

Board of Fire Commissioners

Greenfield Fire District
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The August 2011 Commissioners Meeting of the Greenfield Fire District was called to order at Company #4 by Chairman Richard Spackmann at 7:04 PM on August 10, 2011. The flag salute and a moment of silence were recognized for departed members and our Troops overseas, including Seal Team 6.

Present: Commissioners Atwell, Barss, Chandler, Spackmann, Waite; Secretary Petkus, Treasurer J. Bishop, D/P B. Bishop, Deputy. Treasurer V. Perkins. Please see sign in sheet for others in attendance.

RESOLUTION #190 TO ACCEPT 2ND LIEUTENANT JASON JENNINGS TO BE PROMOTED TO 1ST LIEUTENANT AND ACCEPT DANIELLE CUMM AS 2ND LIEUTENANT.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to accept 2nd Lieutenant Jason Jennings to be promoted to 1st Lieutenant and accept Danielle Cumm as 2nd Lieutenant.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Lt. Cumm was then sworn in by Chairman Spackmann.

Special Guests: Jay Wilson from Garrison and John Weaver from Lion Apparel to discuss the ongoing problems with delayed delivery/gear issues of the 2010 gear order. Mr. Wilson noted that they are here to answer any questions from the Board and to hopefully continue business with the District. Commissioner Atwell noted there are continuing and ongoing mistakes with the order, firefighters are frustrated and upset, the District has been buying gear from them for several years and they have the specs on it, why would there be so many problems. D/P B. Bishop noted the following timeline:

- Gear fitting: October 2010
- Order placed in December 2010
- First fitting where harnesses were missing: June 2011
- Flashlight harnesses not in correct place: last week.

D/P Bishop questioned that the manufacture date on the gear is listed as 3/1/11, yet first delivery of gear was not until June. Mr. Wilson noted that the original harness system that the District used from many years was replaced and he was not notified until March. Mr. Wilson did note that there was a 2 week period that the gear sat in his office, and he should have at that time inspected it there rather than waiting until the June fitting. Because there was no harness it left a hole in the jackets, where they decided to move the Survivor from the center to the left chest. Commissioner Spackmann noted that even after the mistake was found, they were told it would only take another 2 weeks to fix, and it has been about 4-5 weeks. Mr. Wilson noted that it was an issue with Lion Total Care, which does the gear repairs. Mr. Weaver apologized, noting there was a miscommunication with Lion Total Care that had nothing to do with Jay Wilson. The main

issue was that Total Care did not write down that it was a Survivor light. They will be working through Saturday to get this done. Mr. Weaver also noted that it was their fault for not communicating with the District about the tether. He also noted that there was a lot of miscommunication within Lion about what the system was going to be until they got to the FDIC. Mr. Weaver noted he could make excuses all night long for what happened, and he does not want to make any more, but it doesn't help the District and he would hope they could work through this, get the dates straight on the garments so the retirement dates are correct, and work on making it up to the District although he does not know how at this point. He wants to get the coats and pants straightened out before the week is out. Mr. Weaver noted he would be happy to talk in private to figure out what they can do to make up for the inconvenience the District has suffered. Commissioner Spackmann takes Mr. Weaver at his word that they are going to try to make this right. Commissioner Spackmann felt back then when they were doing the research on all the equipment on the market, and still personally feels today, that Janesville is the best gear, but the recent issues have caused him to lose faith in his company. Mr. Wilson noted that Lion is going to work through the weekend to correct the mistakes and the District should receive the gear back next week.

D/C Ellsworth noted that the District was going to be starting another round of gear orders; maybe both men could take more of a personal approach throughout the next order. Mr. Weaver noted that his commitment is that the next gear order will be in the District in 60 days, but it must be written on the order. He also noted that the new edition of NFPA 1971 is going into effect in January, but the District is already at that level so there will be no increase in price.

Mr. Weaver also noted they would certify the current gear via a letter regarding the adjusted in-service date and that will cover the District regarding liability and retirement date.

Commissioner Spackmann noted the Board would follow up with them privately and thanked both for coming to straighten this issue out.

RESOLUTION #191 TO APPROVE THE JULY 13, 2011 COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to approve the July 13, 2011 Commissioner Meeting Minutes as written.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Spackmann asked for questions/comments regarding the abstract:

Commissioner Barss questioned the following claims:

- Claim #11540; Commissioner Chandler noted they are CPR dummies.
- Claim #11543 Nextel Communications \$600: wireless phones for officers and in trucks. Questioned do we really need them? Some phones were turned in last year. The Treasurer noted there were currently 8 phones assigned to trucks, and 10 phones that did not use any minutes at all last month. Lengthy discussion continued regarding the need for the number of phones the District currently has, possibly changing providers, and some phones still under contract until January 2012. To go back to officers for discussion/recommendation.
- Claim #11567: landline phones, another \$685/month. Commissioner Spackmann noted that is part of the reason for going to a new phone system. Further discussion regarding both Nextel phones and landline phones moved to August workshop.

