

**BREWSTER-SOUTHEAST JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2021**

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:

John Klosowski
A. Gerald Schramek
Steven Kaufman
Martin P. Miller via telephone
Kenneth Clair

District Secretary, Mia Tagliaferro
District Treasurer Margaret (Meg) Miller
Tom Giambattisto, 1st Asst. Chief
James DeLawder, Treasurer of Brewster Fire Department
Michael Liguori, Esq., Counsel for District

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting commenced at 6:58PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ROB STUCK OF EMSTAR AMBULANCE RE: NEW COMPANY ACQUISITION

Commissioner Schramek requested Rob Stuck to attend the meeting to discuss the company acquisition. EmStar will become part of Empress (NY Operation). The merge allows for capital structure for equipment, starting salaries are going to be competitive as part of a much larger corporate structure. Empress is a large company already so they have the experience with larger cities. Over the next 6 months outside of seeing more qualified people come in, Empress will provide better training for current employees, advancement, new equipment, rapid growth, etc. The acquisition will provide a better work environment to recruit and retain employees.

The acquisition will also build upon service and people they have in place, creating opportunities up here.

Commissioner Schramek wanted to make sure that there will be no change in service. There will be no change in system or service, since the system works, there is no reason to change.

As the program grows, they will grow with it but there is no doubt in service. BLS 11 will stay in place.

Commissioner Miller asked if the medics will be going by flycar or ambulance based. They do not know yet. Commissioner Miller also mentioned that he did not want our resources to be pulled to the Western Side of the county. They confirmed that the current BLS 11 is not going to change. It will be the same level of service unless we change it.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A Motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2021 was made by Commissioner Schramek.

2nd by Kaufman

Motion carried.

COMPUTER/COMMUNICATIONS/RADIOS

Commissioner Clair reported that the iPads previously purchased through Verizon are no longer available. He was told to deal directly with Apple.

No issues with radios.

Lightning struck and blew out battery backups and 4 cameras. Global Concepts will reinstall cameras and fix backups.

FACILITIES

Joe Dexter replaced lights out front.

The microwave at Station One broke. Joe Dexter picked up a new one and replaced it.

The bids for the floor will be opened at the August meeting.

The siren company will be scheduling to install the new siren next month.

FIRE AND EMS EQUIPMENT

Stokes, bottle racks and rope came in.

At last month's meeting there was a brief presentation about possibly purchasing a new PCR system. With the new program it would make PCR much easier and more desirable to use, it is more user friendly and beneficial to efficiency of EMS core.

The EMTs are reluctant to go on calls due to the amount of time it takes to use the current PCR system. If the Department were to switch systems it would entice members to ride the ambulance. ESO is cloud based so EMTs can do PCR on their phone or at work, and the program can be used on the existing tablets.

It is approximately \$3,300 annually. A motion was made by Commissioner Schramek to purchase ESO PCR system, 2nd by Commissioner Clair. Motion carried.

FIRE ROADS

Commissioner Kaufman reports that the fire roads look clear, and they will be cutting them soon.

FIRE PREVENTION

Open house will be on October 10, 2021.

INSURANCE CLAIMS/VFBL

Insurance claims are settled for the most part. Depending on the cost of repairs for 11-4-2, the Board is not sure if they will go through insurance yet.

Lengthy discussion regarding driving policy. Commissioner Klosowski suggests that when a member has an accident they should be automatically suspended for 30 days or until the next Commissioner's meeting to determine recourse. Commissioner Miller believes that to be unfair if the accident is not the member's fault.

Commissioner Miller worries about running out of drivers.

The incident reports are mandatory in current driving policy but it is not beneficial since member's don't report how the accident occurred properly.

A Motion to amend Driving Policy to suspend driving privileges after any vehicle accident for 30 days or until next meeting, and statement should be submitted to Board of Fire Commissioners within 24 hours, as stated in current policy, made by Commissioner Klosowski 2nd by Commissioner Kaufman. Motion carried 4-1.

