



## Hempfield Area Fire Services Commission



### Board of Directors Meeting Minutes April 20, 2021 – 1900 hours

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

Also Present: Cindy Schweitzer (Treasurer), Karen St Clair, Diane Garber (Secretary), John Kottmyer, Amber Fair, Cory Carpenter, Randy Rannels

Chairman Wolf called the meeting to order at 1901hrs followed by the Moment of Silence, & Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman indicated the March 16 HAFSC Meeting Minutes had been provided to the members. One spelling correction indicated. Motion by Mark Cohen, second by Josh Newcomer to approve the 3/16/2021 meeting minutes as provided with the indicated spelling correction. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chair then moved on to discuss the May meeting which needs to be rescheduled due to election day. It was determined to cancel the May 18, 2021 meeting and reconvene in June. The next meeting will be June 15, 2021.

Chief Kottmyer reviewed his monthly report (provided) indicating that he met with the municipal fire chiefs and discussed the Joint Agency Duty Officer Program which has been in the works for a year or more allowing the line officers to share responsibility across jurisdictions and decrease the strain on each individual department. He also reviewed a working copy of a draft apparatus replacement schedule including lease to own options for all three fire departments which was discussed with the chiefs. Chief Kottmyer indicated this was simply a starting point as the departments and municipalities work through what apparatus is necessary and what the schedule and cost look like to replace the fleet. The draft will see several revisions before it can be considered a working plan. He indicated the document is fluid and flexible depending on circumstances. The Chair asked Chief Kottmyer to provide the draft schedule to the Commission once he makes necessary and discussed updates. Chief Kottmyer also discussed options he is looking into to recruit and retain volunteers and indicated an ongoing decline in live-in membership at RFC. Several members provided comment on the chief's report.

The Chair then indicated that some members of East Petersburg Borough Council continue to have concerns about the hiring process for the CFO position. The Chairman indicated that the process to hire Chief Kottmyer is complete and until the circumstances arise to necessitate hiring again, it is not a topic that needs to continue to be discussed. He indicated agreement with previous comments made by Scott Wiglesworth that when the hiring process next becomes necessary, adjustments will be made to ensure a professional, confidential hiring process.

Mrs. Garber indicated that Cory Carpenter (EPFC Alt) has enlisted with the PA National Guard as a 68w Army Combat Medic, following in his grandfather's footsteps serving our country. He will ship out August 30, 2021. Congrats and gratefulness expressed to Cory for his willingness to serve our country. East Petersburg Fire Company will need to vote on an alternate member to complete Cory's term later this summer.

During public comment, Josh Roberts, an East Petersburg Borough resident, indicated agreement with dwindling volunteerism and support for local emergency services.

Motion to adjourn meeting from Ed LeFevre, second from Josh Newcomer, carried 8-0, 1938hrs.

Next HAFSC meeting **June 15 at 1900hrs.**

Minutes Submitted by *Diane E Garber* Secretary

Minutes Approved: 6/15/2021 Motion by Mark Cohen, Second by Tammy Moseman, carried 8-0.