

**HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP BUREAU OF FIRE
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2018
7:00 PM**

Committee Members Present: Mr. Andrew Walz Mr. Greg Saunders
 Ms. Amber Werner Mr. Anthony Marquis
 Mr. Don Thoma

Staff Present: Mrs. Callie Krueger

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The regular monthly meeting of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, held at the Hempfield Township Municipal Building, was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mr. Andrew Walz.

2. NOMINATION OF A CHAIRMAN

Mr. Saunders nominated Mr. Marquis as Chairman, seconded by Ms. Werner. Vote: 4-1 (Thoma). Motion carried. There was a discussion held regarding the Hempfield Township Code stating that the Chairman should be the Director of Public Safety, however Hempfield Township does not currently have a Director of Public Safety.

3. NOMINATION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. Thoma nominated himself as Vice-Chairman, there was no second to this motion. Mr. Saunders nominated Ms. Werner as Vice-Chairman, seconded by Mr. Walz. Vote: 4-1 (Thoma). Motion carried.

4. NOMINATION OF SECRETARY

Mr. Saunders nominated Mr. Thoma as Secretary, seconded by Ms. Werner. Vote: 4-0-1 abstain (Thoma). Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. Gary Steib – 27 Saddlebrook Dr. Mr. Steib noted that he is not a firefighter, but worked with insurance for a long time and does not support the purchase of the Quint fire truck. He stated that the truck is overweight and will take more stopping distance and would rather the Township pay more money for a different truck to avoid lawsuits with this overweight truck.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. November 7, 2017 – Mr. Saunders made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thoma to approve the meeting minutes from November 7, 2017. Vote: 4-0-1 abstain (Walz). Motion carried.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT – see attached

Mr. Walz noted that the report was distributed prior to the meeting and stated that the amount paid out for 2017 was \$832,559.00. Mr. Saunders made a motion to accept the Financial Report, seconded by Ms. Werner. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Recruitment and Retention – Mr. Walz mentioned that the Township is in receipt of the SAFER Grant to get the Recruitment and Retention programs running. Ms. Werner has been working with the school district for programs on recruitment. There will be money for gym memberships, etc. Mr. Walz asked that everyone bring ideas for a conversation to the work session to get the program running for 2018.

b. Response Zones – Mr. Walz stated that the Board of Supervisors would like to work on consolidating some of the response zones. As of now, there are twelve response zones. There will be a discussion held at the work session regarding this consolidation.

c. Applicants – Mr. Walz stated that the Board of Supervisors would now like for the applications to go through the Bureau of Fire before being approved by them. Mr. Saunders made a motion to forward the applications to the Board of Supervisors pending successful background checks, seconded by Mr. Walz. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Thoma mentioned that the financial report shows the total paid out would be what each department would pay regardless. He doesn't think anyone is doing anything special just because they received money.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Thoma asked how the remainder of the board will be filled, Mr. Walz replied that the fulfillment of the board is up to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Saunders made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to randomly draw any member willing to serve who has ten years of service and meets the required qualifications of the Hempfield Township Code. There was no second to this recommendation.

Mr. Marquis inquired about the training schedule for the new year, Mr. Walz stated that he is unaware at this time of any new training schedule.

Mr. Thoma made a motion to send a memo to all Township Fire Departments in regards to inviting all other Township Fire Departments to training they are holding, seconded by Mr. Saunders. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS FOR THE ABOVE MOTION

Miles Webb – 881 Dogwood Ln. Mr. Webb stated that he believed that the Township had a good program with training and thinks that they should go back to how it was instead of calling WCCC to set up the training on your own.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, held at the Hempfield Township Municipal Building, was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. with a motion made by Mr. Walz and seconded by Mr. Saunders.

CHAIRMAN