

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

MONTHLY MEETING

9/27/16 @ 4:00PM

Present: Chief Peter Shemeth, Deputy Chief Alex Schaeffer, Asst. Chief Andrew Kelly, Retired Senior Captain Charlie Smith, EMS Rep Trevor Scanlon, Retired Asst. Chief Scott Ellis, Retired Deputy Chief Larry Thomas and Anita Billings.

Meeting called to order at 4:05pm by Chief Shemeth

Reviewed and approved minutes from the August meeting with one spelling correction from **hand** operator to **HAM** operator under the Vehicles, Equipment & Maintenance section of Old Business.

Reviewed budget balances

Old Business:

- New 93 is in service. Chief Shemeth thanked Deputy Chief Schaeffer for all of his work both with the planning stage and putting it into service. Deputy Chief Schaeffer said it was a group effort. There is still a bit more to do to it.
- New 90 – The Chief submitted the bid to Procurement. \$248,755 is final price.
- Radio Communications Meeting – nothing new really came of the most recent meeting. The Committee along with the Sheriff are pushing to move forward to where the Island should have been a long time ago.
- Dive Trailer equipment – we have sent the equipment to OB with the agreement that if any of our guys want to go and train with them, they can.
- The cots that the Chief ordered through Emergency Management back in June finally came in.

The Chief is going to meet with Sarah Hughes tomorrow to follow up on insurance clarifications.

Training:

- There are many classes coming up over the next few months.
- Aircraft Hazards 10/22
- Boom Deployment 10/25 – Class is on a weekday and the State is willing to pay \$15/hr for the class.
- Vehicle Operations Course 10/29 – 10/30
- High Voltage Emergencies 11/5
- RIT 12/10 – 12/11
- Asst. Chief Kelly stated there were many new members on the roster and we really should do some training at the School. The School is going to give us their schedule for fire drills and lock down drills.

New Business:

Code Compliance & Enforcement:

- The Chief went down and looked at The Atlantic. He spoke with Ralph from ESS. Shortly after, an alarm went off there and they found out that in the process of cleaning the kitchen, they had been hosing with water and sprayed the alarm panel. ESS was called to shut down the system and the Chief required them to have a fire watch until system was back up.
- State Fire Marshall Compliance officers came down. Seafood Shanty, Port Hunter, and Atlantic all had violations. None of the violations were enough to shut the businesses down.

- 222 Upper Main Street (Wavelengths Building) – everything is still on hold.

Budget:

- The 5 Year Capital Programs is coming up in October and budget season is right around the corner. We need to start thinking about what is needed.
- We need to come up with a plan for 2022. What about a new fire station? Do we need to do a feasibility study first?
- We need to upgrade tank on truck.
- We should put an Article on the floor to mini split the station.
- Deputy Chief Schaeffer said we need to start thinking about enhancements to the Ladder and also at the infrastructure over on Chappy for capital planning.

Building, Maintenance & Equipment:

- Carolina Skiff – it is not really reliable. Are we going to continue to use it? Maybe we should put an Article on the floor to upgrade the motor?
- Retired Deputy Chief Thomas asked about how dive calls work now. Oak Bluffs and West Tisbury will now be called for any dive related incidents. We do not have the staff or time for dive training any longer, which is why we gave everything to OB. We should still have something for our guys if they can respond.
- Deputy Chief Schaeffer showed the members a picture of a lightweight tank vest that's on the market for roughly \$1,700.00.
- ***A motion was made to purchase (2) Rapid Diver Pro vests at the best price available based on Deputy Chief Schaeffer's research. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved by all members present.***

Personnel:

- At the request of Retired Capt. Kelly, Deputy Chief Schaeffer read a letter dated September 20, 1956 which acknowledged the date Capt. Kelly joined the department. It was suggested that we draft a letter recognizing this 60 year milestone.
- Buck Martin – The Chief sent him a letter notifying him that he did not get the required physical and he did not follow up with Dr. Zack. He was given until September 6th to respond and we have not heard from him. It was the consensus of the members to send him a letter thanking him for time served and to turn in his gear.

The Island wide mutual aid response for structure fires has been put into place at the ComCenter.

Meeting adjourned 5:10pm.