

Regional Emergency Services Task Force

Meeting Minute

11/5/2009

Manor Township Maintenance Building

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Russ Guthrie at 7:02.

II. Recognize Present Members and Visitors

Chairman Guthrie recognized members present and welcomed others and asked all to identify themselves.

Roll call

The following task force members were present:

Glen Hess – Highville Fire Co.
Carl Harnish – Highville Fire Co. – Citizen
Jay Breneman – Manor Twp.
Russell Guthrie – Manor Twp. – Citizen
Phil Lastowski – Millersville Boro Council
Jim Eshleman – Millersville Fire Co.
Don McCann – Millersville Fire Co. – Citizen
Ron Goe – Washington Boro Fire Co.
Scott Haverstick – Washington Boro Fire Co. – Citizen
Craig Hohman – West Lancaster Fire Co.
Mark Lauriello – West Lancaster Fire Co. – Citizen
Gregory G. Noll – Community-at-large – Citizen

Unable to attend:

Robert Thompson – Millersville Boro. – Citizen

Others attending:

Dean Gantz – Mountville Fire Co.
Les Eckman – Citizen
Ted Gingrich – West Lancaster Fire Co.
Bill Hapke – Highville Fire Co.
Joan Matterness – West Lancaster Citizen

III. Review and approve 10/1/09 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Jim Eshleman to approve the 10/1/09 minutes.

Second by Glen Hess.

Motion passed. Mark Lauriello abstained.

IV. Request from Russ Guthrie to spend \$119.78 for one box of 20 lb. paper and on HP2300d 10A printer cartridge

Motion by Jay Breneman to approve payment to Russ Guthrie \$119.78 for paper and toner.

Second by Scott Haverstick.

Motion passed.

V. Review October 1, 2009 Meeting Motions

Russ Guthrie asked for comments on the motions passed at the last meeting. Craig Hohman indicated that there was some concern by the West Lancaster Fire Company at about the process for selection of name suggestions. They have asked members for suggestions and plan on voting for there preference at their December meeting.

After discussion and clarification of the expectation and intent of the Task Force the Fire Company representatives agreed that each company would pick one name, and then all four companies would then vote on the four choices at their December meetings. The final selected name will be presented to the Task Force at the January meeting.

VI. Discuss “Findings and Recommendations” Draft

Chairman Guthrie distributed the final report as received from Dr. Jenaway. He also distributed the 2nd Draft of the “Findings and Recommendation” dated 11/5/09.

Dean Gantz noted clarification that Mountville had not requested \$500,000 (the cost of the engine) from Manor Township, but rather requested a contribution toward the purchase of a new engine; typically 10% is contributed.

Russ reviewed a number of the findings and entertained discussion.

Jim Eshleman suggested the figures in the draft should be reviewed. Russell indicated he would pull together a meeting to review the figures before the presentation of the 3rd Draft.

Greg Noll observed that in our recommendations we should emphasize the municipalities' responsibility to provide fire service.

Ron Goe said we early on recognized the need for public education and asked we might begin such effort? Russell responded that is a need, and timing is yet to be determined. Jim Eshleman provided a sobering description of how the fire service has been affected over the years by the change in our culture and the resulting decline in volunteering, and reinforced the need for public relations to tell the story.

VII. Discussion on Hiring an Attorney

Russ Guthrie noted the responses received from the attorneys from which we requested proposals. He also noted that Scott Haverstick had submitted an additional suggestion of Matt Crème, a local attorney. Scott explained that he knows Matt personally, although he has no connection to him. He also noted that he does some governmental municipal work, including for Manor Township, he represents his home fire company, Eden Fire Company. Matt has offered to do our work for his municipal work which would be less than the other quoted rates. Mark Lauriello also offered his personal endorsement of Matt's reputation and character.

Scott noted that Matt is familiar to the solicitors for the Township and the Borough; he recommends that we hire him.

Craig Hohman asked if we are at the point we should hire an attorney? Scott responded that he thinks we are at that point. And that Matt would be willing to come before the Task Force, at either our next meeting or a special meeting, to explain what he could do for us.

Ron Goe said he likes the fact that Matt Creme is known to several members of the committee. Scott agreed this would make the interaction more efficient.

Russell said that he initially felt we might not yet be ready to hire an attorney, but now that we have a high quality local attorney he is in complete agreement that we should hire Matt.

Phil Lastowski asked if Matt would be finishing our recommendation. Scott said he would do whatever we want to ask him to do; that is our intent is to help guide us in the preparation of our recommendation.

Gregory G. Noll asked if we would be getting him or his firm. Scott said his understanding is that it would be Matt working directly with us, although that is not to say he might employ some other resources to assist him.

Motion by Craig Hohman we hire Mathew Creme at his stated rate of \$125 per hour.

Second by Ron Goe.

Motion passed.

Scott Haverstick said he would be happy to serve as the Task Force liaison with Matt Creme. Scott suggested we arrange a meeting with the whole Task Force to meet Matt. Chairman Guthrie indicated that when a date is agreed upon with Matt to have a meeting, he would email all of the time and place.

Following the passage of the motion, Chairman Guthrie resumed discussion of Item 6.

VIII. “Wrap Up” Comments Roundtable for the Good of the Order

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Jim Eshleman to adjourn.

Second by Craig Hohman.

Motion Passed. Chairman Guthrie adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

X. Next Meeting

Time – 7:00 p.m.

Date – January 7, 2010

Place – Manor Township Maintenance Building

Route 999 and Supervisor Road

Minutes submitted by: Don McCann, Recording Secretary