

FIRE ISLAND PINES FIRE DISTRICT
COMMISSIONER MEETING OCTOBER 26, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN BOSS AT 10:15 A.M.

Present:

Walter Boss, Chair
Holly Rhodes-Teague, Vice Chair
Joseph Geiman
Eugene Cook
Rosemary Coluccio
Richard Barry, Secretary
Robert Marzella, Treasurer
Kyle Merker, Department Chief

Member of the Public - Joseph Micheels

SECRETARY REPORT -

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Rhodes-Teague, seconded by Commissioner Cook, all voted in favor to accept the September 21, 2024 meeting minutes with corrections.

Conversation about Annex stove/oven.

MOTION MADE for \$4,000.00 by Commission Geiman, seconded by Commissioner Cook for a new stove/oven in the Annex including installation. Commission Boss abstained from voting, Commissioner Coluccio voted against; Commissioner Cook, Geiman, Rhodes-Teague voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Boss, seconded by Commissioner Cook for FF Marks' travel expense reimbursement in the amount of \$297.48. All Commissioners voted in favor.

It was noted that we had our public budget hearing with Commissioners Boss, Cook and Geiman in attendance. No members of the public showed up.

TREASURER REPORT -

Discussion was had that with the assistance of our new treasurer, Commissioners now have the opportunity to question the vouchers/bills prior to the hearing in the commissioners' office. Commissioner Coluccio thinks all of this work should be done at the meeting. All the

others felt it helpful to be able to review prior to meeting and then if a discussion needs to be had, it can be done at the meeting.

Discussed expenditure motions.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Geiman, seconded by Chairman Boss for the amount of \$158.00 for Auxiliary Vests. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes-Teague in the amount of \$64.00 for Auxiliary flashlights. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Chairman Boss, seconded by Commissioner Coluccio in the amount of \$150.00 for detailing of 5-28-11. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Rhodes-Teague, seconded by Commissioner Geiman in the amount of \$656.00 for LED lighting repair on back of 5-28-4. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes-Teague in the amount of \$546.00 for a new laptop. Commissioners Boss, Cook, Geiman and Rhodes-Teague voted in favor. Commissioner Coluccio abstained.

MOTION MADE by Chairman Boss, seconded by Commissioner Coluccio for the Norton Antivirus renewal, \$158.00. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Geiman, seconded by Commissioner Cook in the amount of \$640.00 for two department member physicals. All Commissions voted in favor.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Geiman, seconded by Commissioner Coluccio in the amount of \$357.00 for two batteries from Napa Auto parts. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Discussion was had concerning the shipment of trucks on and off the beach for pump testing.

MOTION MADE by Chairman Boss, seconded by Commissioner Cook in the amount of \$3,000.00 for shipping of trucks. All Commissioners voted in favor.

A lengthy discussion was had on the \$2,100 bill from Coastline.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Coluccio for a total amount of \$2,100.00. \$1,000 for the shipment of a truck, the remaining \$1,100.00 is for miscellaneous items, such as air tanks and supplies. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Discussion had regarding the projection of year-end expenses, including hose testing, payroll and other items.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Geiman, seconded by Commissioner Coluccio in the amount of \$575.00 for IWT, siren repair. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Lengthy discussion was had for the 2025 Budget and then the following, a:

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Coluccio, seconded by Commissioner Cook, not to exceed the 2% tax cap with the following revisions: Building maintenance/supply increased by \$1,000.00; audit and accounting reduced by \$1,000.00; health and safety increased by \$500.00; equipment purchase reduced by \$500.00. This is the final approved budget for 2025. ALL Commissioners voted in favor.

Conversation was had regarding payroll expenses for 2025 year.

MOTION MADE to accept the Treasurer's report by Commissioner Rhodes-Teague, seconded by Commissioner Boss. All Commissioners voted in favor.

CHIEF'S REPORT

ACTIVITY REPORT

ALARMS:

#4053	9/28/24	324 Sky Walk - motor vehicle accident - Cart off Boardwalk
#4055	10/14/24	41 Pickety Ruff - Auto Alarm in laundry shed
#4056	10/17/24	37 Fire Island Blvd - Dance floor smoke detector, nothing showing
#4057	10/18/24	11 Ocean Walk - Food on the Stove
#4058	10/21/24	36 Fire Island Blvd. - False Trip - Alarm Company testing alarm

MEETINGS:

#1479	9/28/24	Department Meeting
#1480	10/5/24	Department Meeting

DRILLS:

#1361	9/28/24	Hook up and pumping with 5-28-2 & 5-28-10, hose handling
#1362	10/5/24	Review of TIC, Saws, Gas Meters & Gas Emergencies

WORK DETAIL:

#1174	9/21/24	Standby Cherry Grove
#1175	9/27/24	Tree Removal
#1176	10/10/24	Remove and store Rescue Throw Bags

