

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 22, 2004**

A workshop meeting of the Saugatuck Township Fire District was held on Monday, March 22nd, 2004 at the Fire Station. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Marty Raebel, Morg Edgcomb, Jerry Bekken and Cliff Asbel.

Absent: Bill Kaye

Also Present: Chief John Blok.

AUDIENCE

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

1. Chief presented pictures of the house fire we assisted in Ganges.
2. We were rejected for 2003 grant request from Homeland Security (FEMA).
3. We started the application today for 2004 grant request from Homeland Security (FEMA) asking for \$85,000 for air-paks and fire gear. If grant is approved, we need 10% local money. Chances of getting the grant increases with larger percentage of local contribution. This request must be submitted by April 2. Tony Schippa and Pat Smith went to a grant seminar to help with writing the request for grant. Chief suggested that we should try to budget somewhere between 10% and 20%. If we do not get the grant funds, we should set that money aside for future purchases of air-paks and turn out gear.
4. Our gas sensor has failed. It is cheaper to trade in for a new one than to repair or recalibrate the old one. Chief ordered it at a cost of \$1,442. We will also get a calibration kit that we didn't have before. It is an OSHA requirement for "confined space" that we have one.
5. Chief asked to purchase two extra household carbon monoxide detectors to lend people whose detectors fail until they can get one. Older detectors go bad, go off, and are not able to be reset. Board agreed this was a good idea.
6. Chief feels that we need to improve our security system. It appears that someone has stolen gas from the department and also broke into our back building. Police report has been made. He will give a report on the system he researched.
7. Chief stated we should not need any major purchases next year. However if the grant is not approved, we need to budget money for future purchase of air-paks and turn out gear.
8. Chief asked about putting an electric starter and charger on the Boston Whaler due to the fact that lights at night run the battery down too fast for night work. Board discussed options.
9. Chief discussed putting Breathing Air System on the tower truck. Spencer of South Haven would install it for \$3,600 and meet OSHA requirements. We did have it approved in 2002 for \$3,200 with us installing it. That company did not complete the deal and could not meet OSHA requirements. **Motion by Bekken/Edgcomb to buy a Breathing Air System from Spencer of South Haven for \$3,600.** Motion carried unanimously. The work will be done next week.

There being no further business, **Motion by Raebel/Bekken to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.** Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Marty Raebel