



Hempfield Area Fire Services Commission



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 16, 2021 – 1900 hours

Voting Members Present:

G. Edward LeFevre (Vice Chairman), W. Scott Wiglesworth, Josh Hummel, John Wolf (Chairman), Tammy Moseman, Mark Cohen, Josh Newcomer, William Nonnemacher

Also Present: Cindy Schweitzer (Treasurer), Karen St Clair (ZOOM), Diane Garber (Secretary), John Kottmyer, Amber Fair, Craig Irwin

Chairman Wolf called the meeting to order at 1900 followed by the Moment of Silence, & Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman indicated the February 23 HAFSC Meeting Minutes had been provided to the members. No changes were indicated. Motion by Ed LeFevre, second by Scott Wiglesworth to approve the 2/23/2021 meeting minutes as provided. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chair then moved on to a review of the goals of the Commission and Mrs. Garber provided an overview of the EHT Strategic Plan Goals, as provided to the commission, that lead to the creation of the Commission and hiring of the Chief Fire Official. The goals include creation of a fire commission, hiring of a full-time Fire Chief, recruitment and retention programs for volunteer firefighters, creation of standardized fire department policies and procedures, implementation of a systemwide capital asset plan including a long-term fleet replacement plan, and planning for staffing needs.

Chief Kottmyer then provided a report on his activities during his first two weeks. He indicated that he received a warm welcome from everyone he met with and that his initial discussions with the FDs focused on the need for assistance to command staff at incidents, fleet planning, joint FD operations, and recruitment and retention of volunteers. He indicated that he hopes to build relations between the FDs and community stakeholders to assist with funding of capital purchases. He is also now involved in the fire departments' ongoing discussions of how to better share Duty Officer responsibilities across the three departments to decrease the burden on the chief officers. He indicated that he is continuing to meet with municipal and fire department officials over the next few weeks and looks forward to continuing to be more involved. The chief officers present indicated that they appreciated seeing Chief Kottmyer out on calls and at their meetings and trainings over the last two weeks. Karen St Clair indicated that Chief Kottmyer will be attending the 3/25/21 East Petersburg Borough Council Meeting to meet the council members.

Discussion ensued in reference to the publication of the hiring and the need for social media posting which Mrs. Garber will follow up on. Additional discussion occurred about the need to ensure the public is aware of the live training available to the fire departments through the acquisition of 3 township properties on Centerville Rd. Finally, recent larger fire incidents were reviewed including the residential fire on Veranda Way, the auto garage fire on Lancaster Rd, and the vehicle into the Bob Evans on Hempland Rd.

Public Comment: None.

Motion to adjourn meeting from Ed LeFevre, second from Mark Cohen, carried unanimously, 1945hrs.

Next HAFSC meeting **April 20 at 1900hrs.**

Minutes Submitted by:

Diane E Garber

Diane Garber, Secretary

Minutes Approved: 4/20/21, Motion Mark Cohen, Second Josh Newcomer, Carried 8-0.