

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

August 5, 2013

**PRESENT:** B. Dieffenbacher, A. Green, H. Polhamus, B. Polhamus, B. Bealo, S. Bealo, W. Miga, K. Miga, C. Hoyt, M. Belensky, J. Drotar, R. Serowik, D. Kerila, C. Sorochman, R. Bealo, J. Mann, A. Holton (not present for vote on Christmas party)

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 19:45

**MINUTES FROM:** 07/01/2013     **ACCEPTED:** R. Bealo, seconded by J. Drotar

***TREASURER'S REPORT***

Activity checking: \$15,954.02  
General checking: \$18,534.56

Activity: \$4666.83  
2% Money: \$11,287.19

- A report of the budget went out to those who have budget lines; please review this information and make sure it is correct.
- I am putting together a short list of vendors that we use so that any member of the company can refer to it if things such as food, repair items, etc., need to be purchased. The list will include tax exempt instructions for the different vendors.
- I have two Weis tax-exempt cards which I will activate. These may be used by anyone in the department to purchase food for the company. I am going to cancel all six of the ones currently issued to individuals as only one of them has ever been used. A card will be located at each station along with the instructions for using it. There is a \$300 purchase limit per month. Sign out if you take the card and bring it back within 24 hours. The board is currently discussing where these will be placed at each station.

Motion to accept: J. Drotar, seconded by W. Miga

***BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS***

FASNY is holding its 141<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention in Albany August 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are interested in attending, contact K. Miga for registration and housing information.

Notification from the Town of Union that Monforte Drive from Prescott Avenue to Leroy Street will be closed for a block party on Sunday, 08/11/2013. Barricades will be placed at Milan and Leroy Street.

## **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

No board meeting this month due to lack of a quorum, but we held a work session on 07/31/2013.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### **CHIEF:**

- Tomorrow night is National Night Out in Maine. We were requested to send what we can. A. Green will go early to get parking spots and set up a table. This will start at 6 p.m. and will take the place of training. Come later if you can't make it at 6 p.m.
- Boswell Hill Road church firework detail is set for 08/17/2013 with a rain date of 08/18/2013. We will set up a table and tent and hand out some freebies. Will try to get Smokey out as well. This goes from 6 p.m. until fireworks are done. Brush truck will stay for the whole time. If we have enough people for an engine during daylight hours, the engine crew does not have to stay for the fireworks.
- Anyone available this Friday (two people) to take Smokey for half hour to Susquehanna Day Habilitation at 297 Chenango Street, Binghamton, at noon would be appreciated.
- I put my two-week notice in at the Town, so my days will be getting longer as I go back to the "real" working world. The good news is that I will have all winter off.
- If anyone wants to help mount the new thermal imagers, let me know.
- Thanks to Engine 98 crew for cleaning out the old refrigerator at Station 2 and installing the new one.

### **FIRST ASSISTANT CHIEF:**

- There is a Tioga County mobile radio installed in the Tanker. It was mounted in an area where we think it is kept out of the way. The microphone will be labeled ASAP. Any questions, ask myself or the Chief. The Chiefs have been discussing putting a Tioga radio in the Squad, but no final decision has been made.
- The Nanticoke Bridge is almost complete (not soon enough). We have been adapting very well, without any major issues.
- If someone breaks something or finds something broken, please report it ASAP to an officer and also submit an electronic report ASAP to keep it from slipping "thru the cracks" and delaying the repair time. Overall this isn't a major problem, just a friendly reminder. We don't mind getting emails after every training or after an alarm that something needs to be repaired.

**SECOND ASSISTANT CHIEF:** No report.

**DAY CAPTAIN:** No report.

**NIGHT CAPTAIN:** No report.

**FIRST LIEUTENANT:**

- Thank you to the Engine 98 crew for getting the new refrigerator set up at Station 2.
- Special thanks to M. Wiley for donating the new refrigerator.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT:**

- Training with smooth bore nozzle this Saturday at Vestal.
- Maureen Adams, who lives next door to Station 2, will have a barbecue for anyone who shows up at Station 2 after training this Saturday (around noon). She will have plenty of food available.
- Pager programming hardware and software arrived. Talk to R. Bealo or me if you want anything changed on your pagers.
- Thanks to M. Wiley for donating his old refrigerator to Station 2.
- The new microwave for Station 1 has arrived and is in the kitchen, ready to be set up.

**FIRE POLICE CAPTAIN:** No report.

**EMS:**

- C. Sorochman is back with us full time. He is currently being evaluated for promotion to crew chief.
- We had a couple of recent responses for Echo priorities which went very well. Everyone handled him/herself with great dignity. Please continue to respond to those calls if you have CPR certification and continue to behave in a professional manner, as you have been doing.
- EMS training for August will take place on Saturday, 08/17/2013 at 1 p.m. at 2104 Ford Rd., weather permitting. This will cover swimming pool rescue and water extrication. Swimsuits are required. This will be followed by a barbecue (with beer!). Everyone is welcome, even if you do not want to go in the water.

**FIRE MARSHAL:** No report.

**SAFETY OFFICER:** No report.

**MAINTENANCE:**

- Chain saw off Brush 53 is OOS again and will be replaced with a saw off of the Rescue until it is repaired.
- Parts will be ordered for the vent saw along with new oil and gas cap.

**AIR/CASCADE:**

- We have one pack OOS which MES will be picking up this week for repair.

