

Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department  
Board Meeting

Minutes of the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department Board meeting held, **January 3, 2013** at 14127 Town Hall Highway, Millersburg, Michigan.

Chairman Foster called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Present for the meeting were Board Members, Jeff Foster, Jerry Counterman, John Malaski and Beverly Rossetto, Fire Chief Gary Yaklin and Medical Coordinator Anna Beach. Deputy Chief Merchant arrived at 8:15pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Chairman Foster led the pledge of allegiance.

**Agenda** – Motion was made by Jerry Counterman, seconded by John Malaski to approve the agenda for this meeting. Four yes votes. Motion carried.

**Minutes** – Minutes of the November 1, 2012 meeting were reviewed. The suggested corrections were: ERV be changed to EORV, curreant is change to CURRENT. Red Cross classes – Foster made a motion TO APPROVE \$57.57. Thermal Imaging Camera – WAS PURCHASED FOR \$9,105.00 AND IT INCLUDES TWO CHARGERS. Budget Committee – will meet on NOVEMBER 27, 2012. Wish list items include a COMMUNICATION tower. Motion was made by Beverly Rossetto, seconded by John Malaski to approve the minutes with the suggested corrections. Four yes votes. Motion carried.

**New Board Member** – Archie Patterson has requested to be appointed as a member of the Fire Board. Beverly Rossetto made a motion that Archie Patterson be accepted as a board member, Jerry Counterman seconded the motion. Four yes votes. Motion carried. Chairman Foster invited Mr. Patterson to be seated and participated as a Board Member at this meeting.

**Election of Officers** – John Malaski motion to nominate Jeff Foster, Chairman, Beverly Rossetto, Treasurer and Archie Patterson, Secretary. Jerry Counterman seconded the motion. Five yes votes. Motion carried.

**Treasurers Report** – Treasurer Rossetto reported the November 1, 2012 beginning checking account balance was \$22,817.91, one deposit, \$2,759.99 (security camera grant). Total disbursement for November and December was \$16,923.83. Savings account November 1<sup>st</sup> balance was \$39,883.44, one deposit of interest \$11.86. Total funds December 31, 2012, \$48,549.37. John Malaski made a motion to accept the Treasurer report, Jerry Counterman seconded the motion. Five yes votes. Motion carried.

Capital Outlay - Treasurer Rossetto made a motion to move \$705.00 from Security Camera budget to Thermal Imaging Camera budget. Archie Patterson seconded the motion. Five yes votes. Motion carried.

Archie Patterson inquired if there have been any statement charges or fees from Chemical Bank. The question could not be answered because no statement has been received as yet.

**Fire Chiefs Report** - Chief Yaklin reported that there have been two fire runs that were automobile accidents due to icy roads. The Thermal Imaging camera has arrived, the truck charger unit is on back order and when it is received it will be installed in the tanker.

Two applications have been filed. Paul Counterman who is certified in Fire Fighter I and II and Debbie Counterman who will attend First Responder class when a class is available. Jeremiah McQuaide, is attending Fire Fighter I and II class being held in Topinabee, MI and should be certified in early spring.

The EORV is ready and only needs the two lights hooked up. EORV training is being set up by Deputy Chief Merchant and everyone in the Department will be trained to help in an emergency.

All radios except two are narrow band compliance. A grant will be available for new radios.

Chief Yaklin stated that Todd Curtis did snow plow the parking lot after the snow storm in December. Treasurer Rossetto also contacted Todd Curtis to send a proposal for snow plowing.

Hyalite Environmental has been contracted to perform an environmental assessment for the renovation of the Biological Station. Chief Yaklin has been asked to write a letter with his input and suggestions. The Chief will inquire about a water intake system that could be used by the Fire Department.

**Medical Coordinators Report** – Anna Beach reported that for the months of November and December there was a total of nineteen runs (Medical runs 14, Accidents 5) Allied Ambulance responded to 14 and Onaway Ambulance responded to 5. Of the nineteen runs 15 were transports to the hospital. Anna stated that for the year 2012 there have been 99 runs for Ocqueoc/ Bearinger First Responders.

Jerry Counterman stated that we must address the number of Medical calls to the Golden Beach Manor and the fact that Allied Ambulance and Onaway Ambulance Services have used our First Responders as drivers.

**Old Business** – Chairman Foster reported that the security cameras are installed and working.

John Malaski inquired who would be available for lift assist when the EORV is out in the woods and on back trails.

**Approval of new members** – Chairman Foster introduced Paul and Debbie Counterman and asked them to give a brief statement about their background. Paul was on Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department several years ago and left when he moved to Texas. He is Fire Fighter I & II certified and has had some EMT training but is not certified.

Debbie has had some EMT training but is not certified. Debbie is interested in taking classes to become certified. Medical Coordinator Beach said that no EMT classes are available until August.

John Malaski made a motion to accept Paul and Debbie Counterman as member of the Fire Department. Archie Patterson seconded the motion. Five yes votes. Motion carried.

**New Business** – The proposed Budget for 2013 -2014 was reviewed, more information is needed regarding the cost of an exhaust system and security parking lot lights before the Budget can be submitted to each Township. Chairman Foster will get further information from PIE&G and D&D Electric will be asked to give a quote for the cost of installing building mounted lights.

Chairman Foster appointed a committee to discuss Fire Fighter and First Responder wages. The committee members are, Jeff Foster, John Malaski, Beverly Rossetto and Chief Yaklin. A later date will be set for this committee to meet.

**Deputy Fire Chiefs Report** – Deputy Chief Merchant arrived at 8:15 p.m. and reported his plans for in-house training. The Fire Fighters and First Responders will continue to meet the first and third Wednesday of each month for rig maintenance. The in-house training will be held the last Wednesday of each month. The training for January, February, March and April are:

January 30, 2013 and February 27, 2013 will be extensive EORV training. Loading and unloading the EORV to and from the trailer. Each member of the department will practice driving and assisting in an emergency on back roads and trails.

March 27, 2013, using an updated CD or video on vehicle extrication, Deputy Chief Merchant has arranged to have some junk cars available for hands on training.

April 24, 2013, will be Wildland fire training for Fire Fighters and First Responders using Rig 702.

Deputy Chief Merchant will contact the CET department of MIOSHA and make arrangement for a walk through of our Fire Hall to insure that we are in compliance with MIOSHA standards.

**Public Comment** – No public comment

Next regular Fire Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., March 7, 2013.

A Tri-Board Budget meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., March 28, 2013.

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by,

*Beverly V. Rossetto*

Beverly Rossetto, Treasurer  
Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department