

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS,
TOWNSHIP OF UPPER; DISTRICT #3**

April 7, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Township of Upper, District #3 was held on April 7, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. at the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company on Old Tuckahoe Road in Marmora, NJ. Commissioners **Paul Hoster**, **Sean Whelan**, **Edwin Kooker**, and **Jeff Pierson, Jr.**, were present. Commissioner **Kurt Austin** was unable to attend. Also present were **Jack Loeb** representative for **Cheryl Sayers, CPA**, Accountant and Recording Secretary to the Board along with **Jon Batastini, Esq.** Counsel to the Board, **Jay Newman**, Chief of the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company, and **Mark Newman**, Deputy Chief of the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company.

The meeting was opened by **Jon Batastini** who read the appropriate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey.

As the first order of regular business, the Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the prior meeting, held February 24, 2025.

Mr. Loeb presented a financial report, including a list of checks to be approved, signed, and distributed. The checks were approved as presented.

Jay Newman presented the Chief's Report, during which he provided updates on various ongoing activities. **Mr. Newman** confirmed that the inventory count, which had been requested at the previous meeting, has commenced. Additionally, an order for six sets of turnout gear has been placed. He also shared that he recently held a meeting with the State Department of Firefighter Preparedness to discuss both current and prior compliance efforts that the Fire Company is working towards. Furthermore, **Mr. Newman** reported an incident during a recent call in which the hose on Truck 1545 was discharged accidentally. The Fire Company is considering filing an insurance claim for the hose, with an assessor scheduled to visit on April 21.

Jon Batastini provided an overview of the recent reports distributed to all commissioners regarding the purchase of a new truck. **Mr. Batastini** requested that **Cheryl Sayers'** firm provide a statement outlining the outstanding balance on any current debts, including information on the expected timeline for their repayment. For the next meeting, he suggested that the Board discuss possible financing options. Additionally, **Mr. Batastini** plans to investigate the feasibility of utilizing a bond for the truck purchase.

Paul Hoster made a motion to approve the signing of a financing contract for a new truck, contingent upon the commission's ability to back out of the contract, once the contract amount of \$1.2 million is finalized. The motion was seconded by **Sean Whelan**, and all were in favor.

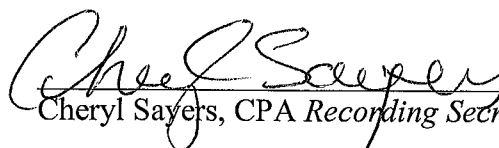
Edwin Kooker is in the process of finalizing the Google accounts for the commissioners. **Sean Whelan** made a motion to approve a budget of \$600 for the annual cost of setting up these accounts. The motion was seconded by **Paul Hoster**, and all were in favor.

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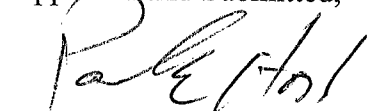
**April 7, 2025
(continued)**

Jack Loeb reminded the board that the next meeting is scheduled for May 19th, 2025 at 5:15 p.m. There being no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Cheryl Sayers, CPA *Recording Secretary*

Approved and Submitted,


Paul Hoster, *Chairman*