

# MINUTES

Board of Fire Engineers  
Board, Committee, Office, Etc.

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MILFORD, MASS.

Date: December 3, 2012 Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Present: Chief Rudge, Asst. Chief Day, Asst. Chief Hamilton,  
Asst. Chief Hobin, Asst. Chief Gasco  
Absent: None

Minutes from November 5 and November 19, 2012 were approved.  
Invoices were signed. Mail was read. Account balances were reviewed.

## **LIVE BURN GUIDELINES**

Asst. Chief Hamilton and Asst. Chief Hobin did not have a chance to speak to Auburn personnel about their live burn guidelines. Discussion took place. Asst. Chief Hobin said the guidelines he drew up (based on Chapter 4 of NFPA 1403) were more detailed. It was also noted that Auburn did not always provide the personnel indicated in their guidelines. Both chiefs will speak to Auburn staff and report to the Board.

## **OLD & NEW BUSINESS**

- Chief Rudge reported Station 2 is providing coverage for the Town of Sutton from their station. Sutton is doing a special training drill.
- The new Tower is at the Highway Barn and has been registered. HQ personnel with a CDL have been driving the vehicle. Asst. Chief Hamilton will draw up a list of those who need driver training. The truck might be in service within two weeks.
- Ron Marlborough informed Chief Rudge that the issue with the alarm system at St. Brigid's would be corrected soon. A carbon monoxide detector was tied into the box alarm.
- Chief Rudge submitted the following truck maintenance report:
  - Engine 1: Need 2-PSI gauges for water cans, AED O<sub>2</sub> bottle is half-full, infant electrode pads expired November 2012.
  - Scope: All set
  - Rescue 1: missing two portable radios, air leak, need two window punches
  - Hose 1: rear passenger work light out, turn signals not working, need 1-50' length of 4" hose.
  - Engine 2: grille has been replaced
  - Engine 4: dump chute rotted, dump valve leaking, passenger step rotted
  - Engine 3: pistons for ladder rack have been replaced. Right rear spotlight out. Metal strap on front bumper broken. Number 2 discharge gauge is loose.
  - Forestry 1: needs brake fluid
  - Engine 5: pump panel light

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- Lt. Lahair reported that FF. Gordon Siebenhaar completed his driver training on Rescue 1. Asst. Chief Hamilton made a motion to approve FF. Siebenhaar to drive Rescue 1. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Gasco and carried on a 5-0 vote.
- A meeting with Wheelabrator to discuss confined space rescue has been scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Chief Rudge and Asst. Chief Gasco will attend.
- The Finance Director prepared and submitted a contract to J R Associates to provide plans for the building addition at Station 2.
- Lt. Lahair will hold the classroom portion of the driver-training program on Saturday, January 19, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at Fire HQ.
- Recruits Ray Hobin, III and Neil Morrissey will graduate from the Mass. Firefighting Academy's Call Firefighter Training Program on December 20, 2012. Asst. Chiefs Hobin and Hamilton will attend.
- A meeting of the Millbury Firefighters Relief Association will be held on December 17, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at Fire HQ.
- Asst. Chief Hobin presented a training schedule for the remainder of December. Chief Rudge said he would try to have someone from Minuteman here on December 10 to do training on Tower 1. There will be no training on December 24 and December 31.
- The Board reviewed and approved the invoice for the paving done at Station 5. The cost was less than the \$5000 earmarked for the project. The balance will be used to fund the cost of the plans for Station 2.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton picked up Lt. Krumsiek's old uniform. It is now in storage at Fire HQ.
- Asst. Chief Day is still looking into filing a court claim for the illegal burn done at 33 Sutton Road.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton will bring Engine 4 to Greenwood Fire to get an estimate on repairing the rusted chute.
- The Fire Department was notified that payment for the camera on Rescue 1 has not been received. This is being looked into and could be the reason that training has not been scheduled yet.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton installed the map box and the new imager on Rescue 1.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton needs to order a solenoid for the on-spots on Engine 3.
- FF. Gordon Siebenhaar reported a problem with the brakes on the fire alarm vehicle. Asst. Chief Hamilton will check the truck. FF. Siebenhaar also reported he did a pole transfer on Canal St. (1-1).

