

BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT  
MEETING OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2016

MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER:** The monthly meeting of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and a moment of silence was observed.

**PRESENT:** Present at the meeting was Chief Robert Farmer, Chairman Tanya Farmer, Commissioner Jerry Hughes, Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai, Captain Willie Jones, Captain Fred Nelson, Lieutenant James Davis, Firefighter Vincent Jaunai, Firefighter Sam Wilson, District Clerk Valda Thompson, Susan Carlson, Barbara Bagnall, Kaisola Wright, Beverly Callis, Jacqueline Massey Greene, Donna Banks, Mark Manson, Jannette Manson, Anne Wall, Essie Tate and Donald Barton

**READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** District Clerk Valda Thompson read the minutes from last month's meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

**CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief Farmer stated that there were 35 calls in the month of May. There were 33.30 manpower hours. Chief Farmer stated that there were 1 structure fire at 140 Park Avenue. An occupant at Touch Point started that fire. The Blue Hills Fire District received mutual aid from Bloomfield Center, Manchester and The Town of Windsor on that fire. The District was mutual aid to Bloomfield Center at Terryville Road. There was a fire on the mountains at Penwood Park, which took 3 hours to contain. Chief Farmer stated that he has not heard any word on the fire equipment grant for \$335,000 for the SCBA. The District has also put in for a \$140,000 grant to hire 2 new employees for the evening shift. Terry Wright, a licensed technician helped save the District money by helping with the radio systems. Bloomfield as a whole will have upgrades to the radio system. The Tax Suspense list needs to be approved by the Board. The Tax Suspense List is a list of business and residents who taxes cannot be collected from.

Please refer to the incident run log for further details.

**FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT:** None

**TRAINING REPORT:** Lieutenant Davis stated that the District will be hosting A Pump Operator Apparatus Class in October 2016. The class will consist of 48 hours hosted on Mondays and Saturdays.

Lt. Davis stated that there are limited drivers within the District. Lt. Davis stated that only 1 Volunteer has passed their Q2 license Class that is Jordan Bell. Driving the vehicle is the easy part, the operational part of the vehicle is still a learning process. The drivers need to be knowledgeable about operating the apparatus. The members will be certified and receive a degree in that area of firefighting. 17 volunteers are on the list for the driving class in October 2016.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** none

**HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT:** none

**SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT:** none

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT:** Firefighter Jaunai attended the Celebration Week Craft Fair on June 4 from 8:00-4:30 pm. BHFD represented the District by giving out literature and answering questions. The Apostle Church expressed their appreciation with Medals and refreshments during the orientation dinner for the interns on Monday, June 27, 2016. The Apostle Church's Bishop addressed the firefighters during Orientation for the interns who consist of 2 females and 2 males. The interns' start date was July 5, 2016. The interns are 4 juniors from Bloomfield High School. The interns will be here for a six week program. The judges on the selection committee were Joan Gamble, Caroline Dileone and Robert Shuler. On Tuesday and Thursday the interns will have guest speakers from various emergency services.

**DEPARTMENT CONCERNS/GOODS AND WELFARE:** Lt. Davis was asked to stay within the budget for the training classes. A representative of the company that is building the new website has been contacting the District as a whole to get drop box information on the Website for the history of the Fire District. Station 3 residents prefer the rent to increase \$250.00 to \$400.00 for landscaping expenses which cost \$5800.00 yearly. Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai made a motion to table the discussion increase rent at Station 3 to \$400.00 for each tenant to pay for expenses for lawn care cost of \$5800.00 yearly. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jerry Hughes and carried. Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai made a motion approve the Tax Suspense List. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jerry Hughes and carried.

**CITIZEN'S STATEMENT AND COMMENTS:** Barbara Bagnall noted the Board OUTSIDE is still very important to the community.

Ann Wall asked why Interns are not from the Magnets Schools and Big Picture. She stated that the house across the street is an eye sore in her opinion and requested that the backroom buy some shrubs.

Susan Carlson wanted to know if the Volunteers were being paid and what the moment of silence for. She expressed her belief that the election on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 was unfair. It is her opinion that an ambulance should have been present just in case of an emergency for that large of a meeting. She voiced her opinion that the District should have By Laws in writing.

Donna Banks wanted to know what incentives the District has for the volunteers. Chief Farmer explained to her how the points system works and about the District's service award program.

Jannette Manson felt the Special Meeting on June 28, 2016 should have been recorded by the Clerk.

Mark Manson feels all 3 Commissioners should be removed from office. He feels as though there is mismanagement of checks, credit cards and By Laws.

**PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND VOUCHERS:** A motion was made to pay all invoices and vouchers. The motion was seconded and carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting 9:10 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 3, 2016