



Central Coventry Fire District
Board Meeting
1670 Flat River Rd.

Minutes

May 21, 2015 7:00 pm

1. **Call to Order** – 7:00 pm
2. **Roll Call**
Roll call was conducted by President Fred P. Gralinski:
 - Present: Helen G. Quinn, Daniel K. Lantz Jr., President Fred P. Gralinski, and Vice President Marie Baker, Director Cynthia A. Fagan-Perry, Director Maureen K. Jendzejec and Chief Shawn Murray.
 - Also in attendance members of the public
3. **Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting of April 15, 2015**
 - a. Motion to accept April 16th Board minutes made by the, Cynthia A. Fagan-Perry and 2nd Maureen K. Jendzejec.
4. **Tax Collectors report**
 - a. Motion to accept Tax Collectors report made by Marie Baker, and 2nd Maureen K. Jendzejec
5. **Chief's report**
 - a. The following was discussed:
 - a. Administration – total of 6
 - b. Operations - total of 31 firefighter not including employees out on OJI
 - c. On job Injury (OJI) - total of 4 out on OJI
 - b. **Emergency Responses:**
 - a. Crew responded to various fire and EMS calls for service.
 - b. Assisted the Anthony District with motor vehicle accident.
 - c. Under Captain Blanding the crew responded to a structure fire on Reynolds Court.
 - d. The crew responded to a brush fire on Hope Road.
 - e. Captain Blanding crew also responded to a local business for a cardiac arrest. The crew was able to treat the victim with cardiac drugs and a pulse was restored. Coventry is a heart safe community which recognizes us for teaching CPR to our residents.
 - f. Crew revived a drug overdose victim earlier in the day with a drug called Narcan. This individual overdosed on Heroin.
 - g. Total Incidents: 226, 178 EMS & 48 Fire, Box alarms, and other calls.
 - c. **Fire prevention & Public Relations:**
 - a. Fire Marshal Godin continued with inspection of licensed establishments and places of assembly inspections. These inspections are ongoing throughout the year.
 - b. Fire Marshal Godin continued with inspection of licensed establishments and places of assembly inspections. These inspections are ongoing throughout the year.
 - c. In April he conducted commercial inspections of 1 storage occupancy, 1 residential board and care facility, 1 religious place of assembly, and assisted the Deputy State Fire Marshal on a final inspection of new day care occupancy.
 - d. Fire Marshal Godin reports residential sale inspections continue to increase. This past month he conducted 24 residential sales inspections and of those 5 required re-inspections.
 - e. Fire Marshal Godin has completed plan review on a sub division, 1 new business, and 5 residential properties. A plan review is conducted to assure that fire protection and life safety requirements are met and detailed in the building plans. The various types of building occupancy and construction require different systems and devices.
 - f. Marshall and the Chief have meet with Town Representatives and an Engineering firm on fire safety project for the annex. Meeting with State Fire Board in May to seek approval of fire safety



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improvements.

a. Apparatus and Vehicle Maintenance:

- a. April seemed to slow down as far as out of service and repairs on the rescues and engines. In the next month we will be conducting servicing of the fire pumps which consists of inspecting the pump, repairing gauges, and testing for proper operations.
- b. All of the rescue boats have been prepared for the summer season.
- c. The Chief is in the process of developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the replacement of the rescues. The RFP will be sent to rescue vendors asking them to provide specifications for available demonstration rescue units. These rescues are readily available for sale and will allow us to find replacement rescues faster than if we were to create specific bid specifications. Often times these rescues can be purchased for a considerable cost savings because they are typically made with a generic design rather than a custom design. There is enough ability to modify them to fit our needs if necessary. Once we receive the RFPs we will evaluate the available models and bring forward for approval and purchase consideration. This would also include financing options.
- d. He asks for the personnel to begin looking at replacement of one of the engines in the next fiscal year.
- e. This provides funding over a number of years so that when replacement of vehicles is due the tax impact is minimal on taxpayers and reduces spikes in the tax rate.
- f. We are in need of a utility/plow vehicle. The "Squad" vehicle that was used previously for plowing is out of service due to transmission issues. The cost this year was about \$5,000.

b. Facilities and Building Maintenance:

- a. The Chief has met with the VFIS insurance appraiser to discuss the insurance claim for the Hills Farm Fire Station boiler and pipes freeze up this past January. The repair and replacement of the boiler (which froze up and cracked) totals approximately \$13,000. Insurance will cover the majority of that cost with ours being the \$1,000 deductible.
- b. We placed a 30 yard dumpster at the rear of the Arnold Fire Station. We have already cleared out some old grills, absorbent materials, and offered some old supply hose to the public on face book. The hose is worn and no longer usable for fire hose. We will clear out the basement at Arnold Road, the attic, the mezzanine (already done) of any items that are no longer of value or use. Examples of items we have discarded include old CPR manikins, decorations, stretchers, medical equipment etc. Nothing is discarded without my direct approval. I am documenting through pictures what is being discarded for the record. Once Arnold Road is completed we will move over to the Washington Station.

