

**HIGHLAND FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 06, 2015 7 PM St 1**

Commissioners: Stephen DiLorenzo (Present)
Benjamin Bragg (Present)
Christian Erichsen (Present)
John Fraino (Present)
Lindy Palladino (Present)

Secretary/Treasurer: James Passikoff (Absent)
District Clerk: Denise A. Holzberger (Present)
Chief: Peter Miller (Present)

Commissioner DiLorenzo welcomed everyone and stated that the purpose of this meeting is the reorganization of the fire district.

MOTION: Commissioner DiLorenzo moved to appoint Commissioner Lindy Palladino as temporary Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-001

Acting Chairman Palladino stated that this meeting is held for the purpose of reorganization of the Highland Fire District. Our regular monthly meeting will commence at the conclusion of this meeting. This meeting was advertised in the Southern Ulster Times on December 17, 2014 and such affidavit of publication has been received.

Results of Annual Election on December 9, 2014 -A total of 63 votes were cast for Christian Erichsen for Commissioner for a five-year term, January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019. There was one blank and one write-in vote.

LOSAP Referendum- A total of 65 votes were cast for the Proposition to enhance the Service Award Program. There were 60 yes votes and 5 no votes. All results were filed with the Town Clerk on December 11, 2014.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2015

Acting Chairman Palladino asked for nominations for Chairman.

Commissioner John Fraino nominated Commissioner Stephen DiLorenzo for Chairman for 2015.

MOTION: There being no other nominations, Commissioner John Fraino moved to appoint Commissioner Stephen Dilorenzo as Chairman for 2015, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-002

Chairman DiLorenzo thanked the Board for their show of support and their work through this past year. Chairman DiLorenzo thanked Chief Miller and the officers for their work throughout the year and the extraordinary amount of time spent working on the truck specifications and grant. Chairman Dilorenzo thanked the District Clerk Holzberger for her work and accommodating us during her medical leave so that business still ran smoothly.

Commissioner Bragg thanked Steve for all his time and work throughout the year. Commissioner Fraino thanked Steve for his leadership.

Annual Appointments:

Deputy Chairman

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to appoint a Deputy Chairman for 2015.

MOTION: Commissioner Bragg moved to appoint Commissioner Chris Erichsen t the position of Deputy Chairman for 2015, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-003

Secretary/Treasurer

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to appoint James Passikoff Secretary/Treasurer for 2015.

MOTION: Commissioner Ben Bragg moved to appoint James Passikoff Secretary/Treasurer for 2015, seconded by Commissioner Lindy Palladino

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-004

District Clerk

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to appoint Denise A. Holzberger District Clerk for 2015.

MOTION: Commissioner Bragg moved to appoint Denise A. Holzberger District Clerk for 2015, seconded by Commissioner Lindy Palladino.

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-005

Legal Counsel

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to appoint Scott Dow of Kornfeld, Rew, Newman and Simeone and DiStasi, Moriello and Murphy as legal counsel for Highland Fire District.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to appoint the legal counsel as described by Chairman DiLorenzo, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-006

Designation of Official Newspapers

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to designate the official newspapers for the Highland Fire District.

MOTION: Commissioner Lindy Palladino moved to designate the Southern Ulster Times and the New Paltz Times as the official newspapers for the Highland Fire District, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

VOTE: 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2015Jan06-007

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to designate the official financial institutions for the Highland Fire District.

MOTION: Commissioner Lindy Palladino moved to designate M & T, First Niagara, TrustCo and Chase as the official financial institutions for the Highland Fire District, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-08

AUTHORIZATION OF SIGNATORIES

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to authorize signatories for signing checks and to require two signatures for checks in the amount of \$3000 or more.

MOTION: Commissioner Lindy Palladino moved to authorize Secretary/Treasurer James Passikoff, Commissioner Stephen DiLorenzo, Commissioner Ben Bragg and Commissioner John Fraino as check signers and require any two of these authorized check signers for checks in the amount of \$3000 or more, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent
Motion carried. 2015Jan06-09

APPROVAL OF MEMBERSHIPS

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to authorize our membership in the NYS Association of Fire Districts and regional associations.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve our membership in the NYS Association of Fire Districts as well as regional associations, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent
Motion carried. 2015Jan06-10

OFFICIAL MEETING SCHEDULE

Chairman asked for a motion to approve our meeting schedule for 2015.

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to hold the 2015 monthly meetings of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Highland Fire District on the second Tuesday of each month, and if needed, workshops could be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. All regular meetings will be at 7 PM and held at headquarters, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent
Motion carried. 2015Jan06-11

2015 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

February 10	March 10	April 14	May 12	June 9
July 14	August 11	September 8	October 13	
Budget Hearing	October 20	November 10	December 8	
Annual Fire District Election	December 8, 2015			

APPOINTMENT OF CUSTODIANS

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to appoint the custodians for Station 1.

MOTION: Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to appoint Lori Passante and Jill Gersch as custodians for Station 1, seconded by Commissioner Lindy Palladino.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-12

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to appoint the custodian for Station 2.

MOTION: Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to appoint Lori Passante custodian for Station 2, seconded by Commissioner Lindy Palladino.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-13

DESIGNATION OF VENDORS FOR APPARATUS AND VEHICLE REPAIR

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to designate as a preferred vendor Nichols, All Automotive and Erichsen's Auto Service for apparatus and vehicle repair, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 1 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-14

INVESTMENT AND PROCUREMENT POLICIES

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved that the present Procurement and Investment policies be retained for 2015, and that the Length of Service Award Investment Policy is retained for 2015, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-15

There was discussion regarding the adoption of "piggy-backing" and "best value" into our procurement policy. Chairman Dilorenzo instructed the District clerk to contact legal counsel, Scott Dow regarding drafting a resolution for us to adopt.

SURETY BOND

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to maintain the surety bond.

MOTION: Commissioner Palladino moved that the surety bond be maintained in the amount of one million four hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000.00), seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-16

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chairman DiLorenzo distributed the committee appointments for 2015 and reviewed. It was noted that the election committee will consist of Commissioners Erichsen and Palladino. Commissioner Erichsen is the second Vice President of the Ulster County Fire Districts Association.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner John Fraino moved to adjourn the reorganization meeting at 7:15 PM, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried. 2015Jan06-17

Respectfully submitted,
Denise A. Holzberger, District Clerk

APPROVED