**TRAINING:**

- Training hours should be on the web site tomorrow.
- Kopernik is having a program called Extreme Weather, Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation for municipal officials on 09/13/2013. See bulletin board for more details.
- Project management workshop in Binghamton on 08/17/2013. See bulletin board for details.
- For Broome County Fire Chiefs Association minutes, see bulletin board.

**HEALTH/SAFETY:** No report.

**AUDIT:**

- We did the audit on 07/31/2013 and all records were up to date and appropriate. K. Miga has a copy of our approval paperwork.

**PARADE:**

- No parades noted.

**AUXILIARY:**

- UCFC picnic will be Saturday, 08/24/2013 at Greenwood Park. You should have received an e-mail from K. Hoyt regarding this. Please respond before 08/13/2013 so that we can get a head count for planning purposes. Steaks, hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. Maine is going to roast a pig as well. Please bring a large dish to pass and any alcoholic beverages that you wish to drink. This is a family event; we plan to begin eating at noon.
- The auxiliary would like a vote on whether the Christmas party should be an adults-only party or if children should be included at the adult party. After a discussion regarding this, W. Miga made a motion that the party be adults-only, which was seconded by R. Bealo.

YES: 12

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 1

**BYLAW:** No report (the committee is awaiting proposals from any member)

**B. C. FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:**

- Meeting is next week.
- Western Broome Chiefs meeting is this Thursday at Station 1.

**WEB SITE:** No report.

**RETENTION/ RECRUITING/ MEMBERSHIP:**

- Regarding Raheem Greene, who was voted in as a member pending a favorable background check. His background check was unfavorable and the committee recommends that his membership be rescinded. Motion to go along with membership committee's recommendation was made by R. Bealo, seconded by J. Drotar.

YES: 14

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

**ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS:** No report.

**SUNSHINE:**

- Thank you sent to the Greenlee family for providing dinner at the monthly meeting last month.
- Congratulations and \$100 gas card sent to N. Haight's family for the birth of their son. We voted on the \$100 gas card last month as their son has a medical condition which will require extensive travel to specialists.
- Sympathy card sent to Jason Ellis for the death of his father. Jason has done multiple trainings for our department and is a contact for future trainings.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Many thanks to the Greenlees for providing the wonderful dinner of chili, cornbread and pecan bars!

Firefighter clambake is the August, 08/25/2013. UCFC will pay for tickets for members. Let M. Henry know if you want to go and he will start keeping track of the number of tickets we need.

Ford Road between Twining and Frost will be closed on 08/03/2013 from noon to 4 p.m. for Taft Heights 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

B. Dieffenbacher found the shed unlocked up at Station 2. Please be sure that you lock this up again if you unlock it to use something.

It was brought to our attention by D. Hill that Neal Haight's family has a new addition: Tristan, who was born on 06/15/2013. He was born with the same health issue as their daughter, who passed away from it 5 years ago. The good news is that at this time Tristan appears to have a much milder form. The bad news is that they will need to make many trips to Rochester to see a specialist. People were asking what they could do to help the Haight family. Neal said that gas cards would be greatly appreciated. A motion was made by C. Hoyt to donate a \$100 gas card to the Haight's.

YES: 14

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

A. Green was informed by the DOT that the concrete basin in front of Station 1 will be installed after the July 4th weekend.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Thank you to A. Holton for providing the delicious dinner of broccoli and pasta with homemade alfredo sauce.

Reminder that the firefighter clambake is 08/25/2013. UCFC will pay for tickets for members. Let M. Henry know if you want to go and he will start keeping track of the number of tickets we need.

A. Green said that the DOT job in front of Station 1 is finished; grass seed has been put down.

A. Green talked to the Town of Union historian and VFW member (VFW owns the monument). He said that they allotted \$250 towards whoever does the project. We want to get a definitive answer from the Scouts as to whether or not this is an Eagle project by the September meeting; if we do not have an answer at that time we will discuss and vote on our alternatives.

C. Hoyt brought up making a donation for M. Mason's triplets (T. Mason's granddaughters) to help cover travel, food, housing, etc. while the family is in Syracuse and/or for expenses after they come home. J. Drotar made a motion to send a \$300 gift card, which was seconded by R. Bealo.

YES: 14

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Phone in the radio room at Station 2 has been OOS. W. Miga would like to know if we can put a wireless station behind the EMS and a cordless phone in the radio room until the phone is fixed. M. Henry started looking into this, but this issue has not been resolved yet. R. Bealo suggested getting a cordless phone with multiple stations.

W. Miga looked at our cable bill and saw that we are paying for HBO and Showtime at Station 2 (and possibly Station 1 as well). This is costing us \$300 a year. Following an informal polling of the membership, it appears that nobody is watching HBO or Showtime and W. Miga is wondering if this is something we can get rid of. B. Dieffenbacher said that he would look into this.

Garage doors at Station 2 are done and reversing switches are complete. All doors have wireless remotes located in the rigs.

REMINDER: SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE THE SECOND MONDAY (9<sup>TH</sup>) DUE TO THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY.

**REFRESHMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING:** H. and B. Polhamus

**NUMBER ATTENDING:** 17

**VOTING:** 13 during vote for Christmas party and 14 for voting thereafter.

**TIME ADJORNED:** 21:05

**NEXT MEETING:** September 9, 2013 (due to Labor Day holiday)

Respectfully submitted by **Karen S. Miga**