c. Training:

- a. Battalion Chief Jim Cady completed the basic EMT refresher training program. All of our personnel are required to obtain continuing education in order to remain certified and licensed as an EMT. The training was conducted three times (once for each group).

d. Other activities:

- a. We have completed the evaluation of our computers and servers for the fire district.
- b. We are waiting for the report from the IT Company with recommendations.
- c. Our "Official" Face book Page is doing well with over 600 likes. Please look us up and Like the page if you have not already.
- d. He is continuing to research and work with the Partnership for Rhode Island Streetlight Management (PRISM), a statewide nonprofit municipal collaboration to manage streetlights, including ongoing maintenance, service changes, emergency repairs, LED upgrades, and control installation.
- e. The district continues to obtain credits and refunds from various businesses that have been charging us a tax on purchases and services over the past years. Being a municipality we are exempt from sales tax. We have recovered approximately \$10,000 already.
- f. He also met with two representatives of FEMA on Friday May 15th. We are trying to recover \$6,000 from the winter storm Juno.



Central Coventry Fire District
Board Meeting
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e. Miscellaneous Items:

- a. Requested reimbursement from State of Rhode Island for damaged tires (3)
- b. Ordered 10 sets of protective clothing.
- c. Fred- President asked, what is the protective clothing? The chief responded: this is clothing that they used when they are in a fire.
- d. Purchased a replacement copy machine (refurbished) - \$3,500.0
- e. Chief responded to structure fire on Reynolds Court.
- f. Chief responded to brush fire on Hope Furnace Road.
- g. Developed Firefighter Job Description and flextime policy
- h. Participated in meeting with RI DOT and Coventry Highway to discuss Arnold Road project – Arnold Road will be completely reworked.

f. Conclusion:

- a. That was the ending of the Chiefs report.

g. Questions from the Board:

- a. Marie Baker: Question 1- She wanted to know about the RI Health Department report that cited 48 cities and towns. CCFD was in the top 10 coming in at number 9 for having issues with our equipment. Why are we in the top 10? What did they find wrong with our equipment? Does the Health Department contact you, Chief? The question was answered by the President letting her know he will send over that information to her. The Chief asked her to share that report because he didn't know about that study.
- b. Marie Baker: Question 2- Why did our fuel cost go up about \$8,000 if our runs have gone down? If we have had a drop on fuel cost and our runs dropped about a 100 runs then why did it go up? The President said this was a good question but we are not putting the Chief on the spot. This could be many things and all we want to know is if someone is watching over the fuel cost. The Chief answered yes we are monitoring it. He has the Highway department fuel log.
- c. Marie Baker: Question 3- If the call volume has stayed the same with 37 men, did we over staff by 1.5 million dollars in the last couple of years? The President responded we all know we were over staffed. Next question.
- d. Fred Gralinski- Question 4-On the cleaning did the employees get paid while they were working or was it collateral pay? The Chief said these guys were on duty.
- e. Unknown Audience member Question 1 – Why are there enough handouts? The president said Leslie Jacobo if we can have handouts. Leslie responded this was the first time we had handouts and now we know to bring handouts. The Chief also said how many do we print in the financial situation we are in.
- f. Daniel K. Lantz Jr –Question 5- The snow plow was fixed in the past. Fred responded with the Chief is working on this now.
- g. Daniel K. Lantz Jr Question 6- Wanted to know how much would we get back from the Hill farm situation? The Chief said we have a \$1000 deductible and around \$12,000 will be the refund.
- h. Cynthia Question 7- She would like to know it's best to change the Fire Station around? The Chief said they are looking into this.
- i. Cynthia Question 8- How many boats do we have? The Chief said around 4 and they have been taken for a test drive.
- j. Motion to accept the Chief report made by the President, Marie Baker and 2nd by Cynthia A. Fagan-Perry.
- k. The President asked for moment of Silence for a member of the community that passed away.

6. Review of New IAFF Union Contract and Court Filings:

- a. President Fred P. Gralinski led the conversation with the public for the next 30 minutes regarding the problem that has occurred in Central Coventry. Topics were discussed regarding the Union, The Receiver, the Governor, the Former Governor and regarding other personal opinions of the Board. The length of this recording is extremely large. Audio is available.



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Board Meeting
1670 Flat River Rd.

7. New Business

- a. New business was combined with the review of the New IAFF contract. Audio is available.

8. Public comment

- a. Public comment was combined with the review of the New IAFF contract. Audio is available.

9. Adjournment:

- a. Motion made adjourn, Director Fagan-Perry and 2nd by Daniel K. Lantz Jr, All Voted Aye.
Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.