

**HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP BUREAU OF FIRE
MONTHLY MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2017
5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mr. Bruce Beitel.

Committee Members Present: Mr. Shaun Teacher Mr. Anthony Marquis
Mr. John Storey Ms. Amber Werner
Mr. Greg Saunders Mr. Bruce Beitel
Mr. Don Thoma Mr. Andrew Walz
Mr. Michael Wolford

Staff Present: Mrs. Denise Kohl

2. NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Beitel explained that the committee needs to appoint two (2) members, vice chairman and secretary. The vice chairperson will conduct the meeting in Mr. Beitel's absence. The secretary will read the items for consideration on the agenda. Mr. Beitel asked for nominations for vice chairman.

Mr. Storey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Walz to nominate Mr. Teacher for Vice Chairman.
Vote: (5) Yes. Mr. Beitel needed to break the tie (4) No – Mr. Saunders, Ms. Werner, Mr. Wolford and Mr. Marquis.

Mr. Saunders made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wolford to nominate Amber Werner for Vice Chairman.
Vote: 4 (Yes) – 4 (No) – Mr. Beitel, Mr. Walz, Mr. Teacher and Mr. Thoma.

Mr. Wolford made a motion to nominate Mr. Walz, motion failed due to lack of a second.

3. NOMINATION OF SECRETARY

Mr. Walz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Storey to nominate Mr. Marquis for Secretary. Vote: 9-0. Motion carried.

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS - NONE

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE

6. FINANCIAL REPORT - NONE

7. TRAINING

The 2017 projected training schedule was sent out to the members of the committee which consists of one (1) member from each department. Mr. Teacher stated he is waiting to hear back to see how many are interested. Mr. Storey asked Mr. Beitel that if the schedule was approved, what the timeframe would be for the schedule to be advertised. Mr. Beitel replied that January 23, 2017 would be the latest it would be sent out.

8. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Mr. Wolford stated he is waiting for a reply from the gentleman in Ebensburg on what ideas they had. He mentioned that everything is the same with regards to retainment for insurance and so forth. Nothing else is pending.

Mr. Wolford stated he would like to see a budget for recruitment and retention so that brochures and posters can be sent out and would also like to entertain a booth at the mall. In addition, he also suggested that a public announcement be advertised before movies at the theater. Mr. Beitel stated the committee can discuss the suggestions at the public work session.

Mr. Beitel noted that he and Mr. Wolford attended a grant seminar and is exploring the possibility of participating in that grant. Mr. Thoma asked who is promoting the grant to which Mr. Beitel stated the community foundation.

9. SAFETY/OPERATING GUIDELINES

Mr. Storey stated that he is currently reviewing the safety manual to see what was adopted in the past and what updates are needed. He's hoping to have policies for the work session that would include those that govern the equipment additions and subtractions from inventory as well as injury reporting.

10. EQUIPMENT/FLEET

Mr. Thoma noted that a meeting is scheduled for the 15th of January. A list was generated that involved what equipment is on a ladder truck. He noted that Carbon's and Youngwood's equipment will be checked at Carbon VFD to get an idea of what's on a ladder truck to get ready for the Quint concept. Mr. Thoma will not be at the next meeting so he will send the report to Bruce for the work session.

Mr. Thoma mentioned some of the committee members are gathering information in relation to the rescue engine and thermal imaging cameras. He noted a grant was received from Sunoco Logistics and the plan is to demo four or five of them over a course of two days and provide feedback.

Question:

Mr. Saunders questioned the changes that were discussed at their last meeting and why they were not incorporated with respect to the fleet plan. One of the items talked about was putting an attack type truck at Bovard to get through the tunnel. Mr. Beitel apologized if that was changed and stated that truck was not placed at Bovard after feedback from the previous fleet meeting.

11. BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Mr. Beitel stated that he is not aware of any projects at this point.

12. ITEMS FOR ACTION

- a. Consideration to Approve 2017 Fire Fleet Management Plan

Mr. Thoma made a motion, seconded by Mr. Teacher to approve the 2017 Fleet Management Plan

Discussion and Comments:

1. Mr. Saunders is concerned that he will not have a truck that will fit through the tunnel in Bovard. In addition, he mentioned the committee talked about the rescue pumper at North Hempfield and that it might possibly be a rescue for another area. Mr. Beitel stated there were two (2) rescues in the original plan and it was bumped up to four (4). The committee suggested they would like to see two additional rescues in the plan and that was laid out. Nothing was specifically noted in the plan where they were but he believes it was noted north, east, central and west.
2. Mr. Walz questioned if the Fire Fleet Management Plan will be looked at annually. Mr. Beitel stated the plan will adjust as we move forward.
3. Mr. Story explained the basic premise of the plan will stay the same with the same concepts, to serve the residents and make adjustments, if needed.

4. The plan calls for two (2) larger rescues, four (4) rescues total.
 - One equipped with air compressor, cascade system
 - One equipped with specialized rescue type apparatus
 - One would be a USAR (urban search and rescue) type vehicle for trench /structure collapse
 - One for heavy entrapment type rescue

Question:

Mr. Marquis questioned if it's beneficial to keep the air truck. He noted that when you're on an incident scene you can get a smaller truck in closer. Mr. Beitel stated the air truck will be kept for another ten (10) years.

Mr. Walz questioned if the plan was unanimously approved by the fleet committee to which Mr. Beitel replied, yes.

Motion carried. Vote: 9-0. Bruce stated the plan will be forwarded to the chiefs for review.

13. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Walz stated that a discussion ensued at the last meeting regarding setting the agenda for the year. The action meeting is the first Tuesday of every month. He noted that the first Tuesday in July is the 4th of July and suggested that the committee discuss at the work session when the meeting should be rescheduled.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Wolford suggested he would like for Mr. Beitel and himself to attend gas well training in Texas. Mr. Beitel stated this can be discussed at the work session.

15. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

16. ADJOURNMENT

The regular monthly meeting of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. by Mr. Beitel

Chairman