New Apparatus-**no report as the committee did not meet regarding the tanker.

**14. Ulster County Fire District Association-September 19, 2013 meeting will be held here at Highland St.1.**

**16. Rules & Regs-**handed out at OSHA; if you did not receive a copy please pick up at District Office.

**17. Service Awards-** Activity posted through March 2013 on April 1, 2013.

**18. Town Emergency Plan-need to update with telephone numbers of new officers and forward to Town Supervisor.**

**19. Treasurer Report-** March 2013 Financial Report distributed and reviewed by Treasurer Jim Passikoff. Treasurer Passikoff stated that the 2013 Budget Appropriations for the Apparatus and Buildings Reserve is included. The P & L is reasonable. Our basic liability insurance is paid for the year; our group term insurance is over budget by \$1300. Service Award is paid as well as the bond payment. Truck repairs will come later in the year. The Board can wait until May to allocate the fund balance which is \$105,000 less the cost of the compressor.

2011 Audit Completed and we have received the final documents

2012 Audit to commence May 6 and 7 2013.

**20. Inspection Dinner-September 13. 2013** Chairman DiLorenzo stated we are looking at The Would and the Pirate Canoe Club. Buffet, cocktails, beer and wine cost at the Would is \$54.60 per person. At the Pirate Canoe Club, buffet and pay for drinks would be \$33.70 per person.

**21. Chiefs Report**-Chief Gallagher reported the following:

Network-up and running

IAMRESPONDING-on screen in bays.

Spare Computer to the Highland Hose Company-to swap with their computer for the AED download instead of spending \$300 for the cd for the AED.

Out-going Chief's files-inventoried by District Clerk; keys turned over to District Clerk and password changed by District Clerk for computer in Chief's office. 31 Car has been cleaned out.

Chief Gallagher stated that he had an enjoyable 2 years as Chief. Board of Fire Commissioners thanked the Chief for his service.

## **22. Old Business**

**IT Project**-cable to be installed in radio room; networked;

**Website**-Proof ready to post; Tab to be inserted between Justice and Community tabs; next step training to post minutes etc.

## **23. New Business-**

Records Management Grant-January 2013 to June 2013

Inventory in process; new locks for closet doors and shelving to be ordered.

Destruction sheets to be signed off by Records Management Officer and then records may be destroyed (shredded). So far approximately 60 boxes to be destroyed.

Training-Commissioner John Fraino reported that we have modules for training regarding sensitivity and sexual harassment which have been reviewed by the officers. Chief Gallagher stated that after a review of the modules, both he and Assistant Chief Miller agree that it would be more beneficial to have in person training by an attorney regarding harassment and ethics. The DVD's from the VFIS are substantial for apparatus; however, we need to find a source for the ethics and sensitivity training.

**Lawn Maintenance Proposal**-from D & D Property Maintenance  
Chairman DiLorenzo noted that the prices were the same as 2012.

**Approval of Snow Plow bill**- received from FWP this evening.

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve payment of the bill for snowplowing from FWP Lawncare and Landscaping in the amount of \$3335.00 for snow removal at Station 1 and 2, January 2013 through March 2013, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

**VOTE:** 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-69

**Approval of Computer Swap-**

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to permit the swap of computers between the Hose Company and the Radio Room computer, to facilitate the maintenance of the AED software upgrades, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-70

**24. Executive Session**

MOTION: At 8:45 PM, Commissioner John Fraino moved to go to executive session to discuss personnel issues relating to approval of new officers, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-71

**Motion to Re-convene and Approve 2013-2014 Officers-**

MOTION: At 9:02 PM, Commissioner Fraino moved to re-convene to the regular session of the meeting and approve the officers for 2013-2014 as elected by the Highland Hose Company, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-72

**Hose Testing**-Chief Pete Miller reported that we received two quotes for hose testing resulting as follows: .22 per foot for a total of \$4000 that is based on 15000 feet.

Dutchess County Mutual Meeting April 18, 2013-Chief Miller and Assist. Chief Everett Erichsen will attend.

Annual Inspection Dinner-Saturday April 20, 2013 at the Grandview

Memorial Day Parade-May 27, 2013 line up at 8:30 AM

NYS AFC Conference-June 14, 2013 at Turning Stone

Harrisburg, PA-

EVOG at Esopus

FAST at Olive-two firefighters will be sent

**Approvals for Training:**

April 19, 20, 21 2013 Flashover Training at Dutchess County Cost \$105. Per member

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-73

May 11 and 12, 2013 Advanced Flashover at Rockland County Training Center, 31-80 to be used and two members will be attending (one is an officer) Cost is \$350 per person.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Palladino moved to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-74

New Command Car-Chief Miller noted that the 2013 command car is about 5 weeks until delivery.

West Glenn Falls Parade (Hudson Valley Parade) June 21, 22 and 23, 2013

Chief cars, 31-20 and trailer to attend.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Palladino moved to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-75

Firefighter One Class at Walker Valley on May 4, 2013 31-45 to attend.

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-76

April 21, 2013 Pre-Plan at Milton Fire District, Officers and 31-45 to attend

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-77

May 18, 2013 Hughsonville Parade 31-45 to attend

**MOTION:** Commissioner Palladino moved to approve attendance, seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-78

## 25. Adjournment

**MOTION:** At 9:20 PM, Commissioner John Fraino moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 NO 0 Abstain 2 ABSENT

Motion was carried. 2013April9-79

approved 5/14/2013

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise A. Holzberger, District Clerk

APPROVED