

***Montauk Fire District***

***January 15, 2025***

***Commissioners Workshop Meeting 18:30 hours***

***MINUTES***

***Commissioners Present:*** James Wright  
Richard Schoen  
Charles “Chip” McLean  
Michael Mirras  
Carminc Marino

***Also Present:*** Chief Peter Joyce, Jr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief Joe McDonald and Secretary- Deputy Treasurer Dawn E Lucas.

***Call Meeting to Order:***

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 18:30 hours and asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

***Secretary's Report:***

***Approval of Minutes:*** Commissioner Mirras motioned to accept the Organizational minutes of January 7, 2025, seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried. Commissioner Marino motioned to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2025 Regular Commissioner Meeting seconded by Chairman Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

***Time Off Request:*** Ms. Lucas is requesting 5 personal days- March 10 through March 14 and 5 vacation days March 17- March 21, 2025. Vice-Chairman Schoen noted the time off from the 10<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> includes the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of March Workshop meeting, do we want to change it? Chairman Wright suggested changing to the following week, is that good with everyone? So workshop meeting for March will be changed to March 26, 2025. Commissioner McLean motioned to approve time off request, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

***Audit of Bills:*** Ms. Lucas presented the bills for payment totaling \$43,691.58. Commissioner McLean motioned to approve payment of the bills, totaling \$43,691.58, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried. Commissioner Marino had a question about paying for Brent Becker's phone. Is that something we do now? It was noted that we pay for everyone, but a portion. Brent gets a lot of calls from vendors and us and that is why we pay for his phone. Commissioner Marino will discuss with Brent directly and Chairman Wright will talk with previous Commissioner Joe Dryer to confirm. Vice Chairman Schoen stated would it make sense to have the district pay for a phone for Brent Becker as opposed to using his personal phone. Chairman Wright thought that could be possible. Ms. Lucas just wanted to inform the board that one of the bills was for the ice rescue team for training next Saturday, but we added one more person. It was originally approved for \$1365 and

she checked with Chairman Wright and it was authorized to add that person . Ms. Lucas was told to inform the board of this information. Chairman Wright explained Dennis O'Rielly asked to add Rick White to the roster, he thought it wasn't a problem and told Ms. Lucas to go ahead with the increase in cost. Commissioner Mirras motioned to accept, seconded by Commissioner McLean and noted to amend the approval of the ice rescue training to add the additional expense; motioned/passed/carried.

### **Workshop Topics:**

**LOSAP Discussion-** Vice- Chairman Schoen discussed LOSAP with Joe Frank and he said we should be assigning two separate categories, one for FIRE calls and one for EMS calls. Such as if a fireman goes on an EMS call he should get credit for that call not a fire call. This will result in different numbers for fire calls and EMS calls for that member. What this will lead to is, you qualify for your 25 points for fire calls and if you qualify under EMS calls you get an additional 25 points. So in theory, coming from the State you can simply make your points by coming to calls and never have to go to a meeting, drill or anything. This will not effect a whole lot of people. Vice-Chairman Schoen explained if there is a Fire call and EMS call together, a member who is in a fire company will get credit for the Fire call and a member who is in the ambulance company will get credit for the EMS call. Ms. Lucas explained in the program that is what she does. The fire call she adds all the fire companies to the call and the ambulance call associated with that call she adds company 4. Chief Joyce explained that would continue suit and explained if a member was responding to a firematic event, a car accident, structure fire, you have fire and EMS, as an individual you can not fulfill both roles for that call. If a member is a fireman , they get credit for the fire call, if the member is ambulance personal they get credit for the EMS call which falls under the rescue category as points read.

Commissioner McLean brought up the article in the EH Star, does the board want to make a presentation at a department meeting. Chairman Wright and Vice-Chairman Schoen both said, NO. If anybody is looking for an explanation, the suggestion is to have them come to a meeting and we can give them an explanation if they have a question. Commissioner McLean stated they can not address the board though. Vice-Chairman Schoen stated the board can allow them to do that, it's their option. Chairman Wright noted we have responded to the State already and will be responding to them again. Vice-Chairman Schoen noted he did not get any feedback except for do we know who leaked it to the paper. Chairman Wright noted if they have a concern they can follow the chain of command and go to their officer or chief and the chief can allow them to speak at our meeting if they have questions. Chief will relay to the membership that there are some alterations to the LOSAP information on how it is recorded from here on out. Chairman Wright asked if this is the only change. Vice- Chairman Schoen stated we do need to respond and have 90 days to do so, but he wants to make sure the response satisfies the State. He does not want to see us send a response 2 months from now and they come back and say that is not acceptable. The State's biggest gripe will be the percentage required to have a qualifying 25 points. Chairman Wright motioned to change the LOSAP rules to separate out the Fire and EMS calls and follow the guidelines from the state on the percentage of calls, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried. Chief asked about the current percentages, Vice-Chairman Schoen noted as per 2014 LOSAP Resolution it stipulates members need to respond to 10% of the first 500 calls and 7.5% from 501-1000 calls. We are now changing to the guidelines of the State if we go over 500 calls to 999 members will only need to do 7.5% of calls. So if more calls might have to make less.