- Claim BR1133: questioned that we paid that already. Treasurer J. Bishop noted that it was approved at last month's meeting which is why there is a check number in the check column. Commissioner Atwell questioned the following:
- Claim #11519: those were for SCBA masks.
- Claim #11555: Safair hydrostatic testing: questioned when this was done; the Treasurer noted on 7/6/11. Brief discussion; Treasurer J. Bishop noted it is a quote and not an invoice. To be deleted from abstract. Discussion continued regarding the breakdown of the quote, A/C Coffey noted there is guy in Ballston Spa who does hydrostatic testing and he will get a quote from him. Question arose as to whether we lease the tanks or not; FF Kugler noted those tanks have been leased for years. Commissioner Atwell to contact Safair.

RESOLUTION #192 TO PAY ABSTRACT #8, CLAIM #11513 THROUGH CLAIM #11572 EXCLUDING \$800.00 FROM CLAIM #11555, FROM THE GENERAL FUND, TOTALING \$33,883.28.

A3410.1	\$ 8,351.54
A3410.2	1,133.43
A3410.4	23,021.84
A9030.8	516.95
A9050.8	824.52

Total:	\$33,883.28

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to pay Abstract #8, claim #11513 through claim #11572 excluding \$800.00 from claim #11555, from the General Fund, totaling \$33,883.28.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #193 TO PAY ABSTRACT #10 CLAIM #BR1133 THROUGH CLAIM #BR1134 FROM THE BUILDING RESERVE FUND, TOTALING \$2,298.97.

R3400.0	\$ 2,298.97

Total:	\$ 2,298.97

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to pay Abstract #10, claim #BR1133 through claim #BR1134 from the Building Reserve Fund, totaling \$2,298.97.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence: Secretary Petkus

- Captains Burwell and Barss were supposed to attend the upcoming Fire Officer I course in Montour Falls, but was cancelled due to lack of instructors; she will be requesting a refund from Montour Falls.

Purchasing: D/P B. Bishop

- Follow up on mask discussion: has any decision been made on that? Chief Lant noted the officers went for Option 1. Commissioner Spackmann questioned the need for a mask for every pack on the trucks if everyone already has their own mask. Discussion continued, including how many class A firefighters have already been issued masks, the number of masks at the end of their life span and the cost associated with phasing out the AV2000 and replacing with AV3000, outfitting both class A and B or just class A firefighters, proper care, maintenance and upkeep costs, final class determination of firefighters, not necessarily basing class only on physical/fit tests only. Commissioner Spackmann noted that his personal goal is to get this District to a point where we buy what we need to function and serve the community, and all the rest we should offload and get rid of and use that time, effort and money to buy what we really do need. There are not enough AV3000 masks currently in stock to outfit everyone in the District, some would have to get AV2000's, which creates a problem as most were fit tested on and qualify to wear only AV3000's. Question also arose regarding purchasing bags to store masks. Commissioner Chandler requested lists from each Deputy Chief of who they would like to see first done. Further discussion tabled to the August workshop.
- SCBA bottles: bottle report is not quite ready, will have it for the workshop. He does have a substantial number of bottles, there is the same issue as the masks that some companies have a large number of bottles in storage and other companies are begging for bottles. Requested permission from the Board to move bottles around to other companies if necessary. Noted there are 21 45 minute bottles and 13 30 minutes bottles in the SCBA room in Greenfield. Chief Lant noted if Co #3 needs bottles to get it taken care of. D/P B. Bishop also noted he is working with Firetracker regarding hydro dates and reporting.
- Requested permission to get keys to get into rooms that are locked in order to continue with inventory. Commissioner Spackmann noted if he needs to get into a locked room he can contact the officers. Brief discussion continued; if it becomes an issue that he cannot get into locked rooms, he is to notify the Board.
- Dry hydrant project: on hold until Allerdice picks up the old pipe, hopefully at the end of the week, then he will order the new pipe.

Applications for membership:

Greenfield Center Company #1: None.

Porter Corners Company #2: None

Middle Grove Company #3: None.

Maple Avenue Company #4: None.

