

**Montauk Fire District**  
**March 15, 2022**  
**Commissioners Regular Meeting 18:30 hours**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Richard Schoen  
James Wright  
William R. Pitts  
John Mark  
Charles “Chip” McLean

**Also Present:** Chief Scott Snow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief Peter Joyce, Jr. and Secretary/Treasurer Dawn E. Lucas.

**Call Meeting to Order:**

Chairman Schoen called meeting to order at 18:30 hours and we all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Secretary's Report:**

**Approval of Minutes:** A discussion arose with Commissioner Mark regarding corrections to a sentence pertaining to work hours. He will discuss later on in meeting. Commissioner Wright motioned to approve the minutes with said corrections of the February 23, 2022 Commissioner's Workshop Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pitts motioned/passed/carried.

**Purchase Requisitions:**

- A purchase requisition for Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$902.70, Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mark ; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition for EMP for medical supplies totaling \$959.33, Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mark; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition for Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$999.61, Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright ; motioned/passed/carried.
- Ms. Lucas read a letter pertaining to employee uniforms (paid ALS providers). The purchase requisition was presented totaling \$9,163.84, Commissioner Mark and McLean questioned the actual number of employees that work compared to what is on the roster. Current roster is 12-15 employees. Chairman Schoen stated doesn't matter, the district has to provide uniforms for their employees. Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright.

**Time off Request:** Ms Lucas presented a time off request for herself for Wednesday March 23, 2022. Chairman Schoen motioned to approved request, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

### ***Building Use Request:***

- Boy Scout Troop 136 is requesting use of the Meeting Room for their Prime Rib Dinner November 11th and 12<sup>th</sup> of 2022. No check presented because the Department sponsors them. Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.
- Red Knights Motorcycle Club is requesting use of the Meeting Room on May 3, 2022. for their annual meeting to discuss raising funds for the fireman's burn center at Stony Brook Hospital. A check was submitted with building use form. Commissioner Wright motioned to approve and give check back, seconded by Commissioner Mark; motioned/passed/carried.

***Treasurers Report:*** Commissioner Mark reviewed the reports for October, November and December of 2021 and signed off on them. Chairman Schoen motioned to accept Treasurer's report, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

***Audit of Bills:*** Ms. Lucas presented the invoices for payment totaling: \$141,509.72. Commissioner Mark questioned the bill from Napa for oil filter, air filter and oil. He asked if their was a vehicle that the oil gets changed here. Commissioner Wright asked Ms. Lucas to get clarification and report back. Commissioner McLean noted the bill for the credit card was well documented. He also wanted to know who has a credit card for the district. Ms. Lucas stated there is only one card and she has it. He mentioned we should update the card since the person on it is no longer a board member. Ms Lucas will call and ask for an updated card to be sent. Commissioner McLean motioned to approve the invoices totaling \$141,509.72 seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

### ***Committee Reports:***

#### ***Apparatus and Equipment:***

- 9-3-18- has been repaired from back up incident.
- 9-3-2- the rope and winch is on.
- Inspections, Commissioner Pitts spoke with John about and they are not up til end of month. He is aware and will get them done.
- 9-3-81- will go up for repair on Monday with new decals and they will correct roof number. We should have that back Thursday morning or afternoon.
- 9-3-16- right front side has scratch and it wasn't in the book. Commissioner Pitts reminded Chief if an accident occurs, document in the book.
- New Chief's vehicle being registered on Thursday as per Ms Lucas and the plates will be sent to us.
- Commissioner Pitts sent out for 3 requests for graphics and equipment for the new chief's vehicle and only received one back from John at Fully Involved. He will outfit the vehicle like the others and build a custom box for the back. John's quote came in \$1,346 higher than Sagamore's from 2 years ago. Commissioner Pitts motioned to go ahead with John from Fully Involved, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned, Commissioner Mark and McLean opposed/passed/carried.
- Chief Snow mentioned that 9-3-1 has a SCBA bracket broken in the jump seat and needs addressing. Also need one radio charger moved from the front to the back.
- 9-3-14- New lights are still in locker. As per Commissioner Pitts, Tim was suppose to get a hold of John to discuss. Tim did say at one point that we may need transformers for the lights. Commissioner Wright will reach out to Tim and explain.

