

CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 16, 2015

A regular meeting of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District Board was held on Thursday April 16, 2015 at Central Ohio Joint Fire District firehouse located at 5138 Columbus Road, Centerburg, Ohio. The following were in attendance:

Board Members

Karen Lawrie
Dale Pennington
George Blocker
Tom Stewart
Kim Allen

Staff

Chief Porter
Robin Santo, Clerk
Angel Jarmusz, Asst. County Prosecutor
Attorney, Zachary DiMarco

Public

The regular Board meeting of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District was called to order by Mr. Blocker at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public comments.

LEASE AGREEMENT

A lease for the use of the firehouse from Hilliar Township was presented to the Board. Mr. Stewart noted that whether COJFD bought or leased the building, the residents are paying for it either way. Mr. Blocker made a motion to approve and sign the presented lease. Mr. Pennington seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Pennington, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Blocker. In the negative: Kim Allen. Abstain: Karen Lawrie. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was noted that in the March minutes under Chief's report, it was written that the paperwork for the "facility study" was turned in and should have read "state grant" paperwork was turned in. Mr. Stewart made a motion to approve the March 10, 2015 corrected minutes and Mr. Pennington seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Blocker, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Stewart, Mrs. Lawrie and Mrs. Allen. In the negative: none.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Mr. Stewart made a motion to approve the warrants presented and Mrs. Blocker seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Pennington, Mrs. Lawrie, Mrs. Allen and Mr. Blocker. In the negative: none.

Mrs. Santo presented the monthly bank reconciliation, fund status ledger, appropriation ledger, receipt ledger and payment register for the Board's review and approval.

REPORTS

EMS Billing Received – EMS Billing received for the month of February was \$14,332.94.

Monthly Complaints Received – None.

Chief Porter – See Chief Porter's report. (Attached)

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- a. *Septic System*- Chief Porter indicated that he will be meeting with Wee Dig It on Monday, April 20th and will let the Board members know the time, so they could be there if they would like.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. *Private Attorney*- Mrs. Lawrie said that she would like more clarification on using private council. She indicated she wasn't clear on when the Board was using Zach Dimarco, from Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston and that there are times she and other board members are not notified as to when Mr. Dimarco will be used and coming to board meetings. Mr. Stewart indicated that he felt any board member can talk to Mr. Dimarco anytime they feel they need to, just as any board member is able to call the Knox County Prosecutor and speak with them. After more discussion amongst the board it was determined that the board members will notify all other board members when the Prosecutor and Mr. Dimarco will attend the meetings.
- b. *Committees*- The board members agreed to recreate the committees. Mr. Pennington made a motion for the following committees and its members:
 - Strategic Planning: Mrs. Lawrie and Mr. Stewart.
 - Personnel: Mr. Blocker and Mr. Stewart.
 - Audit: Mrs. Allen and Mr. Pennington.

Mr. Stewart seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Pennington, Mrs. Lawrie, Mrs. Allen and Mr. Blocker. In the negative: none.

- c. *ISO ratings and effect on insurance rates*- Mrs. Lawrie did research on the ISO rating. She indicated that through her research she did not find where having a fire inspector will lower the rates. Mrs. Lawrie felt this was the main reason for the district wanting a fire-inspector. Mr. Blocker indicated that he felt that a fire-inspector was really no benefit to Milford Township. Mr. Stewart said that the main reason for a fire-inspector was for safety and he indicated the fire-inspector could lower the rates. Mr. Pennington stated that a fire inspector will not only go to businesses, but can also talk to land owners in the district about putting dry hydrants in which will cause the ISO ratings to drop.
- d. *Millage Agreement*- There was discussion amongst the Board and Assistant Prosecutor, Angel Jarmusz about the decision of the Ohio Attorney General regarding the millage agreement. Mr. Blocker questioned that even though the Attorney General came back with the decision that the millage agreement was void, does COJFD still have a moral obligation to make it right and could residents possibly file a law suit? Ms. Jarmusz said that legally, it's unenforceable for residents to make COJFD pay back money. Mr. Blocker indicated that he may talk to Prosecutor, Chip McConville more about this matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Blocker made a motion to enter into Executive session at 7:42pm to discuss personnel. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Pennington, Mrs. Lawrie, Mrs. Allen and Mr. Blocker. In the negative: none.

Mr. Blocker made a motion to adjourn out of Executive at 8:25pm and was seconded by Mr. Pennington. In the affirmative: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Pennington, Mrs. Lawrie, Mrs. Allen and Mr. Blocker. In the negative: none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Central Ohio Joint Fire District, at 8:30p.m., Mr. Stewart made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting on May 12, 2015 at Milford Township house unless called upon for urgent business. Mr. Blocker seconded the motion. . In the affirmative: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Pennington, Mrs. Lawrie, Mrs. Allen and Mr. Blocker. In the negative: none.

Clerk