Requests for Change in Membership:

Greenfield Center Company #1: Keith Izykowski, dismissed, moved out of District.

Porter Corners Company #2: None.

Middle Grove Company #3: None.

Maple Avenue Company #4: Oliver Phinney, return from medical leave of absence; District Physician clearance received.

RESOLUTION #194 TO APPROVE ABOVE CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

MOTION: Atwell

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to approve above changes in membership.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

D/C Ellsworth requested the Board send a letter to Deanna Roberts requesting she return her pager. The company has already voted her out of memberships and they have tried to contact her several times to return it. Secretary Petkus to draft letter to send registered mail; she will email draft to Board for their review tomorrow before mailing certified and regular mail on Friday.

Report of the Chief: John Lant:

- Big Truck show at Gavin Park very successful, great job done.
- Asked if Secretary Petkus sent letter to Cottrell paper; she apologized as she forgot; D/C Ellsworth noted he had taken care of it.
- Truck repairs:
 - KME has been servicing the pumps, when they are all done they will come up and test them all; also working on generators. 282 never passes because of the valves and the sand, what does the Board want to do? 282 to be serviced only.
 - Brakes done on the bus, it is back in service. Needs an exhaust system.
 - Ladder truck was tested, 2 batteries were bad, they came up and replaced them, supposed to be under warranty.
- Spoke to Dan Pemrick today regarding R-U-Okay program, will schedule a meeting on a Sunday or something.
- Hose testing will be done on Saturday; will be at the Town garage.
- There is a parade at Mayfield on August 20th in honor of 9/11, if any companies are interested in participating.
- Jaws servicing is going to cost about \$3600. Brief discussion, money to come out of repairs to Equipment. Commissioner Spackmann noted it should probably be a line item in next year's budget. D/P B. Bishop to call and schedule.
- Brief overview of monthly department/company training and drills, including jaws, blocking, metal cutting, new radio system, drafting, pump ops, landing zone training and procedures, portable pumps, rescue tools/saws, search, hose, ladder, ventilation, rehab bus, hydrant testing, rope training.

RESOLUTION #195 GIVING PERMISSION FOR ALL PERSONNEL AND APPARATUS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MAYFIELD PARADE ON AUGUST 20, 2011, AT THE CHIEF'S DISCRETION.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Barss

RESOLVED to give permission for all personnel and apparatus to participate in the Mayfield Parade on August 20, 2011, at the Chief's discretion.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Reports from Companies:

Company #1 – D/C Kenyon:

- Coin drop will be on September 2 and September 3.
- Co #1 not able to go to KME on Thursday.
- Working on 263, trying to get a good platform, talked about attachment points, maybe on the rescue, then get some prices to submit to the Board.

- Does anyone know when they are going to come and finish up the radio system? Brief discussion continued; D/C Ellsworth noted he spoke to the Pittsfield guy, and he never knows where he is going from day to day. Officers to work on procedures.
- Board previously approved a contractor bid for the bathroom renovation, he has never showed up to do the job, they have tried to contact the contractor and he keeps telling them he will come over “next week”. Would like to move on to the next lowest bidder. Brief discussion, D/C Kenyon to notify contractor he will not be doing the work, and to contact the next higher bidder to see if he would be willing to do the work. Added to August workshop agenda.

Company #2 – A/C Middlebrook:

- Need RV antifreeze for the station.
- 273 garage door not opening; D/P B. Bishop to contact Overhead Door.

Company #3 – D/C Ellsworth:

- Nothing at this time.

Company #4 – D/C King:

- Would like to add lettering to the rehab bus saying ‘rehab bus’. Will cost about \$50.00.
- Southeast corner of building has a lighting issue. D/P Bishop to contact Saratoga Electric & Generator.
- Would like permission to take 296 to KME factory.

RESOLUTION #196 GIVING KME DELEGATION PERMISSION TO USE 296 TO ATTEND THE APPARATUS PRE-CONSTRUCTION MEETING ON AUGUST 11 AND AUGUST 12TH.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Atwell

RESOLVED to give KME delegation permission to use 296 to attend the apparatus pre-construction meeting on August 11 and August 12th.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Report of District EMS Coordinator – Tim Kemp:

- Not present this evening.

Planning Board:

***For Town of Greenfield, Mike Chandler:**

- Nothing.

***For Town of Wilton, Gary Bullard:**

- YMCA on Gick Road is getting an addition for tennis courts.