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

Keith Connor Beutel - New Member Application - physical received - probation started

Christian Halpin - New Member Application - physical received - probation started

Alexander Marks - Probation ended 10/17/24 - now a full member

Jordan Cohen - letter from PA department read by Chief Merker

Requests/Comments:

1 Discussion - Scott Pak flow tests. How to do the testing better. See if testing can be done at the ferry site.

2 Request - glove straps and hoods. We are out of functional hoods. Would like to order 30 hoods and 15 glove straps.

MOTION MADE for \$1500.00 by Commissioner Coluccio, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes Teague, for hoods. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE for \$150.00 for glove straps by Commissioner Coluccio, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes-Teague. All Commissioners voted in favor.

3 Received - Ex Chief insignia, name plate for Member Demusey, Uniform for Commissioner McGarity.

4 Received - Sawzall Reciprocating Saws.

5 Received - Dress Shirt for Officer Lucia

6 PESH make up class - zoom (completed) Trying to find an online version.

7 Discussion - Election Transportation.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Geiman, Seconded by Commissioner Coluccio that the District will not provide transportation down the beach for voting due to beach conditions. All Commissioners voted in favor not to provide transportation.

8 Update - Recruiting event on 10/5/24. Eight folks identified themselves as interested Candidates. Will follow up with emails.

9 Update - Mutual Aid in effect.

10 Firefighter II - We have two firefighters (Moss & Marks) taking the class.

12 A text group was started with members who are available during the winter months.

Request for the Chief to stay in the Annex for November 2nd to help with FF2 training.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Coluccio, seconded by Commissioner Boss to allow the chief to spend an overnight in the Annex. All Commissioners voted in favor.

ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL ISSUE.

AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION all Commissioners were in Agreement that Firefighter Seeds would be placed on suspension until 6/1/25, he must take a pre approved anger management class as determined by the chief and also sign the disciplinary letter that the chief reviewed with him.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, RADIOS - COMMISSIONER GEIMAN

Module was fixed for the west end siren by IWT. We will need to get an electrician up to the siren to check on the wiring. Will need to be followed up on.

5-28-4 was repaired and picked up from Firematic. Will probably be back Saturday, November 9th. 5-28-1 will hopefully go off island on November 9th.

Post Office box key for Box 193 was returned by Commission Geiman.

Both Grants that we applied for were not successful. Discussion was had if we will try to resubmit in 2025. At this point we still cannot purchase turnout gear if we are contemplating applying for the grants again. No Long Island Fire Districts were awarded a grant.

5-28-1 chassis will be shipped on 11/1 to Custom Fire. There will be a four month build time. They honored the original price for the compartment of \$6,555.

We discussed the Water Island protection contract. We have received the estimate for 2025 for hose testing for Water Island. We will now contact the Town of Brookhaven to start the process of negotiating the new contract.

LOSAP, INSURANCE, PUBLIC RELATIONS - COMMISSIONER COLUCCIO

Discussed insurance coverage for the theft of funds. Since all monies were repaid with interest it was determined that it would not be worth the costs of hiring counsel to sue the former Treasurer/Secretary for incidental fees.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Boss, seconded by Commissioner Geiman that at this time, we will not proceed with a lawsuit to recover incidental fees from our former Treasurer/Secretary. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Commissioner Coluccio will be reviewing the upcoming renewals. Also was going to inquire about a flood policy.

BUDGETS, AUDIT - COMMISSIONER COOK

We need to review the appraisal report, and go through the inventory of items. Has been working with the Treasurer on the 2025 Budget. Wanted to thank the Treasurer for all of his hard work in the preparation of the 2025 Budget.

Discussion was had with regard to the district website. There is a proposal from Kage Solutions that we have discussed previously. The Department officers have approved the expense.

MOTION MADE by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Coluccio to migrate a new platform at a cost of \$1,250.00 for the District. All Commissioners voted in favor.

GROUNDS - COMMISSIONER BOSS

Notified the Board that the Annex stove has been installed. Commissioner Boss will try to redesign the proposal for the new generator and installation. We will try to get a project price.

Trying to get a proposal for the foundation of the old firehouse, as well as the outdoor staircase.

RECONCILIATIONS - COMMISSIONER RHODES-TEAGUE

Bank reconciliations were complete up until September 30th, 2024. Pink sheets until 10/21/24.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Discussed the District Mechanic trying to get down the beach at high tide and had to wait until the tide changed. We need to formulate a plan on how to deal with this issue in the future, since beach erosion is only getting worse.

We also need to get a list of winter projects for the District Mechanic.

Conversation was had regarding the District Attorney position for 2025. The Secretary will canvass various attorneys to see if they have an interest in meeting with the Board.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 1:10 P.M.