

Hopkins Area Fire Board

Minutes of the June 30, 2009 First Quarter 2009/10 Meeting

Roll Call Meeting was called to order by Chairman Evans at 7:30 p.m.
Present were: Mark Evans, Sue Sebright, Pat Kelsey, Vernon Bellgraph, Candy Adriansen and Chief Tim McKinnon,
Absent: Dick Malone
Others present: Bob Kerber, Brad Kerber, Village President Mary Howard, Curt Channells, Tom Iciek, Monterey Twp. Supervisor Chris Reinart, Police Chief Ed Wedge, WAEMS director Bob Hess and two EMS personnel.

Finance Committee Review Board members reviewed bank statements and general fund registers. A list of transactions that had taken place during the last quarter was also studied. **Motion by Kelsey and seconded by Bellgraph to accept and file the report. All ayes.**

Minutes The minutes of the March 30, 2009 meeting were read. **Motion by Kelsey and seconded by Bellgraph to approve the minutes as presented. All ayes.**

Financials We have a balance of \$14211.18 in the Capital Asset Acquisition Savings Account and \$16,439.30 in the operating checking account and \$7,900 in the Building Maintenance Fund. **Motion by Kelsey and seconded by Bellgraph to accept and file the financial report. All ayes.**

Old Business:

Lease - Hopkins Public Safety Bldg. Hopkins Twp and Village have approved leasing the public safety building. Watson Twp has not yet approved it. The issue was tabled until the next meeting.

Police Dept. The police office has been moved to the Village hall. The police car will stay in the public safety building.

New Business:

Medical First Responder Program - We currently have 17 fire fighters trained and ready for MFR. The board and WAEMS are leaning toward a dual employee relationship. There was discussion on the following points:

- **Scheduling** - South of 120th St. will be handled by the Watson team (there are 4). North of 120th St. will be covered by Hopkins. Hopkins personnel will be divided into 2 teams. Each team will have one week on call, splitting days and nights. We should have 3 to 4 people available all the time.
- **Covered Area** - Bob Hess, the WAEMS director, would like us to cover all of Watson Township and Monterey Township south of 128th. Salem Township will cover the north half of Monterey. The Hopkins team is willing to serve the south half of Monterey Township. Supervisor Reinart approves this arrangement as Salem and Allegan are far away and the response time would be less if Hopkins responded to calls in that area. Tom Iciek would like a letter to be sent to Martin and Allegan fire departments explaining that Hopkins will be serving those areas that were covered by them in the past.
- **Payment** - WAEMS runs on a patient pay basis. The hope is that MFR will be covered as well.
- **Response vehicles** - Salem and Orangeville Townships have a vehicle to use when responding to calls. WAEMS owns a Ford Explorer that they are willing to park in the Hopkins station to use. WAEMS will maintain that vehicle. In case of a breakdown, the

rescue unit will be used as a backup vehicle. The Watson team will use their personal vehicles. WAEMS would be willing to stock the personal vehicles with equipment if needed.

- **Supplies** - A supply cabinet will be needed at the Hopkins station. The supplies will be provided by WAEMS. Watson station has room in an existing cabinet.
- **Timetable** - We would like to begin the program on September 1, 2009. The Explorer needs to be inspected and licensed. That could take two to three weeks. We could start sooner if we used a seldom used vehicle (currently placed in Dorr) that has already been inspected. Hess will talk to 911 to see if we can begin sooner.
- **Cost of Program** - We are estimating that there could be 200 to 300 calls per year. Firefighters currently are paid \$11.00 per hour. MFR pay is based on license level. MFRs will be paid \$7.40 per hour and \$11.10 (overtime) for all emergencies. Straight time is paid to MFRs at events like football games etc. Personnel can be paid once a month or twice a year. The program could cost as much as \$7000 per year. The Fire Board will work with WAEMS to make sure that responders will get paid.
- **Vehicle equipment** - Lettering and lights will be paid for by the WAEMS. The vehicle needs an 800 radio (\$3000). A VHF radio might be adequate or we could use a hand held 800 radio which we already have.
- **Uniforms** - Uniforms (jumpsuit, jacket and boots) will be purchased up front by WAEMS and put on account for each responder at a rate of .08 cents per hour, deducted from pay.

Siren Maintenance - There is a preventative maintenance plan available for the siren. We need to determine who owns the system - DDA, village or fire department. Mary Howard will check on ownership and report at the next village meeting. Discussion tabled until the next meeting.

Bank Accounts - Motion by Sebright and supported by Evans to authorize Tim McKinnon, Sue Sebright, Mark Evans and Tom Iciek as signatories on Hopkins Area Fire Board bank accounts. All ayes.

Hazmat Mitigation - Agreement between Allegan and Ottawa Counties. Discussion tabled until the next meeting.

Village Well - The well by the village garage needs a variable frequency drive which keeps the volume and decreases pressure. Quotes range from \$3575 to \$4995. The fire department uses half of the water from this well. **Motion by Bellgraph and seconded by Kelsey to pay for half of the cost of the device for the village well. All ayes.**

Chief's Report - See attached. **Motion by Kelsey and supported by Bellgraph to approve Shawn Bonnell as a firefighter. All ayes.**

Other Business:

Fuel Tanks - The fuel tanks and pumps located at the village garage are supplied and maintained by Simpson Oil Co. The equipment has been faulty for years. Also the price of fuel is higher than that of other suppliers. The fire department used about half of the fuel purchased by the village. There are suppliers who provide key cards so we can determine how much fuel is being used by which trucks. It would make bookkeeping much easier. **Motion by Bellgraph and supported by Evans to recommend that the village council retain Merle Boes Co. for fuel. All ayes.**

Next Meeting - Special MFR meeting on August 25 at 7:30. Regular quarterly meeting on Wed. September 30, 2009 at 7:30.

Adjourn - Motion by Bellgraph and seconded by Kelsey to adjourn. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Submitted by Sec./Treas. Sue Sebright