Reports of the Commissioners:

Commissioner Atwell:

- Co #4 auto locking door mechanisms removed.
- Gear: Spoke at length about gear this evening. The Board has spent quite a lot of money on gear, gear washers and soap; has noticed at scenes that gear is not being taken care of and some it looks like a pig sty. Would like a little cooperation, requested the officers speak to their members and remind them to wash their gear every once in a while; it would be appreciated.

- August 20 and August 21 there will be a small vehicle EVOC course; Chief Lant noted the mall is already set up for it. Secretary Petkus noted she has lunch set up and about 7 people registered for the class so far. Information can be found in Firetracker and on the bulletin boards and Dave Meager sent it out to include surrounding Districts.
- Open house on August 13th for the Greenfield Caboose, fire police were asked to participate. Permission given at the Chief's discretion.
- Questioned 261 ladder rack: D/C Kenyon noted it should be in the mail tomorrow.
- Questioned 263 flex exhaust pipe, almost rusted through. Commissioner Chandler suggested replacing with the stainless.
- Questioned the progress of the thermal imaging cameras; Captain Bullard noted they have had one meeting so far, trying to set up demos. Commissioner Atwell thanked them.
- Questioned Co #3 security system; Secretary Petkus noted there are still some issues that are being worked on.
- Fire Reporting Workshop: Would like to possibly set up an in-house workshop for more people. The forms requested are in as well.
- Noted there are apparently some issues with the batteries in the new radios, some show they are charged, some are not. Brief discussion, please check your radios and get any problems to D/P Bishop.

Commissioner Barss:

- Apologized for not being around lately.

Commissioner Chandler:

- Does not have Co #3 roof specs together; lacking a few numbers will hopefully have it out to the Board by Saturday. Would like to get it advertised next week, with bid opening scheduled for August workshop.
- Looks like work is taking him back to Binghamton for a 3 week stint, not sure exactly when he is leaving.

RESOLUTION #197 GIVING THE SECRETARY PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF CO #3 ROOF. BID SPECS TO BE COMPLETED SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to give the Secretary permission to advertise for the replacement of Co #3 roof. Bid specs to be completed sometime next week.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Waite:

- Nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Spackmann:

- Newsletter draft: would like to get it out by September. Received good feedback. Would like to move forward with it. Would also like to create a District Face Book page that would be updated automatically through the District web site. Approximately \$400 to program the website to update the Face Book page, then it is free. Rather than mailing the newsletter, in order to realize some cost savings, would have newsletter available in all the Stewarts, Town Halls and Prestwick Chase, pending permission.

RESOLUTION #198 GIVING COMMISSIONER SPACKMANN AUTHORITY TO HANDLE THE NEWSLETTER AND GET IT TO THE PLACES FOR RESIDENTS TO PICK UP.

MOTION: Atwell

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to give Commissioner Spackmann authority to handle the newsletter and get it to the places for residents to pick up.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Special Topics of Discussion:

- Carpet clearing quotes: Previously emailed to the Board for review. Secretary Petkus to schedule the carpet cleaning.

RESOLUTION #199 GIVING SECRETARY PETKUS PERMISSION TO SCHEDULE THE CARPET CLEANING FOR ALL FOUR COMPANIES. MONEY TO COME OUT OF REPAIRS TO BUILDING MAINTENANCE.

MOTION: Waite

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to give Secretary Petkus permission to schedule the carpet cleaning for all four companies. Money to come out of Repairs to Building Maintenance.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Training Approval Policy: previously emailed to officers for their review as well. Brief discussion; tabled to the August Workshop for approval or denial. To be emailed again.
- District Maintenance Program: D/C Ellsworth handed out draft Maintenance Report to the Board, gave brief overview of what the committee discussed/recommendations. Commissioner Spackmann noted to add to August Workshop, but would like to keep that workshop lean in order to begin budget talks. It was noted the 2012 Proposed Budget needs to be approved by the end of September.
- FF Nancy Waite submitted to the Board a report on the initiative to transition current auxiliary members into active Fire District support membership.
- A/C Coffey asked about the rescue saws; D/P B. Bishop noted he needs to order them, checking with Allerdice.
- D/P Bishop confirmed that the jaws quotes as written are how they are going to proceed? It was noted yes.
- D/P Bishop also noted that each company received a supply of repair order tags and requested that they be as specific as possible on them, and to make a copy of the tag for their records before sending the item over.
- D/C Ellsworth noted that maybe the Board could think about it at the end of the year, but he does not see how rotating the meetings/workshops have increased attendance.

RESOLUTION #200 TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Atwell

RESOLVED to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Spackmann with a second from Commissioner Barss to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce A. Petkus
District Secretary