**Work Days- Custodians-** Chairman Wright asked if this is the 4 day work week, answer was YES. Commissioner Mirras noted that would mean one day of overlap, which day would that be? Commissioner Marino said Saturday. Commissioner Mirras notes it will not change anything

regarding vacation or personal time because everything is based on hours. The work days will be as follows, 4- 10 hour days from 7-6pm with an hour lunch and Saturday the custodians will overlap. Vice-Chairman Schoen also noted their personnel records should reflect the same. The time due to them should be recorded in hours not days. Commissioner Mirras also stated we will try till end of year and then reevaluate. Commissioner Mirras motioned that the two custodians (Brent Becker and Rex Martin) go to 4-10hour days from 7am till 6pm with Saturday overlap starting next month (2/1/2025) and reevaluate and end of year (12/31/2025), seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried. Commissioner Marino also noted lunch time is lunch time no overtime for lunch.

**Audit Response-** Still under discussion. Vice-Chairman Schoen did mention that the board should read the Board Oversight and be ready to offer suggestions.

### ***Old Business:***

- Vice-Chairman Schoen stated in the Organizational meeting it was noted the Treasurer must be a signer on all checks, he doubled checked with Joe Frank via email and his response was as follows; The District treasurer must be a signer of all checks. So Bob Hauser will now have to sign all checks, we can have up to 3 signers on the checks. The Deputy Treasurer is not an alternate because he or she has no role when the Treasurer is acting as the Treasurer. Arrangements will have to be made to have all checks signed by Bob Hauser. Chairman Wright will reach out to Bob about this, he also asked if that includes paychecks, Answer was all checks. Commissioner McLean stated this is what was discussed before with him because of logistics and Chairman Wright noted he was surprised Bob Hauser said he doesn't sign checks at any other place he works at.
- Commissioner McLean gave an update on 9-3-1- While en route to our firehouse this afternoon, unfortunately 9-3-1 was throwing smoke from the tailpipe, leaking coolant out of the valve cover which is not a good sign. John Tepedino from Fully Involved inc. contacted Rapid Recovery to tow 9-3-1 back to his shop. While at shop he dismantled the engine to determine what actually happened. Vice-Chairman Schoen asked if John from Fully Involved Inc. believes that was the cause of the accident, answer was NO. Commissioner McLean mentioned while 9-3-1 was at Fully Involved they had everything running, test drove around neighborhood and all was good. Chairman Wright asked about the new engines, do we have an ETA. The expected delivery date is October. As per Chief McDonald the trucks have to be delivered by end of this year with model # before they shut down production. Chairman Wright mentioned should we think about renting an engine, Commissioner McLean thinks we should wait for John Tepedino from Fully Involved Inc. to give us his prognosis. Chief Joyce stated they probably didn't blow the engine, they more likely blew a head gasket and probably warped the heads. There is no need to threat until we get more information from John Tepedino at Fully Involved. Chief also noted Amagansett was already notified to respond with an engine in the event we have anything worthwhile. We also have to remember the truck is old and we can not operate with one engine for an extended period if time.

### ***Chief's Report***

- Chief McDonald is requesting 4 mics for the 800 hand held radios for fire at \$487.83 each for a total of \$1,951.332. It was asked if on state contract. YES Motorola is on state contract. Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.
- Chief McDonald also noted the Turnout gear representative will be out next Wednesday January 22, 2025 at 7pm to give a presentation. Commissioner McLean asked if it's Fire and EMS gear. Chief stated it's definitely for Fire and there are questions regarding the EMS gear.

- Chief Joyce mentioned as far as purchasing goes, the chiefs have been going through the supply lockers, stuff in back garage and stuff that individual companies will need and prioritizing the requests. At some point a list may be derived but broken down by more manageable requests.
- Chief Joyce mentioned the live burn that was scheduled for this months department drill will have to be rescheduled, the paperwork on the homeowner's side is not squared away. It will probably get pushed to February.
- Chief McDonald asked about False Alarm Reports, who does them and what gets sent to the Town. Pat Moloney does them along with the NIFR'S report. Ms. Lucas sends them to the Town. How do we know we are getting paid? Is there a way to go through what we send them. Chief said that could be difficult because what we send them could be different from what we get paid. The false alarms can get disputed and some could get dismissed or are questionable. It was asked when are they due to the Town. Ms. Lucas responded the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Ms. Lucas will make copies of everything before she submits to Town.

Chairman Wright motioned to go into Executive Session @ 19:14 regarding Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Marino motioned to go back into Regular Session @ 19:26, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Mirras noted there seems to be an issue with LOSAP in regards to Phil Dinkel. He passed away and is still receiving check's. The confusion is when he was in the department LOSAP payments were through an annuity not what we have now. Commissioner Mirras asked Bob Hauser to look into this.

Chairman Wright brought up Paramedics salaries, what was the decision? Vice-Chairman Schoen would like to put off till next meeting and discuss in executive session. For right now the pay is the same as last year as per the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Commissioner Marino asked for a printout of payments for Brent Becker for his phone usage. Ms. Lucas will provide.

Commissioner McLean asked about the LOSAP report that we get every year. Ms. Lucas explained it will be provided next month. Then it will be posted outside Chief's office door for the month. After that it gets signed again by board and then sent to Penflex. It's all due by March 31, 2025.

Chairman Wright motioned to adjourn meeting @ 19:34 hrs, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

**Adjourned 19:34 hours**