

Highland Fire District  
Regular Meeting  
March 15, 2017  
7:25 PM St 1

Commissioners:	Stephen DiLorenzo	(PRESENT)
	Benjamin Bragg	(ABSENT)
	Christian Erichsen	(PRESENT)
	John Fraino	(ABSENT)
	Alan Barone	(PRESENT)
Secretary/Treasurer	James Passikoff	(PRESENT)
District Clerk	Denise A. Holzberger	(PRESENT)
Chief	Peter Miller	(PRESENT)

Chairman Steve DiLorenzo called the meeting to order, led the salute to the flag and asked for a moment of silence for our fallen firefighters.

It was noted that this meeting was re-scheduled due to the snowstorm on March 14, 2017.

**1. Approval of Minutes-** Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2017 regular meeting and February 14, 2017 regular meeting

**MOTION:** Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2017 regular meeting as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

The minutes of January 10, 2017 meeting will be tabled for approval until the next regular board meeting.

**3. Bills-** Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to authorize payment of the bills as reviewed by himself, Commissioner Alan Barone and Chief Miller on March 13, 2017 for the period of 2/16/17 through 3/15/17.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Alan Barone moved to authorize payment of the bills in the amount of \$41,001.85, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**4. Correspondence-**

**Central Hudson-**Letter regarding Direct Energy

**Verizon-** received \$6000 for Micro-cell tower

Requests for Use of the Community Room

**Wednesdays 3/15-5/3/17 for Civilian Police Academy** requested by Town of Lloyd Police.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve the request for use of the community room for the Civilian Police Academy for Wednesdays March 15, 2017 through May 3, 2017 as requested by the Town of Lloyd Police Department, seconded by Commissioner Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**Girl Scout Cookie Drop for first week in April 2017 at Station 2's parking lot.** Requested by Jill Poluzzi.

**Motion:** Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve the request for use of Station 2's parking lot for the Girl Scout Cookie Drop as requested by Jill Poluzzi, seconded by Commissioner Al Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**Saturday April 15, 2017 Memorial Reception** requested by Marty Newman. (Use of the Meeting Room)

**MOTION:** Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve the request for use of the meeting room for April 15, 2017 as requested by Marty Newman, seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Insurance-Chairman DiLorenzo stated that Linda Flanagan was here tonight to review the Replacement Values on our vehicles. Ms. Flanagan stated that any of the Tahoes that are over 4 years old are insured at actual cash value. Trucks are insured at agreed value; most that would be paid out is the agreed value. Insurance pay out would be the least of the following: 1. Repair 2. Cost to replace entire vehicle compliant with NFPA standards. With older vehicles, it is hard to come up with an amount for insurance without over insuring as many factors come into play. When to cost to fix is 75 % of the agreed value, then it could be replaced. However you have to remember the higher the agreed value, the 75% will yield a larger dollar amount. It comes down to the Board carefully reviewing their vehicles and possible scenarios to make a reasonable and prudent business decision. Ms. Flanagan also contacted a claims representative from VFIS via telephone to discuss the agreed value. Chairman DiLorenzo thanked Ms. Flanagan for coming in.

**5. New Membership**-none

**6. Buildings and Grounds- Station 1**

Cleaning of Bay Doors- Commissioner Barone stated that proposals are pending.

Ready Room Floor- Commissioner DiLorenzo noted that the floor was waxed prior to the arrival of the new furniture. We are pleased with the floors and we will look at doing all the floors after BEFO.

Copier-There was discussion regarding keeping it or looking into purchasing a new one. Further discussion will take place during the business session.

Lawn Care- FB's agreement is pending.

Siren St 2- up and running. Programing done by NYCOMCO.

Snow Removal-Chairman Dilorenzo stated a thank you should be sent to the Town Highway Department for removing the snow.

**Buildings & Grounds-St.2**

Siren St 2- up and running. Programing done by NYCOMCO.

Box alarm- Commissioner Erichsen stated we should contact Safeco as there may be a software issue. Also a name change is needed. Commissioner Erichsen to follow up.

**7. New Apparatus**-Chief Miller reported that a meeting will be held in the future; obtaining information as requested by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

**8. Insurance /Workers Compensation**-Treasurer Passikoff stated that we should pay the balance due.

**9. Physical Fitness**-pending 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017 activity

**10. Ulster County Fire District Association**- Meeting Thursday 3/16/17 at Marlboro

**11. Service Awards**-February 2017 activity posted March 9, 2017.

**12. Treasurer's Report**- Treasurer Passikoff reported that the December 2016 Financial Report is completed and distributed to the Board. Page 2 of 9 shows the fund balance of \$75067.75; these funds can be appropriated in April or May 2017. Chairman DiLorenzo stated that we could appropriate some to the Building Reserve and some to Apparatus. Building Reserve is low: \$113,353.17. We should discuss.

