

**UNION CENTER FIRE COMPANY**  
**COMPANY MEETING**

December 5, 2011

**PRESENT:** M. Henry, W. Miga, B. Dieffenbacher, A. Silvestri, A. Green, R. Serowik, M. Belensky, C. Hoyt, F. Trzcinski, D. Hill, B. Smack, J. Drotar, J. Hardik, K. Miga

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 19:40

**MINUTES FROM 11/07/2011 ACCEPTED:** M. Belensky, seconded by D. Hill

***TREASURER'S REPORT***

Activity checking: \$14,215.00  
General checking: \$16,112.88

Activity: \$5808.23  
2% Money: \$8407.76

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Total checking: \$30,328.87

Motion to accept: C. Hoyt, seconded by J. Drotar

***BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS***

None.

***BOARD COMMUNICATIONS***

- John Hussar came to the board meeting and talked about updates to our web site. The costs will not exceed \$1500. These updates will save us money in the future and will make our site easier to navigate. We will vote on this under New Business.
- A hitch will be installed on the EMS so that the rehab trailer can be pulled to working fires.
- Since the Endwell post office flooded and will not be reopening, our new mailing address will be at Pack-and-Mail on Hooper Rd. This will be more convenient for Alice and slightly less expensive for us.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### **CHIEF:**

- Christmas party preparations are going well and everything is set up. About 48 people are attending.
- At the officers meeting last night we went over some BOGs. Social networking policy is nearly completed.
- We are trying to decide what to do with the 35' ladder, which we will probably sell. We talked about borrowing 32' ladders from one of the other companies to see if it will fit on the Squad.

### **FIRST ASSISTANT CHIEF:**

- We have been lax in washing the trucks and need to get back to doing so.
- It is colder now and pump operators need to circulate the pumps. Drivers be sure to use caution when using Jake brakes when the roads are slippery.

### **SECOND ASSISTANT CHIEF:**

- Thanks to everybody who showed up on Saturday morning to the mutual aid call. We had a good turn out; I think we had 17 people.

**DAY CAPTAIN:** No report.

**NIGHT CAPTAIN:** No report.

**FIRST LIEUTENANT:** Vacant.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT:** Vacant.

**FIRE POLICE CAPTAIN:** No report.

### **MAINTENANCE:**

- We are looking into upgrading the utility's emergency lighting. There is a \$500 savings if we do this by 12/015/2011, so this will be done.
- Skid from the brush truck is out in the bay area.
- There are a few scratches on window on the driver's side of the Squad. This is nothing to worry about as it was checked by Har-Rob. Har-Rob made other minor repairs to different rigs.
- An airbag failed and an identical replacement will be ordered tomorrow.

### **AIR/CASCADE:**

- Voice amps were issued to all of the green tags.
- We think that there might be a leak on Cascade bottle #6. It is definitely losing pressure. If we can't find the leak somebody will have to come in and look at it.
- Packs are all in service.

**EMS:**

- We trained 12 members at CPR class on Saturday. We discussed the idea on Saturday and the chief officers approved the plan to add fire tones to Echo priority or CPR in progress calls. This will be instituted next week. I ask that only members with current CPR certification respond to these calls. Remember that the highest-ranking EMS provider is in charge of the call and this person's directions must be followed. Do not be first on the scene without equipment. If you can drive the EMS and it has not gone out, please bring the EMS.
- Portable radios and first-in bags will be issued to some of our more active EMS crew chiefs.
- Bill Gazdik has been promoted to crew chief.
- Class III trailer hitch will go on the EMS in order to pull the rehab trailer to working fires.
- EMS training on Saturday was the EMS training for the month, so there is no conflict with the Kenny Rogers concert on Thursday.
- I have brochures about upcoming EMS training. There is one on 12/19/2011 on obstetric emergencies and trauma. There is no cost but you have to register. Please contact me for information.

**TRAINING:**

- Bail-out training at Endicott went well.
- We are waiting on Chief 24 for train-the-trainer on our bail-out system.
- Extrication training went well over the last few weeks.
- We will be doing some training hopefully starting this Wednesday with the portable radios. It has been decided that we will issue portable radios to the green tags, which will be done shortly.
- We are looking for a driver for the tanker on 12/19/2011 to go to Endwell for scene support class. If anyone is interested, let me know. It will be in the evening, probably 6 or 7 until 10 p.m.

