

**Board of Fire Commissioners  
Fire District No 1  
PO Box 6903  
Freehold, NJ 07728**

**Regular Meeting**

**March 25, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Board Attorney, Joseph Youssouf at 7:30pm. The notice was read and the flag salute was led by Chief Dan Spicuzza.

Mr. Youssouf swore in newly re-elected Board member Robert Buscaglia.

Mr. Caruso asked Mr. Youssouf if the reorganization of the Board could be held off until after the Commissioner election being held at the end of April for the open seat. Mr. Youssouf stated that the Board must be reorganized at this time, even though the fifth seat remains open until after the election.

Reorganization:

Chairman A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. C. Buscaglia to nominate Thomas Caruso. Roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Vice Chairman A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. C. Buscaglia to nominate Robert Buscaglia. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Treasurer A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to nominate Mr. Charles Buscaglia. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Clerk A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to nominate Mr. Joshi. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

The position of Secretary of the Board remains open until the election.

\*A resolution was offered appointing Freehold Twp Ind Fire Company #1 to provide fire protection to fire district no 1. A roll call was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Mr. Youssouf stated that advertisement has been done for commissioner election. He indicated that this is considered a new election no a run off. April 25 will be delivery of voting machine.

Discussion followed.

\*A resolution was offered establishing the meeting dates for 2014. A motion made by Mr. Joshi seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

\*A resolution was offered for designation of the office newspapers. A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

\*A resolution was offered designating official depositories for 2014. A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

\*A resolution was offered appointing Gerard Stankiewicz as Auditor for 2014. A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

\*A resolution was offered appointing Donna Pujat as the Board Secretary for 2014. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. C. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative

\* Resolution was offered awarding a contractor for professional services of Jack Purvis. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. C. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

\*A resolution was offered appointing Joseph Youssef as Board Attorney. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

At this time, Mr. Caruso took over as Board Chairman. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to approve the minutes of the February meeting as prepared with one correction, on page #2 report indicated Chief Caruso – should be corrected to read – Chief Spicuzza. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

**Treasurers Report:** The report was read into record by Mr. C. Buscaglia. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to approve the report as presented. A roll call vote was taken all votes in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to pay the bills in the total of \$163,356.26 and to transfer \$163,000 from money market into checking. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

**Insurance:** Mr. Caruso asked the status of the claim for Anthony Santiago. Mr. C. Buscaglia stated that it is being handled and should be paid shortly. Mr. Buscaglia stated that the claim do not go to collections, was just waiting to be paid. The claim has been resubmitted for payment. Mr. Caruso stated that he had hoped Mr. Jefferies from Holmes & McDowell would attend the meeting. He wanted to pursue the possibility of changing the coverage for collision. He stated that the maximum allowance is \$2,500. After the MVA of Firefighter Ross Caruso, Tom found that the maximum to be received for the totaled vehicle was \$2,500. This was a huge loss the him being the vehicle was worth much more. He added that Mr. Jefferies is checking into the coverage's.

**Building:** Mr. C. Buscaglia reported that the venting system at Smithburg had been repaired and there was going to be some ceiling repairs to be made.

Mr. R. Buscaglia reported that the parking lot lights are out, and he will handle that

Mr. Joshi reported that he had contacted CSS regarding the door access system. He stated that if the project is not done in phases, it will need to be bid. Discussion followed.

Quotes for painting are being obtained for painting of the Chiefs office and Dispatch room.

Mr. C. Buscaglia will handle getting signs made up for the parking lot. Signs will read: NO COURT PARKING FIREMAN ONLY – ALL OTHERS TOWED AT OWNERS EXPENSE.

Mr. Caruso stated that he had been advised that this also needs to be posted in Spanish. Mr. C. Buscaglia indicated that it did not need to be posted in Spanish. Mr. Youssef stated that it does not have to be posted in Spanish but it would be a good idea.

It was reported that Jim Wishbow gave prices for repair and replacing ceiling tiles. Mr. C. Buscaglia reported that Blinds To Go are scheduled to come in for blinds in the meeting room. Discussion followed. The Board advised Mr. C. Buscaglia to have them do the entire firehouse with new blinds.

Mr. Caruso suggested looking into temporary storage for during the construction. Discussion followed.

**Chiefs Report:** Chief Spicuzza read the Chiefs report from February into record.

The Chief reported that there is a problem with 79 quartz light. He asked if it could be done as an emergency repair and be relamped to match 77. The cost would be approx. \$1,000. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to have the work done, but not to exceed \$1,750. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

77 & 79 need new lightweight hose. It has been budgeted, the price being \$11,602. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to authorize the purchase of the hose as soon as two additional prices have been received.

The Chief reported that truck maintenance has been started.

The air trailer is back and seems fine.

Mr. C. Buscaglia reported that NAPA has a \$250 bill, but no slip for any purchases. The Chief was not aware of any recent purchases. Mr. Buscaglia asked the Chief to check with the Officers and he will also check with District No. 2.

**Presidents Report:** President Marcondes asked about the progress of the Board's contribution for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mr. Caruso indicated that the Board hadn't come to a decision yet, but would be discussing it at a workshop meeting. Mr. Marcondes noted that the firehouse would be open to the public that day, so asked about cleaning up the firehouse. Mr. Caruso indicated that the building may be under construction at that time. Discussion followed.

**Old Business:** A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to proceed with the door lock system, not to exceed \$2,500. Quotes rec'd from Apple at \$2,429 and B&E who gave no quote. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia for a portable projector, monitor and annual service agreement in the amount of \$1,255.98. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve the installation of a new phone system. Since the work would not commence by April 1<sup>st</sup> the price would be additional \$485. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

The Chief asked the Board about members attending the Expo in Baltimore. Some discussion followed. The Chief was advised that this would be discussed at a workshop meeting.

Mr. Caruso reported that physicals were scheduled by Access Health for April 24 & 25<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to schedule a workshop meeting for April 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

**New Business:** Mr. Caruso stated that the Board had heard some talk about the members not liking the new gear ordered. Discussion followed and demonstration of the gear was given. The Board advised the officers not to order any more and this would be discussed at the next workshop meeting.

**Audience Participation:** Jim Story advised the Board that there is a broken window at the south side of the meeting room.

A this time a motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Caruso to enter into executive session for discussion of personnel matters. He asked the Chief and Asst Chief to attend.

Entered into Executive session @8:46pm

Executive session closed @9:12pm

Being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr.R. Buscaglia to close the meeting. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted:

Shayamal Joshi, Clerk of the Board (Acting for Secretary)