It was noted that there are two remaining original roof top HVAC units left to replace. Two contractors have been contacted.

Treasurer Passikoff presented the February 28, 2017 financial report to the Board. As of 2/28/17 \$337,500 was allocated to the Apparatus Reserve. \$50,000 payment was made for the Police Bond. Page 1 illustrates the \$6000 received from Verizon for the Microcell at St 1. \$6000 is in the general fund.

Insurance- Denny from VFIS claims Department called in to further discuss the agreed values on vehicles. He explained to the Board that there is no right or wrong way to determine value. You want to insure he vehicle if it can't be repaired and have provisions for damages to or greater than the agreed value. Bear in mind that the higher the agreed value, the 75% will be more. There is no requirement to repair you can take the proceeds yielded by the claim, sell the damaged vehicle for salvage and purchase a new truck.

Currently we have three vehicles that are approximately the same value; if we had to replace the cost would be \$600,000 new. 75% of 600,000 is \$450,000. \$450,000 is a lot of damage and the cost to repair may not reach that amount. Our 1994, 1996 and 2001 should have the same agreed value.

**13. Public Comment-** Chairman DiLorenzo asked if there was any comment from the Board.

Highland Hose Company President Jim Balint asked the Board if the District could contribute to the Hose company annual Installation Dinner in lieu of having the Annual Inspection Dinner. Also, asked if 4 new office chairs could be purchased for the Social Office at a cost of no more than \$500. Regarding the dinner; if the district would pay for the firefighters it would lessen the cost to the Highland Hose Company. Chairman DiLorenzo explained that this was brought to legal counsel and it was okay for the District to do this and we will bring it up during the business session.

**14. Chief's Report-**Chief Miller reported the following:

Radios- up and running and working well. We are keeping simple and will change as needed. On-scene we will have one channel and on the road we will have another.

BEFO Class- March 16, 2017 here. (Shawangunk) Forcible Entry

Chairman DiLorenzo asked if the County will have equipment for the Ulster County Training Center.

31-80- will be needed on 5/7/17 to go to Montour. Also need approval for a command car to Indianapolis for FDIC April 24-29, 2017.

OSHA- successful

Driver Re-Cert- currently in progress. LENS program is up to date.

Inactive Members- letters have been sent. Commissioner Erichsen requested that the Board receive copies and a text message as to who is out of service.

New Polices- pending legal review

**15. Old Business-**

Email- Currently Commissioners Erichsen and DiLorenzo, and Chief Miller have access. Commissioners Bragg, Fraino and Barone do not. Chief Miller stated that the Town Highway Department is having a problem sending email to us; it is being kicked back.

Procurement Policy- it was noted that if we use RFP's it should be stated in our policy.

Resolution to continue Maintenance Agreement for Copier

**MOTION:** Commissioner Al Barone moved to approve staying with the Maintenance Agreement for the year 4/1/17-3/31/18 for the Konica-Minolta copier, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Resolution to authorize purchase of chairs for the Social Office

**MOTION:** Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve the purchase of 4 chairs for the Social Office at a cost of up to \$500, seconded by Commissioner Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**16. New Business-**

Resolution to approve \$2500 to Highland Hose Company for Annual Installation Dinner

**MOTION:** Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve \$2500 to be contributed by the Highland Fire District toward the cost of the Annual Installation Dinner, instead of holding the Annual Inspection Dinner, seconded by Commissioner Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Resolution to authorize Car 31-80 to Montour

**MOTION:** Commissioner Al Barone moved to authorize Car 31-80 to Montour Falls on May 5, 2017 through May 7, 2017, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Resolution to authorize attendance and Car to FDIC Conference

There was discussion regarding the components of the conference. Assistant Chief Everett Erichsen explained that classes, and hands-on training are offered. This is an international conference and these classes are not offered at Verona, New York. Cost is \$3200 for everything.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Barone moved to authorized two officers, Chief Peter Miller and Assistant Chief Everett Erichsen, and a command car at a cost of \$3200 be permitted to attend the FDIC Conference in Indianapolis April 24, 2017 through April 29, 2017, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Exercise Equipment-

Commissioner Barone stated that the maintenance agreement for the exercise equipment at a cost of \$795 was approved in the Abstract of Bills earlier in the meeting. Commissioner Barone discussed the agreement with the provider and the price was adjusted to the \$795 as per the previous year cost.

Ladder Testing- March 20, 2017

**17. Executive Session-**

**MOTION:** At 9:10 PM, Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to go to executive session to discuss some issues regarding the paid personnel, seconded by Commissioner Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**18. Return to Regular Session and Adjournment-**

**MOTION:** At 9:50 PM, Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to return to the regular session, and there being no further business to discuss, moved to adjourn at 9:50 PM, seconded by Commissioner Barone.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise A. Holzberger, District Clerk

APPROVED BOFC 4/11/2017