

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Engineers was held Jan. 26, 2010; meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. In attendance: Chief Al Galinelli, Norman Blank, Robert Miner, Brian Remy, James Sousa, Christopher Stanley, and Anthony Primiano.

Minutes from previous meeting read. Motion made by N. Blank, with second by B. Remy, to accept as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence:

„« Individual company correspondence distributed.

Old Business:

„« Gear/Pager/ID Returns ¡V Chief stated some, but not much, has been returned from inactive members. R. Miner stated he has been unable to reach one of Sta. 2 members to return everything; Chief said he will call the house to have it returned.

„« H1N1 Shots ¡V Feb. 6th. ¡V Chief stated he needs help, especially from rescue, to help with registration, give shots, and general help. Anyone volunteering that day who wants the H1N1 shot will be able to get it. Volunteers need to arrive by 10:00 a.m. at KMS for in-house training. Shots to be given from noon to 4:00.

Will also need help on Friday night to set up.

„« Chief met with Town Manager on budget; it appears department

heads will be receiving a 2% raise. It looks as everything stayed as requested except for the Baker Street Museum, which was cut by \$1,000. Chief also spoke with him about the \$400,000 taxpayer-approved funds for rescue addition. Chief suggested eliminating the addition and using the funds to purchase two new rescue trucks, while getting rid of the three current ones. This would help with cost of tires, maintenance, etc. He stated we would keep all the equipment for future use. Manager liked the idea. Changing would require going to an all-day referendum. Manager is also in favor of new vehicle for the Chief; the old vehicle to be placed in Tousisset. Third-party billing cost has been reduced from 7% to 4% by changing companies, giving more revenue to the town. Fire department has streamlined as much as possible. Chief to write extended plan for 3-5 years. New \$5,000 for station upkeep may disappear, but there are roll-over funds for that; firefighter gear being kept in budget.

New Business:

„« Truck/Room Steward Update reviewed.

„« Chief will need to know who in the companies really needs gear, in order that the Chief can start equipping them. Chief will also purchase some jackets for rescue to be used in inclement weather.

„« Leave of Absence ;V A rescue member requested maternity leave but to be allowed to continue as rescue secretary. Chief stated he has previously sent her a termination letter due to inactivity and requesting she return all keys, including ALS; they have not been

returned. N. Blank made motion, with second by R. Miner, to advise rescue foreman this member is not to be permitted at a rescue meeting unless she has the keys to return that night. Once keys are returned, she will be able to attend rescue meetings and continue secretarial role. Motion passed unanimously.

„« Chief spoke with Ed Jernigan about EMT license re-certifications for those expiring this year. New ones will expire the end of 2012; the next re-cert will be valid for 3 years, expiring in 2015. This is to make all RI EMTs have licenses expire at the same time. Jernigan is to send spring and fall schedules to the Chief. Chief stated only department members who were actively responding to rescue calls prior to 2010 will be permitted to attend; inactive members will be responsible for finding and paying for their own re-cert classes. Chief stated he will reimburse the inactive members only after they provide one year of responding to rescue calls after their re-certification. The only exception will be Board of Fire Engineer members who are EMTs.

„« January 31st is Food Drive at Bank of Newport. Chief would like several members from each company to pick up food and deliver it to the bank; to begin pick-ups at approx. 10:00 a.m.

„« James "Jimma" Rimoshytus passed away. Chief believes wake will be this Friday, with the funeral on Saturday. Family has requested Eng. 1 lead procession and carry the flowers.

„« Chief asked J. Sousa to find out if an Eng. 6 member would like to make a soup for Soup Night; this is not a competition.

Station Reports:

„« Sta. 6 iV Electrician due to finish tying in wires.

„« Fire Headquarters iV roof still leaking. Dumpster dropped off is being filled neighborhood people, so Council should be made aware in case there is a complaint; the dumpster is not covered. Chief stated there have been two couches and two chairs destroyed by the water leak in Centrali's meeting room..

Training:

„« HazMat classes working well. Due to funerals and the H1N1 clinic, the classes will not finish until Feb. 20th.

„« EMT Basic class going well.

„« Chief stated only a few took the officeri's test, but they all did well.

„« CPR re-certs for those who need it are scheduled for February.

„« Thermal Imager class scheduled for Feb. 25th. This may need to be rescheduled if the thermal imagers areni't in. Chief stated the brackets for these have been installed, and he thinks the imagers should be in by the end of the week.

Other:

„« Chief stated that during major storms he usually puts three people on at a station as a paid detail. He said some companies submit as many as ten names as having done the full detail. Chief said he cannot pay that many with his budget. To be paid for a storm detail, they must stay at the Station, not go home and respond from there.

There being no further business to discuss, R. Miner made motion, with second by B. Remy, to adjourn. Motion unanimously passed; meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.