

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**HOPEWELL BOROUGH DISTRICT NO.1**  
**FEBRUARY 11, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Cmsr. Morehouse  
Cmsr. Anderson  
Cmsr. Bovenizer  
Cmsr. Evans (arrived at 7:46)  
Cmsr. Myers

**Public Comment:**

There were no comments from the public present.

**Minutes: January 14, 2015**

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers to accept the minutes as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:**

This was delayed as Commissioner Evans was not present at the time.

**Ladies Axillary:**

The Ladies Axillary last met on February 5, 2015. The centerpiece for the Dinner Dance was discussed. At the Fire Department breakfast the ladies will be selling blankets and flowers. They also discussed changing the meetings from Thursday's to a weekend day however that idea was vetoed as there are too many other activities on the weekends. The Ladies Auxiliary will coordinate with Ali Myers about putting upcoming events on the Hopewell Borough website as Ali Myers is now on the Recreation Committee for Hopewell Borough. February 18<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting of the Mercer County Ladies Axillary meeting.

**EMU Report:**

There were 28 calls in January for the EMU, 18 in the township, 7 in the borough, 1 in Pennington, and 2 in East Amwell. There was a crew standing by in house for the snow storm which occurred. Reimbursement for food for standby's was discussed. Annual TB testing was completed. Chief

Morehouse is in the process of replating the ambulances which requires retitling one of them that is still in the name of Hopewell Borough. Training on Narcan and spinal immobilization will be the January drill for the EMU.

**Fire Department Administration:**

No one was present from the administration to provide a report to the Commissioners.

**Fire Chief Report:**—There were 20 calls for the fire department in January with 2 of them being residential fires along with 3 mutual aid calls to Montgomery. Currently there are 4 members attending Firefighter One. Chief Novak spoke to the other business owners who share the Dumpster with the department in regards to keeping the area around it clear from clutter. The bathroom, member's room and training rooms are basically complete in their renovation and the plan was to work on the kitchen next, however plans may be changed in order to focus on a Commissioners office. Engine 52 is at Station 53 for approximately 4 months while one of their trucks is getting repaired. Some dry hoses related to a cracked pump had to be replaced and some other leaks were fixed. A new Rescue truck was discussed and if it is going to be replaced in 2017 it needs to go up for a vote in the 2016 election. Chief Novak is conducting his first officer meeting in the near future and has plans to meet with the officers from the EMU tri-annually and perhaps meeting with all the officers from the company including administration. Each fire officer is being assigned 7 or 8 firefighters in a mentoring capacity. The fire officers are going to keep track of the firefighters training, records, calls and attendance at drills and other training. The new website for recruitment for the Valley is now live. The website is [www.protecthopewellvalley.com](http://www.protecthopewellvalley.com). Chief Novak will get in contact with the new chief of East Amwell to discuss the coverage issues.

**Treasurer's Report:—**

A copy of the treasurer's report was made available to each commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. The Chief Financial Officer previously certified that there were sufficient unencumbered funds in the 2014 budget and the 2015 temporary budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2014 budget in the amount of \$6043.92 and the 2015 temporary budget in the amount of \$11231.90. Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to pay the bills as submitted.

Authorization was needed to pay an invoice from Liberty Mutual Insurance which would be coming due before the scheduled March meeting. It was motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Evans to authorize a check to be issued in the amount not to exceed \$5000 when the invoice arrived.

**Other Business:**

**LOSAP:**

The cost of living for LOSAP has been increased 1 percent for the 2014 entitlement. The list will be posted for 30 days with the point schedule totaling \$85886.49. The 30 days will be over after the March 11, 2015 meeting.

**Resolution 2015-011** Motioned by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Evans to pass the resolution. Motion passed with 1 absence.

**Insurance**

On February 4, 2015 Liberty Mutual conducted an audit for workers compensation for the whole year. The 2013 LOSAP was reviewed as part of it and it worked out that five members left the department and five members joined the department resulting in the total covered members being 74 members. Information was provided to the auditor that was needed regarding the amount paid to Clerk Smith and Clerk Varrasse. Commissioner Myers also learned the strict cut offs for the workers compensation payments have to do with the State of New Jersey and not Liberty Mutual.

Attorney Griswold stated there were some upcoming classes at Mercer County Community College regarding budget ethics and procurement updates as well as record updates.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. and Anderson and seconded by Cmsr. Evans approved the meeting adjourned at 8:32. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on March 11, 2015.