

**HIGHLAND FIRE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 8, 2014**  
**7 PM**

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<b>Commissioners:</b> Stephen DiLorenzo, Chairman	(Present)
Benjamin Bragg	(Present)
Christian Erichsen	(Present)
John Fraino	(Present)
Dominick Palladino	(Present)

Secretary/Treasurer Jim Passikoff	(Present)
District Clerk Denise A. Holzberger	(Present)
Chief Peter D. Miller	(Present)

**1. Opening of meeting-** Chairman DiLorenzo called the meeting to order, led the pledge of allegiance to the flag and called for a moment of silence for fallen firefighters.

Lighting Program-Chairman Dilorenzo stated that Paul Costello of Lime Energy was here tonight to speak to us regarding the outside lighting retrofit program that Central Hudson is subsidizing. The lighting would be replaced with LED lights. The subsidy would be 50%. The amount of incentive corresponds to the power removed from the grid. There are additional discounts for lump sum payments. Lime Energy's crews do all the work. Savings over a ten year period could yield \$50,000. A packet was distributed to the Board for review. It was noted that LED lights will throw more light. Station 2 does not require as many lights. Plans can be adjusted as needed. The plan includes the flag light with photo sensor. Painting of cans could void any warranties. Timeframe for installation is about three weeks. WE should act accordingly as a decision will be made as to whether the program will be continuing. Chairman DiLorenzo thanked Mr. Costello for his presentation.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2014 regular meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bragg moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2014 regular meeting as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-95

**3. July 2014 Bills** against the District-as reviewed by Commissioner Palladino, Fraino and Chief Miller.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Erichsen moved to approve payment of the bills as reviewed by Commissioners Palladino and Fraino and Chief Peter Miller, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-96

**4. Correspondence-**

Hess Energy –letter regarding Direct Energy Business

2014 Poll site Agreement-from Ulster County Board of Elections due by August 1, 2014

Christian Ministerial Fellowship- letter regarding Parade June 27, 2015. Directed to hose company president.

Community Room Requests- It was noted that EVOC will not be taking place here.

**Note:** Fireman's Home BBQ scheduled for September 14, 2014 as per Toni Elia Need insurance.

#### **5. New Member Interviews/Approvals-none**

**6. Committee Reports:** Buildings and Grounds: St. 1 Commissioners Bragg and DiLorenzo  
Verizon Micro-Cell –Commissioner Bragg explained he will be meeting with Verizon representatives.

St.1 Power wash-took 3 hours to do one section; not working out. Commissioner Bragg reported that we need to contact the representative as repairs are needed.

Airflow-to review findings with Commissioner Bragg.

Weld Power-came here on June 23, 2014. Commissioner Bragg reported that he was disappointed with the service tech. Oil was changed on all units and those on the trucks. We have a transfer switch issue. Commissioner Bragg to contact Weld to resolve this issue.

Police Station Repairs-urinal needed work. Jim Taylor Plumbing called in.

St 1 Door #7-Dutchess Overhead was called in; springs were replaced. Additional springs were ordered to keep on hand for future repairs.

Painting-once classes are completed, painting will begin.

Training-compressor pipe was bent during training; pipe will be moved to prevent this from happening in the future.

Community Room Shutters-Chairman DiLorenzo reported that there are two serving windows in the community. During training, etc. it can be noisy in the kitchen. We have obtained a proposal for \$2100 installed. This would be a community room expense.

Station 2- Commissioner Erichsen reported that he met with the company using the stream at St 2. They will donate millings to the District for use at Station 2. An Excavator for the day would be about \$1000.

Propane- Commissioner Fraino reported that he spoke with Joe Porco regarding a fixed price and a cap contract. Based on our consumption record, it was recommended that we stay with the fixed price through April 2015. Commissioner Fraino will be checking with other vendors.

Fascia, painting and shed-Commissioner Erichsen reported that he would be meeting with Michael Krusen regarding plans.

Mold St 2- it was reported that it was taken care of.

**7. Apparatus Repair:** Commissioners Erichsen and DiLorenzo

Chief Miller reported that all apparatus is good.

31-20 to Nichols for warranty paint work. (2-3 weeks)

Fuel Gauges need to be addressed.

**8. Insurance/Workers Comp-**Commissioners Fraino and Palladino

Nothing to report

**9. Physicals/Health Program-** letters sent out for physicals due through September 5, 2014

Chief Miller stated that he would like to set up a meeting with The WorkPlace to discuss services and costs.

**10. Physical Fitness Program-**Commissioners Erichsen, DiLorenzo and

Pending activity reports from All Sport.

**11. Capital Improvement-**Commissioners Bragg and DiLorenzo

Nothing to report at this time.

