

EAST GLENVILLE FIRE DISTRICT #3  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
January 20, 2025

Present:

Commissioner Wendi Gapczynski  
Commissioner Beth Larson  
Commissioner Doug Bradt  
Commissioner Al Martin  
Chief Nick Abel  
1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Mike Meier  
2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief John Jewell  
District Treasurer Jeffrey Prescott  
District Secretary Debbie Priddle  
Deputy Treasurer Tammy Stocker  
Statistician Clem Schimikowski  
House Steward Sue Desbiens  
Company President Rit Desbiens  
Captain Wayne Sandilands  
Captain Scott Fura  
Captain Paul Chiarello

The Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order by Commissioner Bradt at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. There were 16 people present.

Tammy Stocker was sworn in as Deputy Fire District Treasurer by Commissioner Bradt acting as Chairman of the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Bradt to approve the minutes of the meeting held December 15, 2024 as written with all in agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bradt and seconded by Commissioner Gapczynski to approve the minutes of the Organizational Meeting held January 8, 2025 as written with spelling corrections with all in agreement.

Chief's Report: Chief Abel/ 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Meier/2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Jewell – Attached. The Chief thanked the board for a good year and is looking forward to this year. We had a total of 833 calls last year. We had a total of 80 calls for the month of December and he thanked the members for responding and the statistician for his reporting.

2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Jewell went over the apparatus and equipment report.

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Meier went over the training report.

Commissioner Larson requested a host sheet from President Rit Desbiens. District Secretary informed her that one had been posted.

Commissioner Larson asked about the status of the two older Lifepacks. One is in service in the back up medical truck and the second one will be determined after discussion with the EMS Captain. The chiefs will come back to the Board with a plan in February.

Commissioner Larson also mentioned PS Trax and requested a print out from that on truck checks. Chief Abel will provide that at the next meeting.

Commissioner Larson brought up the fact that by law we have to post the minutes from each meeting for the board in the apparatus bay and the last set of minutes was written on. That is not the purpose of those minutes. If anybody in the company or the officers has a problem with something that was voted or commented on, it should be brought to their attention and should be addressed in person. The Chief will bring it up at the next company meeting that the minutes not be written on.

Chief Abel also added that they were trying to make a big push for overnight calls. They have been pushing to get duty crews filled and they are mostly full. Every officer is taking one night a week and they are asking the members to take one night a month and it is working out very nicely. Chief Abel expressed appreciation to the members and officers for stepping up.

Presidents Report: Rit Desbiens; We received one letter of resignation from Lindsay Abel on January 14<sup>th</sup>. There were no other members added and no other changes.

Commissioner Larson asked if at the next meeting it could be mentioned that if anyone wanted to be a host for when we rent out the building that they please sign up and they would be approved at the next meeting. They will be paid \$50.00 per event. The signup sheet is posted in the apparatus bay.

Treasurers Report: See attached. A motion was made by Commissioner Martin to accept the treasurers report and seconded by Commissioner Bradt and approved by all.

Communications: No report.

Buildings and Grounds: Commissioner Larson.

All Type Doors – Had been contacted before Christmas because we have repeatedly had problems with the openers in the apparatus bay and said after the first of the year would like the boss to come down and meet with Commissioner Bradt, Commissioner Martin, Clem Schimikowski, the chief and anyone else who has had problems with them and would like to attend. It has not been the perfect arrangement and it needs to be addressed. The door coming into the vestibule Commissioner Larson noted it was hard to get open so when they come she will have them look at that. We are also getting new weatherstripping on the second door there.

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Meier and 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Jewell have been added to the Burnt Hills Hardware account.

Linstar came in and sent their maintenance contract so the board will be asked to approve \$240.00 for that.

Eric Freer came and did a service/inspection and adjustment in our alarm float for \$250.00 which the board has been asked to approve.

Alarm and Suppression was asked to come in and do their annual check for \$480.00 with no problems noted.

Commissioner Larson mentioned that six months ago we bought a portable ramp to go into the utility garage especially when we get a pallet of ice melt. It was reported as missing Chief Abel stated it is in the garage in the back left corner. Commissioner Larson also thanked members that helped out and plowed the parking lot recently since we have had some nuisance snow falls that have made things more difficult. Commissioner Larson requested that if anyone sees that the ice melt supply is getting low that they notify the station administrator so we do not run out unexpectedly. Please notify Debbie when the supply gets down to half a pallet.

Commissioner Larson requested purchasing an enclosed bulletin board where we do our business. It is just outside the Rec Room. It is mounted on the wall and has a corkboard behind it which will replace what is there now for \$575.00.

Finance: The independent audit is scheduled for May 12, 2025 which is a Monday. The auditors need the board room for that day. They do like to meet with a commissioner so if a commissioner could stop by on that day, they do like to have a conversation with a commissioner.

Medical: Besides a firefighter getting hurt on a call, the paperwork was all submitted by the Chief and to Jeff. Jeff mentioned that he had an issue submitting all the paperwork online so he wrote it up and submitted it manually by email, but they received the claim and everything is moving forward. We have been using VF3 forms for worker's comp claims which are now obsolete so Jeff has put copies of the new C2F forms that need to be filled out and submitted in the radio room so everyone has access to them. The chief will notify the company at the next company meeting that the form has changed and the new form is available.

Legal and Insurance: The claim was put in on the chief's car which was no fault of his. claim on the chief's car. The chief has an appointment to drop off 239 to get it fixed. It will be out of service at the beginning of February for 7-10 days.

Commissioner Bradt asked if the lawyer that was nominated and appointed to serve the department had been notified and the district secretary is issuing a letter to them.

