

## **BOARDS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES – MARCH 4, 2021**

### **OPENING:**

Joint Board President, Robert Donahue, called the March meeting of the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners to order this 4th day of March 2021, at 7:30pm, at the Southard Fire Station, with a salute to the American Flag. This meeting was held in the truck bay with social distancing requirements in place. Face coverings were worn and chairs were placed 6 feet apart. Public was allowed to attend in person by following the guidelines.

The Open Public Meeting statement was read.

### **MINUTES:**

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 2020 were emailed to all Commissioners and copies were made available at the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Bob Tice. Seconded by Commissioner James Donahue, so voted. There were no minutes from December 2020 as that meeting was cancelled.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Roll call showed 15 Commissioners present, 10 absent. Chief Lewis was also in attendance.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

### **SPECIAL:**

None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Radio Committee – District 2 had forwarded a copy of a proposal from Motorola to Rich from Allegiant Wireless to review. The proposal was the first to estimate the costs to set up the site to begin the switch to the NJICS radio system (800 mhz). Rich found multiple items that need to be questioned. Fire District 2 proposed to the Howell Township Business Manager the need to have a consultant to oversee a project such as this. There will most likely be fees for this service and the fire commissioners may be responsible for part of the cost.

A motion was made by L. Memolo Sr. to support the hiring of Allegiant Wireless as a consultant for the radio project. This was seconded by R. Tice. Roll call vote showed all in attendance in favor. Motion passed.

Chief Lewis mentioned that the salesman from Motorola would like to meet with each fire district to finalize the radio needs of the district for this project.

## **CHIEFS REPORT:**

Chief Lewis reported that the Fire Bureau is in the process of hiring a new full-time inspector. David San Martin resigned his position in January.

Chief Lewis discussed the situation with the antenna system at the standby tower site for the existing Howell Fire 2 radio channel. The tower needs to be climbed to determine the failure. Train Towers has submitted an estimate for their services based on NJ State Contract pricing. Total estimate for diagnosis is \$5,318.00, this breaks down to \$1,063.60 per district. All present indicated their respective districts had reviewed the proposal and agreed to proceed with the work as described. District #1 has agreed to write a purchase order for the full amount and when the project is completed and the final invoice is provided, each district will reimburse District #1 their share of the project.

## **FIRE DISTRICT REPORTS:**

1. District #1 – All equipment in service.
2. District #2 –All equipment is in service.
3. District #3 – All equipment in service.
4. District #4 – All equipment in service. New members in the fire academy. New truck is being built in Florida and an inspection trip will be scheduled soon.
5. District #5 – All equipment in service.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Reorganization - President Robert Donahue (District 5) passed the gavel to Daniel Timmerman (District 1). Thomas Matthews will be serving as joint board president but was unable to attend this meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

## **GOOD/WELFARE:**

Keep Gerry Murphy (District #1 Fire Commissioner) in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Commissioner R. Donahue, seconded by Commissioner G. Patten, with no further business coming before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING, June 3, 2021, 7:30pm, FIRE DISTRICT #4  
RAMTOWN-HOWELL FIRE STATION, 88 RAMTOWN-GREENVILLE RD,**