

FIRE ISLAND PINES FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 193
Sayville, New York 11782
631-597-6860

Fire District Commissioners' meeting – minutes

34 Fire Island Boulevard
Fire Island Pines, NY 11782
October 7, 2023

Present

Commissioner Francis Corradino, Chairman of the Board
Commissioner Walter Boss
Commissioner Rosemary Coluccio
Commissioner Eugene Cook
Commissioner Holly Rhodes-Teague
Secretary / Treasurer Patrick Forrett attended via Zoom because he was ill with Covid
Fire Island Pines Fire Department Chief Joseph Geiman
Fire Island Pines Fire Department Chief-elect Kyle Merker

The Board was joined by Dr. Edwin Schulhafer, member of the community.

Order

The meeting was called to order by Comm. Corradino at 12:43 PM.

Minutes

- Review of prior meeting's minutes: because Treasurer / Secretary Forrett was ill with Covid, prior meeting minutes were not prepared.

Correspondence Review

Secretary / Treasurer's reports

- Monthly banking reconciliations
- Treasurer's and Budget-to-Actual reports for or to September 2023
- Motions list – expenditure and non-expenditure motions for 2023 thus far

Again, because Forrett was ill, these reports were not prepared for this meeting.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Alarms:

#3948 – 09/24/2023 – 488 Tarpon Walk – outside fire
#3949 – 10/05/2023 – 127 Atlantic Walk (Co-ops) – automatic alarm

Meetings:

#1307 – 09/23/2023 – fall FIPPOA meeting
#1308 – 10/07/2023 – Department meeting

Drills:

#1335 – 09/17/2023 – Yaphank training – Flashover
#1336 – 10/07/2023 – Drill #13 – 2 & 10 engine operations

Work detail:

None

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Membership status:

New Firefighter Status: B. Bonci & M. Kaing – pending retest

New Firefighter applicants: Lawrence T. Nicosia II, Alexander Fairfax Marks. All arson checks submitted, and Alexander Mark's returned with no arson record. Requesting Board approval pending outcome of physicals and the one remaining arson checks.

Requests / comments:

1. LOSAP report for September 2023
2. Winter Mutual Aid is now in effect.
3. Vehicle 5-28-11 is off beach for winter.
4. Make-up PESH/Sexual Harassment Zoom Class – Tuesday, October 24, at 7:30 PM.
5. SCBA flow testing in progress – half completed; last 11 going off Tuesday.
6. Chassis delay for new 5-28-1 until September 2024.
7. Requesting permission to use Annex from next week till I leave November 1.
8. Change to the FIPFD Constitution and By-Laws.
9. Need permission to have 5-28-4 freighted off island Tuesday for pump- and hose testing.

MOTION: After a brief discussion, Comm. Cook moved to allocate up to \$1,000 from the Medical Exam appropriation for applicants Nicosia and Marks to take their physicals so they can be enrolled in the November Firefighter 1 training. Comm. Coluccio seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

MOTION: After very brief discussion, Comm. Cook moved to allow Chief Geiman to stay in the Annex until his departure from Fire Island on November 1. Comm. Boss seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

The Board took up a discussion about driving on the beach and concluded that the District Mechanics should avoid driving on the beach if possible and should certainly coordinate with people on Fire Island (e.g., Comm. Boss, representatives from PSEG Long Island) before doing so. Comm. Boss said he would ensure the Mechanics had the updated vehicle use policy, including the new directives for driving on the beach.

In the meantime, the Board agreed that the beach is impassable for the engine pumpers and that they would have to be shipped off via Coastline for their annual pump- and hose-testing. The Board wasn't sure what the cost was, but Forrett reminded the Board that Coastline charged the District \$900 in 2022 to bring 5-28-1 to the mainland for Comm. Doug Teague's firematic funeral. Forrett could not confirm whether that was a round-trip charge for #1, or whether that was only a one-way charge as a professional courtesy from the Stein family in respect for Comm. Teague. The Board deemed it wise to allocate up to \$2,000 for each round-trip trip.

MOTION: After discussion, Comm. Cook moved to allocate up to \$4,000 from the Equipment Maintenance appropriation to transport 5-28=1 and 5-28-4 to the mainland and back for their annual pump- and hose-testing. Comm. Boss seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

Comm. Boss informed the Board that he had been unable to get a response from Waterway regarding Water Island hose testing, and that he would continue trying to contact the company.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Apparatus, equipment, radios – Commissioners Rhodes-Teague and Boss

No update this period.

Budgets, audit – Commissioner Coluccio / Treasurer Forrett

Forrett informed the Board that the certificate of deposit purchased following the September meeting was about to mature. Given the news that the chassis for 5-28-1 would not be delivered until September 2024, he asked whether the Board would like to invest more of the Reserve Funds in a CD, and would it like to take a longer term.

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Comm. Coluccio ask if there were any other exceptional financial obligations facing the District, and Forrett said none of which he was aware.

MOTION: After discussion, Comm. Cook moved to roll the proceeds of the current TD certificate of deposit plus an additional \$150,000 into a 90-day CD. Comm. Coluccio seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

Forrett informed the Board that it had received three submissions from the legal service requests for proposals sent out in September, including retainer proposals ranging from \$2,000 to \$12,000, and one proposal that only included an hourly billing rate. The deadline for submission is October 19, in advance of the next Board meeting.

The Board then discussed the 2024 budget. The results of that discussion are reflected in the proposed budget, attached to these minutes and available on the District web site at www.fipfd.org/comm.

Records – Commissioners Coluccio, Corradino
No update this period.

Insurance, LOSAP, membership – Commissioner Cook
Comm. Cook had no update on LOSAP this period. He informed the rest of the Board he had submitted the renewal for the property and casualty insurance.

Public Relations – Comm. Coluccio
No update this period

Alarms – Commissioner Boss
No update this period

Grounds – Commissioner Boss
Following up on last month's discussion regarding the large and half-dead pine tree endangering the Firehouse, it was noted there is another large pine tree that is endangering the Annex. Flower Girls Garden Maintenance provided an estimate for taking down the two trees, and Comm. Boss suggested two providers – Fire Island Container Service and Spoons – for the container for removing the trunks (too large to chip); Tammy Jaggi of Flower Girls said she would chip the branches and transport the chips anywhere in the Pines free of charge.

MOTION: After discussion, and superseding the related motion made in the September 16 meeting, Comm. Coluccio moved to transfer \$5,600 from the Transfer to Reserve appropriation to the Landscape Maintenance appropriation; and to allocate up to \$3,600 from the Landscape Maintenance appropriation for the felling of the two trees and up to \$2,000 for the removal of the trees in a waste container. Comm. Boss seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

Comm. Boss informed the rest of the Board that O'Connor Mechanical came by during the week to test the heating functionality of the new HVAC system, and all was working perfectly.

ISO – Commissioner Corradino
No update this month

OLD BUSINESS:
None this period

NEW BUSINESS:
The Board continued its conversation with Dr. Edwin Schulhafer about EMS service in the Pines. The concern is about adding more requirements to an overtaxed, all-volunteer department, particularly when the Suffolk County Marine Bureau staff (which taxpayers are paying for) are trained as EMTs (not necessarily paramedics). Chief

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Geiman suggested having the CEO of the Marine Bureau (Karen Kolch) speak with the Board and FIPPOA about an increased Marine Bureau coverage in the Pines.

Order

The meeting went into Executive Session at 2:45 PM and was subsequently adjourned by Comm. Corradino.