**12. Ulster County Fire District Association-** Bragg, DiLorenzo, Erichsen

September meeting will be at Walkkill

**13. Service Awards-**Commissioners Palladino, Chief, HHCo. Pres. Or their designee

June 2014 activity posted July 8, 2014

Chairman DiLorenzo stated that he and Commissioner Fraino had a conference call with Tony Hill (Penflex0 regarding appropriate funding. It was noted that we have always put more in the fund than just the budgeted amount. Therefore we are closer to our appropriate funding. The additional \$20,000 to upgrade the plan is manageable. Of course we are cognizant of our other big expenses, such as airpaks. It was noted that we have \$980,000 in the Apparatus Budget. Once our program is fully funded, you cannot overfund it.

Commissioner Fraino stated that he would like to be at 80 or 90%; he is trying to be responsible and after speaking with Tony Hill, we are at 74% funding. Our numbers show that we can manage this responsibly and work toward 100 % funding in the next few years. WE do have concerns regarding the air packs and radios as well.

**14. Treasurer Report-**Treasurer Passikoff

Treasurer Passikoff reviewed the June 2014 financial report. Treasurer Passikoff stated that he will be working on the draft budget.

**Audit 2013-** Treasurer Passikoff stated that the Audit of 2013 has been completed. He explained that governmental accounting is used. We account for things differently in the financial report and the budget. A cell phone policy was discussed and board members are working on this. An Asset Plan is a written procedure of how we determine the replacement of assets. We already do this by forming a committee and assessing our needs. We just need to formalize it in a written document.

Acceptance of June 2014 Financial Report

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to accept the June 2014 Financial Report as submitted by the Treasurer, seconded by Commissioner Erichsen.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-97

**15. Inspection Dinner-** September 12, 2014 The Would

**16. Public Comment-**none

**17. Chiefs Report-**Chief Miller reported the following:

31-20- to Nichols

Ulster County Parade July 26, 2014-request 31-45 to Saugerties

Radio Tower-July 10 and July 11 2014 requested by Esopus for assistance.

Pump Test-in the process of scheduling

AED-our AEDs are nearing end of life (2015) cost is \$1500-1800 each. Town of Lloyd's are also nearing end of life. Once we determine the quantity we can determine funding.

CSX-no report

Grant-nothing to report

Claim for reimbursement from NYSDOH- District Clerk to follow up.

**18. Old Business-**

Commissioner Fraino raised concerns for payment of food for Class being held here at Highland.

Chief Miller stated that in the past the District has paid for food for emergencies. It is customary for the host company to provide refreshments for classes.

**19. New Business-**

Excavation At St 2

MOTION: Commissioner Erichsen moved to approve the removal of trees and stumps and grade millings by Hudson Valley Lawn Care at a cost of \$1000 at Station 2 to expand the training area, seconded by Commissioner Fraino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-98

Shutters for Community Room

MOTION: Commissioner Ben Bragg moved to approve the purchase and installation of two Shutter doors for the community room kitchen at a cost of \$2100.00, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-99

LOSAP UpGrade

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to proceed with the referendum to increase the LOSAP benefit from 20 years to 30 years with retroactive credit for 2013 and 2014 for all members who met the qualifications, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

When the Board was polled the vote was as follows:

Commissioner John Fraino Aye                      Commissioner Lindy Palladino Aye  
Commissioner Ben Bragg Aye                      Commissioner Chris Erichsen Aye  
Commissioner Stephen DiLorenzo Aye  
Motion was carried unan. 2014July8-100

Audit 2013

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to accept the Audit for 2013 as submitted by Vanacore, Seconded by Commissioner Erichsen.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent  
Motion carried unan. 2014July8-101

Approval for 31-45 to Ulster County Parade

**MOTION:** Commissioner Erichsen moved to authorize 31-45 to Saugerties for the Ulster County parade on July 26, 2014, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent  
Motion carried unan. 2014July8-102

Approval for 31-45 to Esopus

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to authorize 31-45 to Esopus on July 10 and July 11, 2014 to assist them, seconded by Commissioner Erichsen.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent  
Motion carried unan. 2014July8-103

Central Hudson/Lime Energy Upgrade

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bragg moved to approve going forward with the Central Hudson/Lime Energy Lighting Upgrade at a cost not to exceed \$18,000 for both Station 1 and 2, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent  
Motion carried unan. 2014July8-104

Cell Phone Policy-Chairman DiLorenzo stated we need to set a date for the committee to meet.

Roof Top Units-Commissioner Erichsen stated that 4 are in need of updating

Ulster County Fire Advisory Board Representative-Chairman Dilorenzo reported that Fred DeMaio is willing to fill the vacancy; we need to compose a letter to send to the Ulster county Fire Advisory Board endorsing him. This should be done within the week.

**MOTION:** Commissioner John Fraino moved to endorse Fred DeMaio as the representative for the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-105

#### **20. Executive Session**

**MOTION:** At 9:20 PM Commissioner John Fraino moved to go to executive session to discuss a personnel matter regarding a medical issue pertaining to an employee, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-106

#### **21 . Return to Regular Session and Adjournment**

**MOTION:** At 9:40 , Commissioner John Fraino moved to return to the regular session of the meeting and there being no further business, moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent

Motion carried unan. 2014July8-107

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise A. Holzberger, District Clerk

Approved BOFC 8/12/2014