### ***Buildings & Grounds:***

- Commissioner Wright discussed proposals for lighting from PSEG and REVCO. The initial cost is about \$18,000 but then we would get a rebate of about \$12,000. REVCO only provided cost for equipment. We also reached out to two other electricians and no response. Commissioner Wright was curious if we can move forward on this because we did not go through the bidding process. Chairman Schoen will reach out to our attorney to check on that. Commissioner McLean asked about Tanzi's involvement in all of this. Chairman Schoen explained the state requires any public works project over \$5,000.00 to have a professional engineer/architect overseeing it and Tanzi is ours. Tanzi has given us a proposal to do the lights, which is a lot more than the numbers already given. We can ask him to look at it and pay him by the hour. Commissioner Wright motions to approve this project as long as Tanzi agrees and provided we do not have to put it out to bid, seconded by Commissioner Pitts; motioned/passed/carried.
- Commissioner Wright also received proposals for 3 doors, 2 on the back garage and one by Ms. Lucas's back door. They will replace 2 doors with brand new ones and the other one will be repaired. Commissioner Wright motioned to accept all 3 door proposals together totaling \$3,695.17, seconded by Commissioner Pitts; motioned/passed/carried.
- Floors need to be redone in the meeting room and the custodians need 3- 4 days to complete that, they were thinking the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Schoen stated since the firehouse gets a lot of use for the St. Patrick's Day parade we might want to reschedule for after. Commissioner Wright said that is fine it is not a rush.
- Commissioner Wright handed out a letter from Walter and would like all Commissioners to read and digest it so we can discuss at next meeting.
- **House Report**- was reviewed.

#### ***Budget and Capital Reserves:***

- No report

#### ***Insurance:***

- Nothing new to report, the O'Reilly incident is still processing.
- Chairman Schoen suggested Commissioner McLean seek out other bids for our insurance policies. It doesn't hurt, even if nothing comes from it. It would entail contacting the other districts, Amaganset, East Hampton. Springs, Sag Harbor and then contacting those companies. Commissioner McLean inquired what insurance policies are we talking about, Chairman Schoen said all of them. Commissioner McLean requested all the policies be provided to him and if not we can get them from Ecker's office.

#### ***Communications:***

- Gator site is progressing.

#### ***Paid Personal:***

- Walter letter that was stated earlier, read it, digest it and discuss at next meeting.
- Commissioner Mark inquired about an incident with one of our paid employees in East Hampton Village off duty but on social media. Chairman Schoen asked if Commissioner Mark has first hand knowledge of the incident, his response, NO just what is on social media. He is concerned about the image it puts on district. Chairman Schoen stated social media is not fact, it's just that, social media. Unless Commissioner Mark has facts to present, he does not want to talk about social media. It has no place at his table. Commissioner Wright explained the incident. Commissioner Mark brought up that the Montauk Fire Department and District's image has been tainted from this, do we want to discuss? He actually chose not to discuss any further. Chief Joyce stated everyone has their opinion but people just want the reassurance the Commissioners do their due diligence to investigate the situation and at least document the

incident. Chairman Schoen stated the police were notified, investigated each individual and asked the employee if they wanted to press charges, which speaks volumes and chose not to press charges, the police also asked the women to withdraw everything that was posted on Facebook. For this board to reprimand someone for something that was done on their time is wrong. This person did nothing wrong.

***Department Personal:***

- No report

***Law:***

- The state senate has passed their part of the bill for paid ambulance service and now is on it's way to the house. It looks like there is a good chance the house will pass it and then it goes to the Governor's desk. The bill allows fire districts to charge for ambulance service. The approved costs would be \$900 for BLS calls and \$1350 for ALS calls, all billed through 3<sup>rd</sup> Party billing and the patient's insurance. This is something that can be discussed further down the road.
- Additional FOIL requests that have been submitted to our attorney and will be handled with every legal requirement and speediness as we normally do.
- 9-3-9- need to figure out a minimum bid. Commissioner McLean thought John from Fully Involved was going to give us an offer. Commissioner Pitts stated he was going to help with the value of the truck. Chief Joyce stated the cab and chassis should have a blue book value and then you can take the cost to upgrade and modernize and decide from there. Chairman Schoen said anyone at the table can go and find an evaluation of this truck. Commissioner McLean asked if it has to be by bid. Chairman Schoen said NO. If someone offers an amount to our liking, we can accept. We just have to do our due diligence to obtain the most we can for the vehicle. Ex-Chief Peter Joyce stated there are 2 auction sites that sell fire vehicles, trucks, etc., Auction International located in Buffalo and AAR Auctions. Commissioner Pitts will look into them.
- Chairman Schoen also mentioned our drug protocol was submitted to our medical director and doesn't know who but someone contacted him and expressed the desire that the plan be changed. Commissioner Schoen is not sure why but this person interfered with district business. The board made a decision and approved the final protocol and submitted to the medical director to find out he was not signing because of several people contacting him over it. Chairman Schoen spoke with him, he signed and forwarded on to the others that need to sign. He doesn't understand why it was done, it serves no purpose and they were cowards. We are here to serve the public.