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- Asst. Chief Hamilton said the project to replace the traffic light and related equipment at Station 3 is on hold. The Town Manager has not approved the project.
- Capt. Silver provided some information regarding the items needed to outfit Station 2 as a RIT. Asst. Chief Hobin will get updated prices before the Board approves any purchases.
- Asst. Chief Hobin reported the chief who was interested in the hose washer/dryer has not contacted him. He will check with that chief at the next District 7 meeting.
- Asst. Chief Hobin is waiting for a quote to replace some of the windows at Station 3.
- Asst. Chief Hobin said the Board may need to contact the Town Manager to set up an energy audit at Station 3. This will be looked into.
- Asst. Chief Gasco still needs to get an estimate for the repairs on Rescue 1.
- Asst. Chief Gasco said he is putting together a list of items needed to complete Rescue 1.
- Asst. Chief Gasco should be able to convert the generator at Fire HQ this week.
- Asst. Chief Gasco will contact Grafton for an update on the ID cards.
- Asst. Chief Gasco had information on the dispatch software for the Board. The cost is \$150 a year with an initial set up fee of approximately \$75. The software can re-send a tone as a text message to up to 100 cell phones. There is a 30-second delay and it does not have to be done by the dispatchers. Asst. Chief Day made a motion to spend no more than \$500 to purchase the dispatching software. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Gasco and carried on a 5-0 vote. Board members want the salesperson to meet with them in January 2013 to review what is needed. Asst. Chief Gasco will arrange this.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton will look into a program similar to "I Am Responding". This allows a firefighter to respond to a tone through his cell phone to let command know he is responding.
- Asst. Chief Day reported Capt. Piscitelli spoke to FF. Arcouette about his low attendance. Asst. Chief Day made a motion to give FF. Arcouette until March 31, 2013 to improve his attendance. If the Board is not satisfied with FF. Arcouette's attendance at that time, he will be immediately dismissed from the Fire Department. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Hamilton and carried on a 5-0 vote. FF. Arcouette will be notified by registered mail.

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- Asst. Chief Day reported he did a pump test with FF. Breault. FF. Breault passed the test and is allowed to drive a pumper to an alarm.
- Asst. Chief Day asked about replacing the 1500-gallon bag on Engine 4. He was told the roller will be installed but can only handle one bag. Although there is a 2200- and a 3000-gallon bag, Asst. Chief Day said he would still like a 1500-gallon. Asst. Chief Hamilton will get estimates.
- Asst. Chief Hobin updated the Board on the text messages he received from Capt. Silver. Asst. Chief Hobin could not provide copies but said Capt. Silver indicated he would not contact his crew to let them know that Hose 1 was not going to Station 3. Capt. Silver said either the Chief or another Board member could notify his crew. A week later, Asst. Chief Hobin got a call from Capt. Silver stating he would no longer handle the trash at Station 3 and that the Board should consider getting a dumpster. Board members thought this might be in response to Hose 1 not being placed at Station 3. Asst. Chief Hamilton said he spoke with Capt. Silver about the incident. Capt. Silver told him he was frustrated because Station 3 could not respond to Grafton, was not toned for a recent incident on the Mass. Pike and now Hose 1 was not going to the station. Capt. Silver said his comments "came out wrong". Discussion took place. Board members agreed this was not the attitude they wanted in a company captain but also noted that this was not the usual from Capt. Silver. They will have Capt. Silver meet with them on December 17, 2012 to discuss the situation.
- Board members discussed responding on the Pike in personal vehicles. A reminder will be sent to all members stating that no one but chief officers are allowed to respond on the Mass. Pike in a personal vehicle. Asst. Chief Day asked if we could contact MassDOT to have turn-arounds opened again. Discussion took place. The Board discussed who should be toned to respond to the Mass. Pike. Asst. Chief Day felt both Stations 3 & 5 should be toned for their own safety. If the incident is eastbound, HQ should be toned. If the incident is westbound, Engine 3 & Engine 5 should be toned. No final decision was made.
- Asst. Chief Hobin told the Board the fee for the FFI/FFII test is \$30. While District 7 offers the test at the end of their recruit program, it is not mandatory for graduation. The Mass. Firefighting Academy requires their students to take and pass the test. Chief Rudge asked what the certification does for Millbury-how does it benefit our department? Asst. Chief Hobin said it doesn't benefit us now,