Computers: We have had difficulty with our email after the laptops updated in accessing email. Commissioner Larson contacted Commissioner Bradt and our back up Rick Manocchi who only

does it part time and is not available during the day. Commissioner Larson suggested to Commissioner Bradt that look at a company who will come in and manage our computers and keep our website updated because members have stated that the website is not updated and an updated website with current pictures and information would be a valuable recruiting tool. Commissioner Larson would like the Computer Committee to look and see what kind of business would come in and take care of these problems for us. Commissioner Bradt mentioned that we did look into it a couple years ago and there were a couple companies interested in doing so. Commissioner Bradt will consult with Commissioner Thornhill and look into our options, getting proposals and quotes.

Personnel: No report.

Equipment and Apparatus: No report other than what is in the chief's report.

Use of Station: January 22, 2025 Schenectady County Fire Coordinator will be here for the esophageal cancer screening from 12:00pm to 8:00 pm. We had a kid's birthday party Saturday. We have the To Life! Organization scheduled to come in during the Commissioner's Meeting in the meeting room. They do have a copy of our policy to use the facility and understand that if the company needs to use the room that the company has preference. On January 29<sup>th</sup> we do have an event scheduled for a child's birthday party which is a Wednesday from 11:00 am to 3:00pm. March 15<sup>th</sup> we have a child's birthday party, we do not have a time for yet. April 12-13 which is a Saturday and Sunday (chief's please check the calendar) we have motorcycle safety training program which they do not need the parking lot. We do not have the time yet for that.

LOSAP: The points will be posted tonight. They will be posted for 30 days for members that qualify and if anyone has a question, they can contact Clem. Next month the Board will be asked to certify or approve those and then then they get submitted to our insurance company for the annual update. We have one new member who received benefits the past month and there are two members who are qualifying and need to be searched out. The LOSAP bill is on the abstract but we do not pay it until we get our tax money the end of the month. It is still a 2025 expenditure.

Accident Review Board: No report.

Consolidation: No report.

Legislation: No report.

Policies and Procedures: Commissioner Larson mentioned that the board received the new policies to review them and she had two sets of questions on policies. She noted concerns about sections F and H on the Chief's Vehicle Policy when the company went to sell the last chief's vehicle policy and the vehicle was in such disrepair. She did not understand why if we have policy in place for maintenance of the vehicles that it was in such disrepair when we went to sell it. Commissioner Larson mentioned that the company had the insurance adjuster come to look at the chief's vehicle after the recent accident and she requested that it be taken to be detailed. Commissioner Larson noted that the inside of the chief's car had an excessive amount of dirt and

dog hair in it and requested an explanation to which the chief noted that it was winter so the vehicles were particularly dirty and that the dog hair was on his clothing which is why it was excessive in the vehicle itself. Commissioner Larson expressed concern that this was the impression the company was putting forth. Commissioner Larson also expressed concern regarding the fact the chief's cars were being driven to work to which Chief Abel stated that he is within the driving parameters set forth in policy and he monitors calls while at work and if needed he would be able to leave work and go to a call if needed and that he has used over 100 hours of personal time in order to respond to calls on his own. Assistant Chief Meier stated that he does not drive his vehicle to work as he is out of the stated range. Assistant Chief Jewell stated that he is within the stated distance range in order to qualify to be able to drive his vehicle to work and he is able to monitor email for bigger events now. Commissioner Larson just wants to make sure the taxpayers interests are protected. We do have an account at the car wash to keep the vehicles clean. The three chiefs were given the vehicle policy agreements to sign which all three did.

The credit card policy agreements were also brought up and they will be presented to those that need to sign them and put into their personnel files.

#### New Business:

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to increase account A3410.200 Purchase Trucks and Equipment by \$46.00 and decrease A3410.202 by \$46.00, seconded by Commissioner Martin and approved by all.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt provide funding for miscellaneous truck repairs and maintenance items; to increase account A3410.422 by \$327.00 and also decrease A3410.423 Fuel by \$327.00, seconded by Commissioner Martin and approved by all.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to approve Abstract #1 for 2025, seconded by Commissioner Gapczynski and agreed to by all.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to purchase storage bins as per the Chief's request at a cost of \$250.20, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.204.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to purchase the storage lockers as requested by the chief's report for a cost of \$329.00 that we will pick up, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.422.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to approve the quarterly Breathing Air Analysis for \$112.00, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.202.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to approve as per the chief's request an equipment tarp for \$26.99, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.207.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to approve as per the chief's request a 1.5 inch cap at a cost of \$54.33, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.201.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to approve repair of the priming pump on 2376 for \$2,172.30, seconded by Commissioner Gapczynski and agreed to by all – A3410.422 (Truck Repairs).

Motion was made by Commissioner Bradt to replace the tires on 237 for \$920.23, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.421 (Tires and Batteries).

Motion was made by Commissioner Larson to approve the Linstar contract at a cost of \$240.00, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all.

Motion was made by Commissioner Larson to approve the bill from Alarm and Suppression \$450.00, seconded by Commissioner Bradt and agreed to by all.

Motion was made by Commissioner Larson to approve purchase of a 36 x 72 three door indoor enclosed bulletin board with lock, cork material. It has shatter resistant acrylic panels. It is made in the United States; \$575.00, seconded by Commissioner Martin and agreed to by all – A3410.401.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bradt and seconded by Commissioner Martin and approved to enter into executive session at 8:08pm to discuss the employment history of particular people or matters leading to the demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal or any person pursuant to Public Officers Law 105(1)(f).

The meeting was brought back into regular session at 8:17.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bradt and seconded by Commissioner Larson and approved by all to end the meeting at 8:17.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Priddle  
District Secretary