**Old Business:**

***ALS Work Hours:***

- Chairman Schoen mentioned all Commissioner's should have a copy of the ALS handbook and under Employment Policies, work shifts will be limited to 24 hours, there must be a minimum of 6 hours off between shifts. Even though we put no restrictions on outside employment or hours worked, the District reserves the right to implement policy changes if job performance or patient care is affected by outside work. Chairman Schoen did speak with our attorney and found we can not question what someone is doing when not working here. But we could change the policy and require then to be physically fit and able to do their shifts. Ms. Lucas is working on getting the hours allowed to work. She is contacting Suffolk County Civil Service. Commissioner Mark would like legal clarification of what they can work. Commissioner McLean was curious about the pay rates for our paid staff, Ms Lucas stated she can have that

available for them.

***Defensive Driving:***

- Chairman Schoen has not heard back from Tina Giles, he sent her an email and stated the last two Saturdays in April would work.

**9-3-9:** mentioned previously in the meeting

***Finger Reader:***

- Commissioner Mark wanted to know the finger reader status. Ms. Lucas is working on it with SCM. Chairman Schoen said we are doing this as expedient as possible.

**New Business:**

- LOSAP- Ms. Lucas presented the points which were posted for 30 days, taken down on the 14<sup>th</sup> and now need to be certified with the Chairman's signature and then sent to Penflex.
- Chairman Schoen noted there is no secret that there has been a lot of back and forth between our PAID ALS staff, current company 4 members and ALS volunteers. He met with the Captain, Lieutenant and Chief who all had some concerns and so did Commissioner Wright. He feels it's time to have a meeting with the Captain, Lieutenants, Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor, a couple of Commissioners and the Chief to hash it all out. Lets get this done.

**Chiefs Report:**

- Chief Snow thanked Ms. Lucas for all the help with Dr. Gardyn and the physicals. She helped put a spreadsheet together after I gave her all the phone numbers of every member.
- Chief presented a purchase request for 2 – 18V Milwaukee battery chargers and batteries for the cordless tools totaling \$213.99. Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.
- Chief also presented a request for a \$150 reimbursement for BodyTech Gym Membership for Dick Monahan. Chairman Schoen motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.
- Ice Rescue binoculars and range finder bought by Dennis O'Reilly is seeking reimbursement in the amount of \$100.00. Commissioner Wright said he needs to be aware he can't be buying things on his own. Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Chairman Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.
- Chief asked if 9-3-7 valve was fixed. Commissioner Pitts said yes it was.
- 9-3-81- Captain would like to have it here in back garage. Chairman Schoen stated there is only one guy who determines where vehicles go and that is the Chief. Chairman Schoen also stated he is in charge of where the equipment goes as well as the personal.
- Commissioner Wright wanted to make everyone aware the back garage door closest to the Playhouse is broken right now, it should be fixed in a couple of days. The arm is messed up.
- All the SCBA flow testing for the MSA packs have been completed.
- February drill was at the Beer store and a huge success. Some things were highlighted with Company 4 doing rehab and hose management.
- March Drill will be Rough Riders.
- April will be Low Rise at Yaphank, a crew will go up there and a crews will go to Hither Hills State Park
- Cadets working at Yaphank on Saturday's and during the week with Steve Sische, who is the training officer and they are learning about each company.

- Company 1 and Company 4 are striving with training.
- Chief will work with Brent to schedule all the Waterway Hose testing.
- Physicals April 2<sup>nd</sup> with IOMR.
- Steve is working on having fit tests completed by March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- EVOC is being worked on too.
- Chief wanted to know if racks were ever ordered. Brent thought he might be able to use the racks we have at substation but tearing them down and bringing them here would be a hassle, he would rather get new ones.
- Chief was asking if the juniors could use the racks in back garage by 9-3-12 instead of the stairwell. Chairman Schoen said yes.
- Chairman asked if turnout gear was ordered for a specific individual yet, as per Chief not yet. Trying to organize everything first and determine who to order from.
- Chief Joyce was inquiring about the use of the upstairs back garage for the juniors to have there meetings/training. That space is not suited for that. Chairman Schoen said No.

Chairman McLean asked about the Annual Financial Report with the State Comptroller has it been filed, it is due March 1<sup>st</sup> every year. Ms. Lucas will check on this.

Commissioner Pitts motioned to adjourn @ 20:07 hours, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

**Adjourned 20:07 hours**