

Meeting of the Coventry Fire District, Anthony Fire Department Board of Directors

April 14, 2010 – Wednesday

Open meeting: 7:15 pm

Board Members in attendance: Gary Cote - Chairman, Shirley Matthews, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz and Edward Webster

Chief – Paul Labbadia

Deputy Chief - Robert Warren

Accountant – Tom LaColle

Clerk – Robin Leroux

1) Board Update and Discussion: Gary Cote announced that the Chief and Deputy Chief will be contributing to this part of the meeting instead of doing separate reports. Ed Webster first wanted to welcome Jim Beckman to the Board. Jim had been a temporary Chief for the Anthony Fire Department, a past Board member for the Anthony Fire Department and is an active firefighter in Cranston. Gary Cote read the tax collectors report. Gary informed everyone of a phone call he received from a friend at the State house who informed him that a supplemental budget had been passed that will give the fire districts the reimbursement budgeted for the remainder of our tax year. Ed Webster wondered if some kind of special day was needed to promote our new fire apparatus. Gary said we were in the Times and

with all the flooding the truck was out in the public a lot so it probably was not necessary to do anything else. Ed also asked Chief Labbadia if we were able to get funding to cover the cost of overtime and other expenses incurred during the flood. Chief Labbadia said he is working on it and we should get reimbursed. Peter Pankowicz thanked the Chief and all the firefighter for the terrific job they did handling the flood crisis, pumping basements and evacuating the residents. Gary Cote also thanked them. Gary was disappointed that our town official did not come out to help and support the victims till the Governor came to town. It was discussed that we need an emergency account set up or a credit card that could be used in case of an emergency. The Chief needed supplies and pumps for the flood that were not available through the usual channels and did not have access to funds to purchase them elsewhere. Chief Labbadia said overall the storm was handled well. It was tense for a while worrying about the bridge and the mill collapsing. DOT has made the bridge a priority thanks to the Chief's influence regarding the public's safety. They plan to tear down the old bridge and have a new one up by the end of the year, if all goes well. Chief Labbadia will be implementing job performance achievement tests to make sure the firefighters are capable or doing their jobs safely without any risks to their health and the public. He is still checking into procedures and medical requirements to initiate the job performances. Motion was made by Peter Pankowicz to back the Chief with his job safety evaluations. Jim Beckman seconded the motion. All were in favor, Gary Cote, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz, Shirley Matthews and Ed Webster. Chief

Labbadia brought up his need for a new vehicle. His current vehicle which he purchased with his own medical reimbursement funds is too small and unreliable to carry out his duties in an efficient way. Ed Webster made motion to use funds out of the General Fund to purchase a vehicle that the Chief has already looked at, till we get funds available from the Fire Prevention Fund to pay for it. Shirley Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor, Gary Cote, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz, Shirley Matthews and Ed Webster. Gary Cote updated the Corporate Resolution with Centreville Bank.

2) Public comment – It was announced the water company is trying to increase hydrants rates. The next meeting will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of June, which should be June 9th. Someone asked on the progress of our website upgrade. It is being worked on.

Motion made by Shirley Matthews to adjourn. Ed Webster seconded the motion. All were in favor Gary Cote, Peter Pankowicz, Shirley Matthews, Jim Beckman and Edward Webster.

Meeting Adjourned 8:35pm

Respectfully submitted

Robin Leroux

Clerk, Board of Directors AFD