

MINUTES OF THE 829th BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, April 3, 2012

Vice President Rob Shillington called the meeting to order at 1901 hours.

Present were: J. Barton, D. Bianchi, D. Bourgard, J. DiPace, S. Jansen, S. Johnson, R. Shillington and M. Trick. Excused: K. Sedlak, L. Sedlak

Minutes of the 828th Board Meeting were approved on a motion with Jamie DiPace abstaining.

Communications:

- Nick Mathein asked the Board to pay the interest charges he incurred due to not receiving his 1099 in 2010. After some discussion the Board voted unanimously to not pay the interest charge since the 1099's were mailed out. Bud Desmond, the LOSAP Administrator, told Sue Jansen that going forward he will put in a letter stating that a 1099 will be issued and it is the member's responsibility to make sure he gets a 1099 form.

Correspondence:

- J. Barton presented thank you notes, donations and other correspondences.

Personnel Services: L. Sedlak (Not present)

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sue Jansen

- Both the Corporate and the Budget reports were approved by a unanimous vote with one correction in the Corporate report. Deposit for \$35.00 was entered twice.
- Stations need new sandwich boards. Jean Barton will do some proposals for the Chief to review.

Secretary's Report:

- Land in Canton-Jean Barton looked into this and was told the best way was to do a Quick Claim. Jean will check on the cost to do the Quick Claim.
- AOG AA-5 on a motion from Jean Barton and by unanimous vote the following changes were made to this AOG.
 - Page 1 #2 before changes read as follows
Any member placed in a Limited Duty Status shall be notified in writing that he has been placed in that status. The letter shall also describe the duties that the member is no longer authorized to perform as well as the duties they are authorized to perform. The notification shall also advise the member of the duration of the Limited Duty and whether a Department physical is required before return to active duty.
 - After changes were approved it now reads as follows:
Any member placed in a Limited Duty Status shall be notified in writing that he has been placed in that status. The letter shall also describe the duties that the member is no longer authorized to perform as well as the duties they are authorized to perform. The notification shall also advise the member of the duration of the Limited Duty and whether a medical examination is required before return to active duty
 - Page 1 #3 before changes read as follows:
If a physical examination is required before the return to full duty status, it will be done by the Department Physician, at no expense to the member. The Medical Officer shall provide a list of providers authorized by the Board of Directors

- After changes were approved it now reads as follows:
If an examination is required before the return to full duty status, it will be done by a medical professional as designated by the Department, at no expense to the member. The Chief's designee shall provide a list of providers authorized by the Board of Directors
- Page #2 Appeal Process before changes read as follows:
 1. Any member who feels that the assignment to Limited Duty Status is not justified may request a hearing before the Board of Directors. If after such a hearing the member is not returned to Active status the member can appeal the decision to the membership.
 2. After a hearing before the membership, the membership shall hold a secret ballot vote. The action of the Board of Directors shall be overturned by a two-thirds(2/3) majority of members present. The Member may then be returned to Active status.
- After changes were approved it now reads as follows:
Any member who feels that the assignment to Limited Duty Status is not justified may request a hearing before the Board of Directors.
- By-Laws Article V-After some feed back from a few members the following changes were approved by a unanimous vote. These changes will be sent out to the members via email before the May 14th Corporate meeting for their vote to approve these changes.
 - Page 1 Section 1 before the proposed changes are voted on is as follows:
Membership shall be open to all persons of good character, regardless of race, sex, or national origin, who reside or work in the Town of Avon or who reside in other communities. New/ Probationary members shall live or work within two (2) road miles of the Avon Town Line; all other members shall have no residency/ mileage limitation provided they can fulfil their membership requirements.
 - The proposed changes are as follows:
Membership shall be open to all persons of good character, regardless of race, sex, or national origin, who reside or work in the Town of Avon or who reside in other communities. New/ Probationary members shall live or work within The Town of Avon or within two (2) road miles of the Avon Town Line; all other members shall have no residency/ mileage limitation provided they can fulfil their membership requirements.
 - Page 2 Lifetime Member description before proposed changes
A Lifetime Member is a person who has served in good standing for a period of at least twenty years, and who is recommended by the Board of Directors and elected to that status by the Membership. The purpose of Lifetime Membership is to allow members who can no longer serve in an active status the ability to remain a member in a social status.

- The proposed changes are as follows:
A Lifetime Member is a person who has served in good standing for a period of at least twenty years or age 65 with 10 years, who is no longer a resident of the Town of Avon and who is recommended by the Board of Directors. The purpose of Lifetime Membership is to allow members who can no longer serve in an active status the ability to remain a member in a social status.

