

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
MAY 9, 2005**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Fire District was held on Monday, May 9, 2005 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kaye at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Jerry Bekken, Lance Winchester, Bill Kaye, Cliff Asbel and Reggie Smith.

Also Present: Chief John Blok.

Absent: None.

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 4/11/05, Kaye asked to include under *Chief's Report, Item C.* after the first sentence, "These 3 have been added to the STFD roster as members." Under *Item G.* to include "100 ft" before "section for hose". **Motion by Bekken/Winchester to accept as amended.** Carried unanimously. Pertaining to the minutes of 4/25/05, Kaye requested to be more specific under *Chief's Report, Item 1.*, and suggested changing "woods fire" to "a recent grass fire caused by a property owner/builder who was burning rubbish". Kaye also asked to note under *Item 4.*, "Kevin McConnell" as the firefighter. **Motion by Bekken/Winchester to accept as amended.** Carried unanimously.

BILLS & FINANCIAL REVIEW

- A. Discussion and approval of bills. Kaye asked for questions regarding any of the bills. Having none, **Motion by Asbel/Winchester to approve bills in the amount of \$11,358.89 and payroll in the amount of \$27,711.20.** Motion to pay bills carried unanimously.
- B. Financial Review. Board had general discussion over the expenses vs. prior year figures.
- C. Review Proposed Budget Amendments. Kaye requested to table until the June meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Lakeshore Drive Fire Lane. Smith reported the Township Board addressed the issue at their last meeting and will send out correspondence to citizens of the area to establish viability.
- B. Expenditure Approvals. Kaye suggested purchasing the 5" hose and convert #1224 to carry the hose in the current fiscal year, as well as the infrared camera purchase and wireless monitor for mobile command unit. He also suggested purchasing a used 6,000 watt emergency lighting unit and generator and asked to approve those expenses with \$3,000 for the wireless monitor to come from the donation fund. Board discussion took place. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to approve up to \$9,000 for the purchase of 1000' of 5" hose, necessary fittings, and conversion of unit #1224 to a hose reel truck.** Carried unanimously. **Motion by Kaye/Asbel to approve \$7,500 for a new infrared camera.** Carried unanimously. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to approve up to \$3,000 from the donation fund for the purchase of a wireless monitor for the infrared camera.** Carried unanimously. **Motion by Kaye/Asbel to approve \$5,600 for the purchase of a used mobile light tower/generator.** Board discussion took place and the motion carried unanimously. Kaye noted these purchases will put the department in good shape for next fiscal year without any additional capital needs.

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NEW BUSINESS

Winchester asked about the department allowing hazardous material drop offs. Blok recommended against the practice due to environmental liabilities.

CHIEF'S REPORT

- A. The bill for the recent grass fire was turned over to the Allegan County Sheriff's Department. It is written in the burning ordinance that we can recoup wages and that totals \$900 - \$1000. Blok suggested unifying all three burning ordinances during a workshop. Kaye suggested the department staff submit recommendation for a single ordinance. Board discussed state laws governing burning.
- B. 30 old obsolete air paks will be donated per Board approval at the previous meeting.
- C. Janik will be attending school from May 16th to the 27th for Fire Inspectors at Norton Shores Department in Muskegon. Tuition has been paid through a grant, but the department will pay \$90 for food. There also may be 2 to 3 nights where he will stay in Muskegon during testing that will be reimbursed.
- D. Turned in a grant through the DNR for wild line fire suits for \$5,375. It will be 6 – 8 months before we know if we will be awarded the grant. Still an outstanding grant for smokehouse and carbon monoxide detectors in the amount of \$94,920 with a match of \$9,492. Additional outstanding grant for thermal imaging camera and new computers in the amount of \$17,530 with a match of \$940 and we won't know the recipient until late Fall.
- E. Need Board approval for filling an officer vacancy for #107 Fire Safety Officer. The Personnel Committee has recommended Dan VanAlten for the position. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to approve the appointment of Dan VanAlten to fill the position of #107 Fire Safety Officer.** Carried unanimously.
- F. Blok submitted a check for \$602.00 from Accident Fund for workman's compensation insurance rebate. Receipt of the check will reduce current year work comp expense. Kaye noted the department's good safety record and noted the continued desire to make safety a top issue.
- G. Mark Bekken stopped by the department Friday and went over the VFIS quote of \$25,373 for the department medical policy. Blok stated Bekken agreed MMRMA was a good policy, but will wait to see what Par Plan comes up with.
- H. Calls to date 173, same time last year 146.

Kaye noted the fire boat and sea doos are in the water and asked about departmental training for piloting the boat. Blok stated at the current time either he or Joe Fucile must be present to captain the boat, but noted the need for additional qualified individuals to run the boat. Board noted training is critical.

Blok thanked the Board for their support of the equipment purchases. Kaye noted job satisfaction for members is important and the members need the right tools for their job.

AUDIENCE

None.

There being no further business, **motion by Bekken/Asbel to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.** Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, rec. sec.