

UNION CENTER FIRE COMPANY
COMPANY MEETING

January 2, 2017

PRESENT: W. Miga, B. Dieffebacher, D. Dieffenbacher, R. Serowik, S. Meschter, M. Belensky, R. Fiori, J. Buonomo, G. Roberts, T. Mason, F. Trzcinski, G. Greenlee, J. Brown, D. Hoeflein, T. Meschter, K. Miga, K. Battaglini, C. Hoyt, R. Greenlee, K. Greenlee, A. Greenlee, B. Polhamus J. Drotar, K. Hoyt, C. Buonomo, S. Drake

CALLED TO ORDER: 19:46

MINUTES FROM: 12/05/2016 **ACCEPTED:** F. Trzcinski, seconded by G. Roberts

TREASURER'S REPORT

Activity checking: \$7486.32
General checking: \$7842.24

Activity: \$2440.90
2% money: \$5045.42

Thank you for using Amazon Smile for your purchases during the holiday season. There will be a budget meeting on January 16, 2017. I will send out an e-mail to all account owners regarding this. Think about what you might need or want to do in the coming year and how it will affect your budget line.

ACCEPTED: C. Hoyt, seconded by J. Brown

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS

We received Christmas cookies, hot chocolate, and Christmas cards from the United Methodist Church on Maple Dr. Thanks to the Sunshine Committee for sending a thank-you note on our behalf.

We received a \$50 donation from some very appreciative homeowners on Grandview Pl. after we went to their home on a call. They were impressed with our professionalism. Thanks to the Sunshine Committee for sending a thank-you note.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

There are two members who are Members Not in Good Standing due to physicals:

- E. Belensky
- S. Hoyt

(NOTE: After the meeting it was discovered that there were some discrepancies with the quarterly hours; there may be some changes and the minutes will be updated if any corrections need to be made.)

Members Not in Good Standing because of quarterly hours:

- K. Battaglini
- E. Belensky
- J. Brown (submitted hardship letter)
- K. Miga
- H. Polhamus

Inactive members due to quarterly hours:

- B. Gazdik
- D. Glover
- J. Pedro

K. Miga requested a class transfer from firefighter to business member only.

J. Brown submitted a hardship letter for the fourth quarter due to the birth of his daughter.

OFFICER REPORTS

CHIEF:

- G. Roberts and W. Miga have been working on a driver training policy. This was sent to the officers for input; we will discuss it at the next officers meeting and will most likely implement it next month.
- We will be discussing possible response changes for automatic alarms when we are obviously not needed, such as cases where the homeowner calls and says it was cooking-related, or it was an accidental trip, or a police officer is on the scene and says that there is no fire problem. Everyone is doing their own thing in terms of canceling the call or continuing on. We are going to try and baseline our response. We will also be discussing this with Maine in terms of what they want us to do in case one of us ends up at one of their calls.

FIRST ASSISTANT CHIEF:

- There are still a few fire reports missing from last year. As a reminder, if no officer responds to a fire call then it is the responsibility of the senior member to complete the report or contact myself or another officer to assist with the report. Senior members have sent me a narrative for the report in the past and the names of crew members who responded and I completed the rest; I don't mind doing this. Please ask for help.
- I worked with R. Serowik and asked for assistance with getting reports completed for the EMS calls that do not have a response. G. Roberts stepped up to help out with this task. Thank you, Glenn, as this will help with getting them done faster!
- I talked to C. Hoyt and we came up with a better solution for record-keeping with reports. In the past we would use the incident type "Dispatched, Cancelled En Route" for no-response EMS calls and other fire calls if we were canceled, such as assists to Maine Fire. This old way would not provide us with accurate report numbers. We came up with a solution by using the incident type "Medical Assist, Assist EMS Crew" and using the action code "Action Taken, Other" and put in EMS CALL, NO RESPONSE (or something similar) in the narrative section. This is to be used with no-response EMS calls only. We

want to start using this in 2017. We have tried other incident/action codes and this was accepted by NFIRS requirements.

- When completing the mutual aid section of the report, Automatic Mutual Aide Given or Received is to be used when we are dispatched at the same time as Maine Fire if we are Engine 98 or for EMS calls. Mutual Aid Given/Received is used when resources are used on second-alarm responses or special requests. I learned this recently while helping C. Hoyt with a grant. For the most part I think it was being used correctly, but I know that I wasn't using it correctly at times.
- At the last officers meeting some questions came up about fire reports and about what incident types we need to use on certain calls, proper action codes to be used, and what information is actually needed. I will be compiling a list and will be sending it to OFPC for clarifications.

SECOND ASSISTANT CHIEF: No report.

DAY CAPTAIN: No report.

NIGHT CAPTAIN: I have nothing further to add.

FIRST LIEUTENANT: No report.

SECOND LIEUTENANT: I have nothing further to add.

FIRE POLICE CAPTAIN: No report.

EMS:

- EMS training will take place on January 19, 2017 at 19:00 at Station 1. Topic is TBA.
- Annual CPR class will take place on Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 10:00; all are welcome.
- J. Becker has signed up to take the EMT class in the spring; contact me if you would like to take this as it is often overfilled and we have to turn people away. People affiliated with agencies have priority over everyone else.
- A first responder class will begin on Monday, February 20, 2017 at Vestal EMS. The class will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays from 18:00 to 21:00 and will conclude on May 18, 2017, which is the state test day. If you have been previously certified as either a first responder or an EMT, you can take this as a refresher course. Pretesting will take place on February 15, 2017, which may shorten your requirements. This test is offered only once a year in Eastern Broome or Western Broome. This is a Western Broome year, so it will not be offered close by for 2 more years. Please let me know if you are interested.