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but feels it will be required down the road. Asst. Chief Hobin also said some towns that call for mutual aid may be concerned that responding personnel are not as qualified as those who are certified. Both Chief Rudge and Asst. Chief Gasco did not see an advantage for Millbury to require certification. Those who are interested in taking the test can do so, but Millbury will not fund the cost or make this a requirement.

- The Board talked about the experience level of the Millbury Fire Department. Asst. Chief Day suggested the more experienced members step aside at incidents to allow the younger (less experienced) members a chance to get more involved. With the low number of fires in recent years, many guys have little real fire experience.
- Asst. Chief Gasco made a motion to assign FF. Gordon Siebenhaar to Rescue 1 and FF. Tom LaVallee to Tower 1. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Hamilton. Discussion took place. Chief Rudge stressed that cross-training is still to be done and that all the trucks have to roll regardless of your truck assignment. Board members agreed and the motion carried on a 5-0 vote.
- Asst. Chief Hobin will prepare a training schedule for the first quarter of the new year.
- Board members agreed to hold the annual Field Day in 2013. Asst. Chief Hobin said that we need to fix what is wrong before we can proceed. Chief Rudge said a committee would be formed at a meeting to be held in January. That committee will oversee the Field Day and report directly to the Board of Fire Engineers.
- A lengthy discussion took place concerning driver training for new members and for Tower 1. Some of the items considered were: allowing any driver authorized by the Board to do driver training as long as the hours are documented, appointing additional driver trainers, having more personnel "certified" by attending VFIS' train-the-trainer program, and changing the policy for those who were previously approved to drive by the Board and return to the Fire Department. Asst. Chief Hamilton made a motion to amend the Driver Training Policy as follows: any member who was previously approved to drive by the Board of Fire Engineers and returns to the Fire Department will need to do four hours of on-road driving with someone who has been approved to drive by the Board of Fire Engineers. Hours are to be documented and submitted to the Board of Fire Engineers. In addition, driver training on specialty pieces (Tower 1, Rescue 1, etc.) is to be conducted by a firefighter with a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) who has been approved to drive

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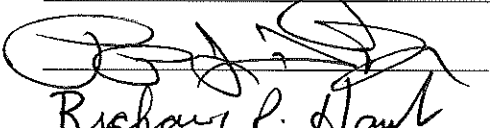
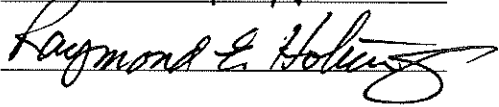
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by the Board of Fire Engineers. Hours are to be documented and submitted to the Board of Fire Engineers. New members will continue to follow the Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVDT) Program. Further, CDL drivers conducting driver training on specialty pieces will be paid a detail rate for their time. The motion was seconded by Asst. Chief Day and carried on a 5-0 vote.

Firefighters Brian Day, Kyle Morrissey and Andrew Raffa will be notified that they do not have to take the classroom training, but must complete four hours of on-road driving with a driver who has been approved by the Board Fire Engineers. The EVDT Program consists of 8-hours of classroom, 8-hours of on-road driving with a certified instructor, and completion of the competency course.

- The address for Country Candle has officially been changed to 10 West Street.
- Chief Rudge will check Mill-tex to see if work is being done without a permit and to see if the fire watch detail is still in place.
- Asst. Chief Day said the map at the fire alarm panel in Target needs to be updated. It does not show the renovations done to the store. Target will be notified.
- Asst. Chief Hobin is willing to do inspections at the mall now that he has time.

Asst. Chief Day made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

  
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Richard P. Hawk  
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Raymond E. Holung  
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Regina A. Markey, Head Clerk