**HEALTH/SAFETY:** No report.

**FIRE MARSHAL:** Still working on September reports from the flooding.

**SAFETY OFFICER:** No report.

**AUDIT:** No report.

**PARADE:**

- Thanks to Wes for covering the JC parade.
- Thanks to all members and families for attending all of the parades. We had a great turn out.

**SOCIAL:** No report.

**BYLAW:**

- Bylaw proposal to amend Article IV, Section 2. (Discussion regarding this amendment and also cleaning up the Honorary Membership category as well in the future, with Glenn Roberts's e-mail shared with the membership present. C. Hoyt mentioned that we should get a better list and contact information so that life members can be invited to social events and keep in touch with them. Please contact K. Miga if you have any of this information).

YES: 11

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 1

**B. C. FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:** No report.

**WEB SITE:** No report.

**RETENTION/ RECRUITING/ MEMBERSHIP:** Two people submitted applications and we will vote on these next month.

**ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS:** Brandon Smack and Dan Kerila are ready to come off of probation. They both have favorable evaluations.

Brandon Smack: YES: 10                      NO: 0                      ABSTAIN: 2

Dan Kerila:                      YES: 12                      NO: 0                      ABSTAIN: 0

**SUNSHINE:** No report.

***OLD BUSINESS***

- Regarding the land deal, 10 years ago we did not pursue purchasing the land by Station 2 because we did not have the money. It is now available again. The owner has offered \$15,000 an acre; he will be paying all of the closing costs. Besty requested some information from the Town of Union assessor, who thought that the \$15,000 was reasonable. The Board looked into the fair market value and other things and also had a budget outlook meeting last week. The Board came to the conclusion that although this might be a little high, it is not unreasonable for something that is bordering our station. Bill has looked at our funds and says that this is something we can afford. Road frontage is 260 feet downhill, with 230 feet back from the road, and 200 feet behind the existing building. Besty will make some calls and ask the surveyor put in stakes for what we want. Bill said that we should use no more than three stakes to mark the property, squaring the parcel off. Bob thinks that we should get another acre if we can afford it to square the parcel off. Another option would be to shorten the 260 frontage to and divide the property differently, squaring it off behind the station. Mark B. suggested getting the land surveyed with drawings made up to show our options. J. Drotar suggested inviting the owner to the next Board meeting to talk about our options and what is possible.

- The decision was to have a meeting with the owner before making any decisions regarding this. On Saturday Bill and Besty will stake out the property and take a look at this.
- B. Bealo made a motion that we go up to 3 acres or \$45,000, depending upon what will give us our most optimal result.

YES: 8

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 5

- D. Hill brought up the issue of getting ideas from the members regarding getting members both old and new to be more involved with the company. If anyone has any ideas, please bring them to the Board or any of the officers.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

- Dennis got no feedback from anyone regarding ideas for getting members more involved with the company.
- Voting on updating website: YES: 11 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 2
- Nomination board for elections next year is open. If you would like to nominate someone, please submit their name to the board, who will determine if that person can run for the position. (Scroll all the way down for current nominations.)
- Green said that we need outlets in the maintenance room at Station 1. M. Henry said that we need to look at the wiring to determine if this is okay.
- Thanks to A. Green for all the work involved with defrosting and heating up the food for tonight and then cleaning everything up.

**REFRESHMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING:** B. Smack (with help from the auxiliary)

**NUMBER ATTENDING:** 14

**VOTING:** 12 at first, then 13 after B. Smack was voted in as a member.

**TIME ADJORNED:** 21:05

**NEXT MEETING:** January 9, 2012

**CURRENT NOMINATIONS:**

Chief: M. Belensky

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief:

2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief: J. VanKuren

Day Captain: J. VanKuren and D. Hill

Night Captain: D. Hill

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant: J. Mann and B. Gazdik

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant: J. Mann and B. Gazdik

EMS Captain: R. Serowik and J. Hardik

Fire Police Captain: T. Mason

Board member (1): A. Green

Respectfully submitted by **Karen S. Miga**