

**Dennis Township Fire District No. 1**  
**Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting**  
**Board of Fire Commissioners**  
**August 20, 2014**

The regularly scheduled August 20, 2014 meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Dennis Township Fire District No. 1 was opened at 7:02 pm on the above date at Ocean View Fire Hall by Chairman Bryan Moran. Mr. Moran made a statement that we were in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law); and, that notice of the meeting was posted in Township Hall and had been advertised in the Cape May County Herald.

Salute of Flag – Pledge of Allegiance

**Chief's Report**

Chief Michael Deluca handed the Fire Company Chief's report to Mr. Bryan Moran, who read it for the period of 07/01/2014 – 07/31/2014. The Fire Company responded to a total of twenty-four (24) calls for the month, handling four (4) alarm calls, nine (9) motor vehicle accidents, two (2) medical assists, (1) arcing electric, one (1) lock-out and one (1) aircraft standby, one (1) road freight fire, one (1) building fire, one (1) accident, one (1) passenger vehicle fire, one (1) EMS call & one (1) dispatched and canceled; all totaling 9.2 hours in service.

**Secretary's Report**

The minutes of the July 2014 regular monthly meeting, prepared by Mrs. Tammy Tozer, were read. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Mr. Paul Sutton and seconded by Mr. Mike Fry. The motion was adopted unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Sutton reported on the following eight areas:

1. The certified audit of our 2013 financial records by Ford – Scott is nearly complete and will be ready for review and approval at our 17 September 2014 meeting. The completed, certified audit must be in the hands of the Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) in the NJ Department of Community Affairs no later than 1 October 2014. We have also provided a break-down of the 2013 payments, totaling \$164,002.00, to the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company.
2. We received a check totaling \$18,475.00 from the Atlantic JIF covering the loss of the 2002 F-250 vehicle (Truck #1712), which was deposited to the First Bank of Sea Isle City account.
3. We purchased the \$450,000 eighteen (18) month certificate of deposit in the name of the Dennis Township Fire District #1 with the First Bank of Sea Isle City. The account was credited for \$10.00 in service charges debited by the bank in 2013 because the former financial adviser did not abide by their regulations.
4. We have been successful in getting the more than \$95.00 in service charges debited to the TD Bank account in January, February and March of this year credited back to us.
5. We have asked Lincoln Financial Group to provide access to our LOSAP report electronically for closer monitoring of that trust account totaling \$186,303.78. These funds are controlled by the thirty-one (31) firefighter members of the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company and not the Dennis Township Fire District #1.
6. We mailed 1,364 letters to the taxpayers of the Dennis Township Fire District #1 on 4 August 2014 at a total cost of \$1,455.00. As of today, 69 (a five percent return rate) of those letters were returned as undeliverable.
7. We are in the process of applying for a bulk mail permit for the Dennis Township Fire District #1.
8. The unaudited year-to-date 2014 income and expense report, as well as the unaudited statement of financial condition, plus a listing of invoices needing approval for payment tonight is attached to this report.

The bills to be approved and paid were:

Fire & Safety Services, LTD.	\$2,874.35
Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company (Aug. 2014)	\$4,083.00
US Post Office (Annual Box #611 Rental Fee)	\$58.00
Brown & Brown of NJ, LLC (4 addit. Firefighters)	\$42.00
Richard Braslow, Esquire (Professional Services)	\$860.00
U. S. Postal Service (Bulk Mail Application Fee)	\$220.00
Municipal Emergency Services, Inc. (Jaws Repair)	<u>\$177.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,314.35</b>

Mr. Sutton, seconded by Mr. Fry, made a motion to approve and pay the seven invoices. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Old Business**

Mr. Sutton reported that we are awaiting the final, certified audit in order to complete and submit the Bulk Mail Permit to the US Postal Service.

Mr. Moran reported that truck #1712 was totaled by the insurance company following the accident. An individual purchased the truck at salvage value from the insurance company; and, the Dennis Township Fire District #1 received a check for \$18,475.00 from the insurance company earlier this month.

Mr. Moran also stated that the state was investigating the Belleplain Dispatch tapes received through the Township of Dennis.

#### **New Business**

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company "run sheets" indicating that 50% of the calls relate directly to EMS calls.

#### **Public Comment**

Mrs. Izzi questioned who pays for the repair and maintenance on the one truck that the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company owns. Mr. Moran responded that the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company pays those costs. She also asked if there had been any word on the Fire Districts financial information from Joseph Wilshire, to which the answer was "We haven't heard a word and have received nothing!"

Mr. Bryan Moran made a statement during Public Comment Session that it has been rumored that the Fire District had wasted over \$50,000.00 of taxpayers money on legal fees and he wanted it to be known that FORD SCOTT completed that portion of the audit and the audited amount for the 2013 year in legal fees was not in excessive \$26,000.00 – without actual audit in hand (secretary doesn't know exact amount)

Firefighter Trevor Breckley asked about advanced training for members of the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company. It was noted that those costs are not presently budgeted; and, that there has been no request from the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company to the Dennis Township Fire District #1 to budget for or pay for advanced training.

There were several questions from the public about the, as yet, unsigned contract between the Dennis Township Fire District #1 and the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company. The District had no answers because to date we have not received anything in writing from the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company about things they were not happy about.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM by Mr. Mike Fry, seconded by Mrs. Tammy Tozer. The motion was adopted unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Dennis Township Fire District No. 1 shall convene at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2014 in the Ocean View Fire Company Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Tozer  
Secretary