

BRIGHTON AREA FIRE AUTHORITY
March 12, 2009
Regular Board Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Brighton Area Fire Authority Board was held on Thursday, March 12, 2009, at the Main Fire Station, 615 W. Grand River, Brighton, Michigan. This Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson McCririe, at 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT: GARY MCCRIRIE
JIM MUZZIN
JIM MORTENSEN
KATE LAWRENCE
LANA THEIS
JOHN ROGERS
MIKE CORRIGAN

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Martin DeLoach
Neal Nielsen, Esq.

Call to the Public

None

Approval of Consent Agenda

Ms. Theis requested that item 3a, Minutes of the February Board Meeting, be removed and placed on the Regular Agenda.

09:018 Motion by Jim Mortensen, supported by John Rogers
That we approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Regular Agenda

The Regular Agenda was amended by the addition of item a, Minutes of the February Board Meeting, from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Kate Lawrence requested the Regular Agenda be further amended by the addition of item 4i, to consider whether to continue the employment of Chief Marty DeLoach, or to terminate his employment.

09:019 Motion by John Rogers, supported by Kate Lawrence
 That the Regular Agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried 4-3

Minutes of the February Board Meeting

Ms. Theis indicated that corrections to the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 12, 2009, were needed, and were approved as amended.

09:020 Motion by Lana Theis, supported by Kate Lawrence
 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of February 12, 2009, be
 approved as corrected.

Motion carried unanimously.

Berlucchi Funeral

Assistant Chief John Bennington informed the Board that Charlie Berlucchi's funeral was very well attended. He thanked Steve Moor and John Kelley for their help. There was a very nice sendoff, including an honor guard. He will be missed very much.

Department Promotion Tests

Assistant Chief Bennington also updated the Board regarding the promotional tests. There were 5 testing for Lieutenant and 7 testing for Sergeant. We will be having outside Chiefs hand the oral interviews within the next 30 days.

Vehicle Repairs

Assistant Chief Jim Tester indicated to the Board that we have made good progress regarding the reporting system for repairs and vehicle maintenance. Several people in the organization are stepping up to assist.

New Truck

Assistant Chief Tester informed the Board that three members went to Pierce last month, and things went very well. They only found a few issues, and most were corrected before they left. He is trying to closely duplicate what we have. He expects to have them available in the next several weeks.

Soup Out Day

Fire Marshal Mike O'Brian reported that we had a big turnout for the Soup Out. He thanked the staff for their work and donations. We had a good assortment of soups and chili's.

County-Wide Investigation Team

Fire Marshal O'Brian informed the Board that we are working with other Fire Departments in the County in starting a county-wide fire investigation team.

Computer Upgrade

Fire Marshal O'Brian indicated that all of the computer upgrades are in place and IT is fine tuning.

Budget Meetings- Department Level

Chief DeLoach indicated that Jim Muzzin was invited to the discussions regarding the Budget. The Chief Officers and Captains have met and are presenting detail sheets with regard to their requests.

Budget - General Fund Balance Goal

09:021 Motion by Jim Muzzin, supported by Jim Mortensen (for purpose of discussion)
To direct the Chief to prepare a budget with a goal of 1 year of operating capital on deposit for the Fire Authority at the time the current millage expires.

Motion carried unanimously.

Budget – Declining Revenue Re: Property Values

There was discussion regarding the declining property values and the projection that the revenue would be decreased at approximately 10% per year.

Instructors Conference

09:022 Motion by Jim Mortensen, supported by Lana Theis

That we send 2 employees to attend the vendors portion of the Instructors Conference for 2 days, to view the driver training simulators, at a cost not to exceed \$600.00.

Motion carried 6-1

Banking-Investment Policy

09:023 Motion by Jim Muzzin, supported by Lana Theis

That we approve the Investment Policy, with the following revisions: That we add Livingston Community Bank, Ambassador Capital Management and Key Bank to the list of approved financial institutions; strike the paragraph regarding conflict, and strike the last two paragraphs.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fund Divestment Recommendation

Discussion was had with regard to diversification, with no action being taken.

Spending – Expense Control Policy

09:024 Motion by Jim Mortensen, supported by Jim Muzzin

That, after striking the second whereas regarding written quotes, the Expense Control Policy be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Propane

Mr. Jim Mortensen indicated that, due to all of the additional fees added to the actual per-gallon cost, he requested that a spreadsheet be created so that the complete costs of the proposals could be compared.

2008 Year-End Report

As there were no questions, the Report was received and filed.

At 9:25 a.m., Chairman Gary McCririe called for a 5 minute recess.

At 9:30 a.m. the meeting reconvened.

Ms. Lawrence asked Chief Martin DeLoach, due to the fact that the future of his employment was to be discussed whether he wanted the meeting to go into closed session. Chief DeLoach stated that he wanted the item discussed in the public forum.

There was considerable discussion and presentation of opinions.

09:025 Motion by Kate Lawrence, supported by Mike Corrigan
 That we terminate the contract with Martin DeLoach, effective immediately.

Ayes: Muzzin, Lawrence, Corrigan, Rogers
Nays: Mortensen, McCririe, Theis
Absent: None

Motion carried 4-3

Good of the Order

None

The next scheduled Board Meeting would be on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Jim Mortensen, supported by Lana Theis, that we adjourn this meeting. Motion carried unanimously. This meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.