

MECOSTA AUSTIN FIRE BOARD MEETING

January 17, 2018

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.
- II. Pledge to the Flag.
- III. Roll Call: Present were Michele Graham, Elizabeth G Carr, Mary Quinlan, and John Brockway. Greg Babbitt was absent. John Boyd arrived at 7:20 p.m.
- IV. Minutes: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Mary Quinlan to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report & Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Michele Graham to accept the Treasurer's Report and to pay the bills for a total of \$25,257.30. The Fire Department has \$28,423.76 in their account and the First Responders have \$11,797.70 in their account. The Fire Department has spent 82.39% of their budget and the First Responders have spent 38.55% of their budget.  
Mary Quinlan-yes                      John Brockway-yes  
Elizabeth G Carr-yes                Michele Graham-yes
- VI. New Business: None
- VII. Old Business:
  1. Fire Chief's Report: There were seven incidents last month, six were counted. There was a total of 72 incidents last year, compared to 81 in 2016. There are two sets of Turnout Gear we are in the process of ordering. That will be another \$4,000.00 out of the budget yet. The SCBA air tanks are all tested and in service. One of our new firefighters, Jeff Cole, has quit fire school without notification. We are contacting him to receive our gear back. The first contact was unsuccessful. The Safety and Training Captain's position will be posted in February. The former Captain, Nick Goodfellow, is in training at the Plainfield Department. The union will not allow him to be involved in two departments at once during his first year during probation. He has taken a one-year leave of absence from our department. The Lanaville Foundation has donated \$1,600.00 for new LED lights in the Fire Hall.
  2. Training: HIPPA training, Vent fan operations, and Chain saw starting safety training have all been completed.
  3. Maintenance: The oil has been changed in Rescue 1, and the engine oil in the Vent fans has been changed. Oil and oil filters need to be ordered yet. They will be priced out to keep in the budget.
  4. MFR Report: There were 29 calls in the November/December period. There was a total of 200 calls in 2017. 75% were in Mecosta Township, 12% were in Austin Township, and 13% were in other Townships. The November/December disbursement will be \$797.50 (\$34.30 per call). The January 2018 Bi-annual disbursement will be \$3,680.00. The Epinephrine protocol will take effect 03/01/2018. Rescue will have epinephrine on the trucks. It will be issued through the pharmacy at the hospital. Epi-pens will not be used due to their high cost. The epinephrine will be administered with a syringe and vial. There will be special in-house training that will be done to meet this new protocol. The training will be repeated every six months. The epinephrine will help treat anaphylaxis/status asthema/hypotension.

5. Short Term Goals:
  - a. 800 MHZ Mobile Radio for Rescue 1. Cell phones can be used, but with the epinephrine protocol it is imperative to have reliable communication if we have to use it. The cost would be \$2,000.00.
  - b. New Water Rescue Boat (Center tube is bad.) \$8,000.00-\$10,000.00
  - c. 6 New Life Jackets for water rescue. \$100.00 ea. = \$600.00
  - d. 10 New VHF pagers \$400.00 ea. = \$4,000.00 We sent 5-6 out for repairs and didn't get them back. The repairs were going to cost almost as much as the units.
6. Long Term Goals:
  - a. SCBA and Turnout Gear grant. Chief Ron Palmer would like to write a grant for \$100,00.00. We would need to put up a certain percentage of the grant.
  - b. Foam unit on Engine 2
7. 800 MHZ Radio: Moved by John Boyd, supported by Michele Graham to order the 800 MHZ Radio Unit and spend up to \$2,000.00, to be taken out of Rescue. Motion carried. Rescue will also need a new computer to run Nemesis III programs, approximately \$700, to be taken out of Rescue.
8. Insurance-Ken Lind: Ken Lind from Lind & Lind Insurance Company presented the renewal quote from the EMC Insurance Company. There were several changes made to the policy. He will return an updated quote to the Fire Board. Copies may be obtained from the Mecosta or Austin Township Offices.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Mecosta Austin Fire Board Secretary