Committees:

- Explorers: J. DiPace
 - There was a report that a high school student had an AVFD ID plate, but was not a member and was parking at the Community Club. The Explorers spoke to the student, advising him not to park there. So far he has not.
 - The last few Explorers will be fitted with new boots. Money in the budget.
 - Explorers will be attending one member drill a month. This will allow the members to meet the Explorers and the Explorers can work with the members. Hopefully this will encourage more call participation, and possibly some mentoring by the older members. Training officer is on board with this idea.
 - Question was raised about who are the Board appointed advisors and aids. The Board felt that they should not have to appoint advisors or aids to help out. The Lead Advisor should be able to get his own advisors.
- Fundraising: D. Bianchi
 - The letter is done. Dennis will be bringing it to the printer on Wednesday. These letters will be sent out by first class mail. Dennis figures roughly \$6,000.00 for expenses.
 - Dennis is looking into maybe getting Tot Finders to sell to any parents that are interested. After some discussion it was decided Dennis would get a couple of samples to see what they look like and if they can be put on doors and not windows.
- Recruitment and Retention: J. DiPace
 - President Sedlak and Jamie DiPace went to the kickoff session for the Ct. Fire Chief's' Grant along with the International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs is for a computer company to do a survey of all 20 volunteer fire departments that are members of GIS. Chief Trick will send out an email to all members with a link so that they may fill out the survey.
 - Open houses were well attended by members. Company 3 had 32 people come. Some took applications. The other two stations will have their open houses later in April.
- Committee Discussion: D. Bianchi
 - Dennis felt that the will call list should have been broken down to different committees that might need some help instead of just a will call list.

Town Representative: Dave Bourgard

- Neighborhood Grant
 - Company 1 new windows price is \$86,921.00 for the main floor. Public Works did not get a break down of the different areas. Dave Bourgard will ask Public Works to get a quote to replace the windows in the lounge and meeting hall. The Chief does not want windows there. He would like to have those areas replaced with walls and doors. Dave will ask Public Works to have a quote done.
 - Company 3 Windows in meeting room would be fixed, Captains office and Dispatch would be movable windows, and there is another fixed window on the north side the quote is \$19,336, for one alternative casement windows would cost \$17,640 for another alternative double hung windows would cost \$12,641.

Chief's Report: Chief Mike Trick

- Encumbered Funds 2009/2010- \$1,650.00 was spent for test boring in the Deercliff Rd. area. The remaining \$1,375.00 will be used to purchase new hose.
- Eight members passed the 2 Q-Endorsement driving test.
- Dave Costill was first in his age group at the Hartford 21 Tower Climb.
- Captain Speich took the opportunity to talk with Councilman Dave Pena about the training facility during Company 3's open house.
- The Chief just found out that the VFIS will not cover from dollar one if any of the Chief's get into an accident while responding to a call. He also found out that the Assistant Chief's' insurances does not cover them at all if they get into an accident while responding to a call. The Chief will check further.
- Medical person-The Chief will work with the Special Ops Captain and then will send out qualifications for a Medical Officer.
- The Chief asked John Deckers if he could tell him how much he has saved the department in IT cost and John told him from sometime in 2011 to March 15, 212 the savings are \$9,739 in 81 hours of service.
- John Deckers is going to Retired Veteran status. This will mean that Rich Shillington will have to do more IT work.
- Officer meetings will be the second Thursday of every month.
- The Chief had a meeting with Peter Buonome, Ken Sedlak and Jamie DiPace we have the Avon Fire Service feasibility report a draft recommendation. One of the recommendations is to make sure everybody is involved with this report. Peter will be contacting everyone in the fire department so that they feel they have ownership of the report. The Chief had only one copy so it was decided to scan and email it to the Board members.
- Matt Gugliotti was moved to Limited Duty status. Letters have been sent to him telling him why he is being put on limited duty. The Chief cannot say anything else because counsel is involved.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Bi-Monthly meeting dinners were moved to new business by a motion by Jean Barton. It was unanimously accepted. Harvey Reeser told the Chief that he was not going to be cooking after the Corso benefit dinner. It was suggested that maybe each Company could take turns cooking. There was another suggestion that maybe one of the two kitchen crew would want to take over. Jamie DiPace made a motion to take the money out of operating budget for what is short in the Corporate. Motion was passed by unanimous vote. The Chief said he and President Sedlak would check with Cliff Dudley and Mike Kachmar before doing anything else.
- Legislative bill progressing through the house regarding the State Medical Advisory Board. There are 39 members on board and the fire service has 3 seats. They are reducing the fire service representation down to 1seat. That one representative will be appointed by the CT Fire Chiefs. The problem with this move is that the fire service is doing up to 70% of the EMS delivery in the State of CT. We are losing our strong voice in the EMS service. Jamie DiPace has made calls and sent emails to Tim Legget, but he voted yes for the bill anyways. It is not a dead issue, but it is a problem.
- Tax Abatement- Jamie feels that this year it will be taxed, but that it will pass in Washington and not be taxable next year. Jamie and Ken Sedlak are going down to Washington to meet with the State representatives about this issue.

Meeting was adjourned at 21:25 with a motion from Jean Barton and seconded by Dennis Bianchi (GB)