11-4-2 incident report: After speaking with the driver, they struck a guard rail to avoid an oncoming vehicle. Chief would deem this as a minor accident, but it will be a large bill because it is a specialty vehicle. Vehicle is still operable. Should be considered a minor infraction.

Is board tracking the points or is it the Chief's responsibility?

It should be attached to the member AND apparatus in red alert.

Attorney Liguori suggests that the state of emergency should be considered, high speed, red light running, etc. If driver isn't speeding, it's night time, etc.

Commissioner Schramek wants further action taken. Chief suggests we reach out to VFIS to set up an account for members to go into hub computer and it's an open form through a common username. If its their own profile it takes too long. If we had just one FD username and password it would make it a lot easier.

No further action on member.

LEGAL CONTACT/REPORTS

Action to quiet title is drafted, affidavit will be signed, and we can submit re: Milltown Property.

LOSAP

LOSAP is going well.

OSHA MANDATES

PSS – will do another run. Will get more people out with the powerpoint and scheduling jumps within a few weeks. Few members going up to TEK for physical.

Hazmat and bloodborne is squared away.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Vehicle	Beginning Mileage	Ending Mileage	Total Monthly Mileage	Work Performed
11-1-1	68011	68586	575	
11-1-2				
11-1-3				

11-4-2 lighting short. Joe Dexter replaced marker light.

11-2-2 pipe was fixed

11-2-3 needed water pump, has an exhaust manifold leak. Will cost about \$5k also needed 2 inner rear tires.

11-8-2 lighting replacement.

11-5-1 has ladder test in September

11-7-1 had some brake issues. Ended up being more than brake issues. Left rear hub seal leaking, front brakes and rotors, front brake hoses, power steering and both pressure lines were leaking which was causing soft brake pedal. Valve extenders were rubbing on simulators which wore through steel braising and cutting through rubber.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Progress.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Members want to ask District if they would reconsider fitness reimbursement to the amount of \$30/mo being that gym memberships have gone up. Will look for next years budget.

Membership applications are being reviewed by Commissioners.

Invoice for Putnam handyman- rest of the work that was done to the shed

Capt. Miller is working on proposal for standardization of foam. There are a few kits that are sold between MES and AAA.

A member was suspended member for conduct unbecoming a member.

Asst. Chief Miller was contacted by Developers for envision project for another meeting. Trying to get it in person. Will coordinate based on availability of Board.

There is an SCBA class which would certify for minor repairs for SCBAs that wouldn't require a float test. 1-10 people will cost \$2,000.

Instructor Leggio would like to use our facility and apparatus floor to look over 11-2-2 or students to visually look at pump, get under truck, etc. Curriculum has not be updated since 2007 and trucks in Power point no longer exist. Last day of class on August 24, has requested 11-5-1 for water feeding and shooting.

FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS

Nothing to report.

NEW APPARATUS

Maybe in September set up new committee.

TRAVEL AND TRAINING

Nothing to report.

ADP PAYROLL

Commissioner Miller needs to be hooked up onto ADP.

GRANT

11-8-1 paperwork has been submitted. Nothing on compressor.

TREASURERY REPORTS

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY ACTION OF FIREFIGHTER

A motion to enter executive session was made by Commissioner Klosowski
2nd by Commissioner Kaufman
Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:37PM.

Regular meeting was resumed at 8:49PM. As a result of the executive session, a motion was made by Commissioner Schramek for Badge #642 to remain in suspension pending action before the Board of Fire Commissioners, 2nd by Commissioner Kaufman. Motion carried. The Member is asked to attend the August 8 meeting at 7PM.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

There will be a special meeting on Monday, August 16.

ACCEPTANCE OF BILLS/VOUCHERS

All bills and vouchers were reviews and approved. A motion to accept all bills and vouchers was made by Commissioner Klosowski, 2nd by Commissioner Kaufman. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was read by Mia Tagliafierro, District Secretary.

MEETING ADJOURNED

A Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Klosowski
2nd by Commissioner Schramek.
Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Mia Tagliaferro
District Secretary