FIRE MARSHAL: No report.

SAFETY OFFICER: No report.

MAINTENANCE:

- Har-Rob is scheduled to come down mid-week to hopefully repair the speedometer on the pumper-tanker and install the new spray bar controller for the brush truck.
- A new strobe light was ordered for one of the front lights on the pumper-tanker.

AIR/CASCADE:

- Flow testing will take place next Monday and Tuesday; this should not affect anyone unless there is a call. You might be missing one pack from a rig, but they are really good about not taking more than one pack off at a time.
- Fit testing will take place during Tuesday training on February 28, 2017. You must attend if you are a current green tag so that you can be fit-tested.
- I printed out the 2017 sheets for air packs. These include a couple of hydro sheets that will be located on the Rescue.

TRAINING:

(C. Hoyt)

- I am setting up a situational awareness class which is available to us at no cost. I would like to include EMS members as well. It will take place on Tuesday, February 21, 2017. It will be a 2-hour class that begins at 19:00 at Station 1 and will end at 21:00.
- Please be here PRIOR to 18:30 for the Leadership Lessons Training class with Lieutenant Basher from Meridian Training Solutions on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at Station 1.
- Genesis airbag training will take place on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at Station 2. We are going to be looking at replacing our airbags. We are trying to set up demos with other companies as well.

(J. VanKuren)

- There is a live burn scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2017.

HEALTH/SAFETY:

(C. Hoyt)

- A salesman dropped off demo packs of wipes and then we went to a cancer awareness class, during which their use was recommended. They are inexpensive and we want you to use them. Please give us feedback so we can decide if we want to purchase more. There are two packs on every rig and one pack on each rack. They are meant for cleaning carcinogens/soot off of your skin, but not grease.

AUDIT: No report.

PARADE: No report.

AUXILIARY: I have nothing to add.

BYLAW:

- Due to the holidays we were unable to finish working on the proposal that we have been considering for the past couple of months. We hope to bring it up for a vote at the February meeting.

B. C. FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:

(F. Trzcinski)

- The deadline for applying for the Binghamton firefighter test is Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

WEBSITE:

- We have posted new pictures from past calls and accidents.
- A suggestion was made by John Hussar to update our website with new technology. We will be meeting with him to discuss it.

RETENTION/ RECRUITING/ MEMBERSHIP: None.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS: None.

MEMBERS COMING OFF PROBATION:

- D. Kerila was a member of UCFC and left to take an out-of-state job. He has since returned. The chief has the option of ending a returning member's probation early and C. Hoyt opted to end Dan's probation as of December 31, 2016.

SUNSHINE:

- We sent a thank-you note to the homeowners who sent the \$50 donation.
- We sent a thank-you note to the church for the cookies.
- We sent a sympathy card to R. McConnell, whose brother passed away.

TRUCK COMMITTEE UPDATE:

- We should have three different financing options sent to us by tomorrow at noon, which will then be sent to the board for consideration.

OLD BUSINESS

Regarding the eligibility list, we have one objection letter that was received immediately prior to the start of the board meeting. We will be looking into this and will address it at the annual meeting prior to the elections.

The nomination board is now closed. No names may be added to it.

Regarding driver qualifications, as mentioned previously G. Roberts took the lead on this (many thanks, Glenn) and it has been sent to the officers for review.

K. Battaglini will be calling someone about repairing the lights around the flagpole at Station 1.

Regarding the broken door from the hallway to the parking lot at Station 1, K. Battaglini is going to be meeting with someone this week regarding repairs. The door might have to be replaced.

Regarding the door at Station 2 from the rear of the building into the hallway, a board needs to be replaced in the control panel. This will cost approximately \$700. K. Battaglini will ask about the longevity of the key fob system as well.

There has been a problem with the alarm system at Station 1. The alarm company said that it appeared to be due to a call being dropped. We thought that we had solved that problem when we switched over from Time Warner Phone to a cell phone line. Later, it was confirmed that we have a cell line dialer when it was found in the utility room, but it might be that we are still somehow using Time Warner. K. Battaglini will be looking into this.

NEW BUSINESS

We had a visit from one of the Franciscan friars from the Mt. St. Francis Hermitage monastery. He dropped off some religious medals for us and invited us to visit. A visit would be a good idea for planning purposes.

Vote on hardship letter from J. Brown:

YES: 23

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 1

Vote on class change from firefighter to business member for K. Miga:

YES: 24

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Absentee ballots for the election will be made available in the next week or so. K. Miga will send an e-mail with directions for filling these out.

Thank you to the Greenlee family for the excellent homemade meal!

REFRESHMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING: Board

NUMBER ATTENDING: 26

VOTING: 24

TIME ADJORNED: (I forgot to look at the clock) Motion to adjourn was made by M. Belensky, seconded by B. Polhamus, and all were in agreement.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, February 4, 2017 (annual meeting)

Respectfully submitted, *Karen S. Miga*