

**LACKAWAXEN TOWNSHIP FIRE COMMISSION
MINUTES
JUNE 18, 2015**

The meeting of the Lackawaxen Township Fire Commission was called to order by President Kerkowski at 7:03 PM.

Present: Bob Beltramine, Larry Dosch, Sheldon Langer, John Kerkowski, Mike Mancino, Al Petrillo, Ben Solowitz, Cathy Wargo, Student Representative Brian Nielsen

Excused: Buddy Tascone, Ruth Daniels, Kelly Cutrone

Absent: Bill Thomas, Rajiv Patel

Guests: Tom Cardinale, Vito Manzione and Wayne Rosengrant (Forest VFD)

The minutes of the May 21, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously with a motion made by Sheldon and seconded by Al.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Ben Solowitz

Ben handed out copies of the latest financial statement current to the date of the meeting. Additional donations continue to be received from our last fund appeal, but have started to slow down. The rate of return is currently 7.2%, with \$25 still being the most frequent contribution at 58% of the total. The account balance was \$15,409.12, with one \$3,500.00 distribution check outstanding. Based on the available balance, a motion was made by Al Petrillo, seconded by Sheldon Langer and unanimously approved to distribute another \$2,000.00 to each Department for a total distribution so far this year of \$5,500.00 each.

Fundraising Committee: Al Petrillo

Al had nothing to report on fund raising. Returns continue to come in from the Spring Appeal and in the next couple of months he'll start work on the Fall Appeal.

Insurance Committee: John Kerkowski

John reported that he had sent the statement of values back to DGK Insurance without any changes bases on the feedback from the membership. However, it will be updated to reflect the addition of the Forest VFD Live-in building. In addition, the updated list of authorized drivers was also sent to DGK. Copies of additions, deletions and changes to the list were previously e-mail to the membership before submission.

WAHS Emergency Services Club Committee: Sheldon Langer

The Club has finished its activities for the year and will resume again in September.

Equipment Asset Committee: Sheldon Langer

Sheldon presented a demonstration of the system using equipment of his own that he has entered into the data base. He explained that department vehicles have been entered into the data base by Camille, but that now it needs to be populated with the equipment owned by each department. Sheldon will need a POC at each department to work on that part of the program. Depending on manpower availability, student aid from the Emergency Responder Club might be considered.

Al Petrillo raised the issue of having the system provide proactive email notification for vehicle scheduled maintenance. Sheldon will look into what is required as a “system fix” and report back to the Committee.

Communication Committee: John Kerkowski

John reported that he had sent a letter to the editor in response to Peter Becker’s editorial in the News Eagle about volunteers. John said he thought the article was very positive and wanted to endorse Peter’s sentiments. However, he did not send it on behalf of the Commission since he did not have time to coordinate it with the membership and still get it published in the next edition.

Fuel Study Committee: Kelly Cutrone

In Kelly’s absence, John Kerkowski reported that a separate checking account had been set up to handle payment for the fuel purchases made under the Commission’s program. Members will be received future invoices and payment notices from Kelly. John also reported that Central VFD is now signed up under the Commission’s agreement with AmeriGas. A second tank has been installed to reduce the number of deliveries, as well as the associated charges. The price is locked in for the next year at \$1.369 per gallon. As soon as the invoice for filling the new tank is received, Central VFD will be billed by Kelly. In the meantime, John will follow up with the fuel oil supplier recommended by Woodloch. If it appears that significant savings can be realized for those Commission members heating with oil, John will follow up with them separately and report back on the results at the next meeting.

Grants Committee: Al Petrillo

Al reported that he has not heard anything further on our SAFER grant, but that this is not unusual and he doesn’t expect a response to our application until sometime in September or later. Al did report that he is looking into another grant that could be used to renovate firehouses. He will report further on this at our next meeting. On the I Am Responding System agreement, Al indicated that he had a few outstanding questions for the company that he was waiting on. He said he will follow up with a phone call. Once that is resolved, we can move ahead with a contract on behalf of the Commission for all its members.

Future Planning Committee: Cathy Wargo

Cathy had nothing new to report since the last meeting.

Old Business:

Construction on the Forest Live In program is nearing completion. Work should be completed by the end of the summer, with several potential recruits already having been identified.

Installation of the Safe River Project signs is awaiting delivery of the posts.

Likewise, installation of the Filling Station signs is also awaiting delivery of the posts.

Sheldon reported that the SOG revisions will be finalized at the next Chiefs Meeting.

New Business:

Brian Nielsen was introduced as the new Student Representative to the Commission, replacing Jeremy Hart who has graduated. Mike Mancino was asked to formally submit Brian's name to the Board of Supervisors at their next meeting for appointment to the Commission in accordance with resolution number 2014-5.

Enforcement of the 911 sign ordinance was discussed, both in relation to compliance by planned communities within the Township as well as by individual home owners. Some communities are in compliance, while others are in the process or are only partially in compliance. Likewise, compliance by individual home owners is not consistent throughout the Township. Mike Mancino said he would check with Tony Waldon, the Township Solicitor and discuss it with the other Supervisors at their next meeting. He will report back to the Commission on the results at our July meeting.

Under upcoming events, it was reported that:

- Forest VFD will have their Pig Roast on June 27th starting at 4:00 PM
- Lackawaxen VFD's Field Day will be held on July 25th starting at 4:00 PM
- Central VFD is having their Breakfast on July 12, 8:00 to 11:00 AM
- Central VFD is sponsoring a bus trip to Mohican Sun on August 8th
- Greeley VFD will have their Clam Bake on August 15th starting at 1:00 PM
- Central VFD's Golf Outing at Woodloch Springs will be on August 21st
- The VFW on Route 590 will be sponsoring a Rib Barbeque on August 9th

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building.

There being no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM by unanimous vote and a motion made by Sheldon Langer and seconded by Larry Dosch.

Respectfully submitted,

Buddy Tascone
Secretary