

June 12, 2025

The Chairman announced that as required by The Open Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided which notice specified time and place of meeting. The notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Fire House, Post Office, Library, the Court House, mailed to the Daily Record, and placed on file at the Township Clerk's Office and on the public notice website for the Montville BOFC District 1.

Call to Order

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of District # 1, Montville Township, held at the Firehouse 86 River Road, Montville, N.J. Meeting was called to order at 6:59 P.M. by Vice Chairman Cook, who presided. Vice Chairman Cook pointed out the Fire Exits.

Roll Call

Those present were Commissioners Robert Cook, Michael Caggiano, Anthony Luciano and Don Crownover; Fire Official Michael Cowley, Chief Carol DaCosta and Christina Cook sub for the District Clerk.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting for May were read and accepted as read. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Luciano; seconded by Commissioner Crownover and carried.

Public Comment

None

Financial Report

Commissioner Caggiano gave the financial report and presented the bills for payment; the vouchers were reviewed by the commissioners and paid as follows on a motion made by Commissioner Luciano, seconded by Commissioner Crownover, and carried:

Disbursements June 2025	
Administration	\$ 3,852.55
Benefits Life Ins. and W/C	\$ 2,123.10
Insurance	\$ 2,830.92
M&R Buildings and Grounds; Equip	\$ 2,708.88
M&R Apparatus	\$ 25,360.07
Office Expense	\$ 1,775.00
Utilities	\$ 2,805.96
Purchases	\$ 13,395.53
Supplies	\$ 853.04
Training	\$ 155.78
UFSA	\$ 8,797.14
Total Disbursements:	\$ 64,657.97

Commissioner Caggiano reported that two CDs matured and have been rolled into two more at 3.95% and 4.3%. Commissioner Lewis went to TD Bank – no progress has been made because they forgot. It will be another week after Commissioner Lewis returns. The money will move from the new TD Bank to the Fire Prevention Provident Bank account. The commissioners reviewed the budget line items. Commissioner Caggiano voiced concern that the FO's wages have already exceeded the budgeted amount. The total budget was \$43,000 and so far, the

collected funds are \$31,000. The increase in fees should offset the increase in payroll. The quote from Northeast to replace the antenna at Montgomery was \$5,400. Received a NAPA bill that is not ours – belongs to District 3. Pinto contracts to be signed next week. Motion to accept financial report was made by Commissioner Luciano, seconded by Commissioner Crownover, and carried.

Chief's Report

The Chief reported that there were 14 fire calls for the month of May, bringing the year-to-date fire calls to 88, and the total year-to-date activities to 168. Chief DaCosta presented a list of fire companies assisting in the fire watch for the 4th of July fireworks at the high school (see attached). Wick has cut the poison ivy at the Buffalo House. The department would like to know if it will be removed. The chief questioned why the I Pads that were approved three months ago have not been purchased yet. Also asked about where the LOSAP adjustments stand. They are currently with the lawyer. Spoke about the radios and the testing of the County system versus the town. Overwhelming approval of the county system over the town. Two possibilities are moving to the County or committing to the town. Other items mentioned:

- Antenna tower at 86 River Rd.
- Air conditioning at station 1.
- Firehouse Doors at Station 1,2 and 3.
- Bathroom repair at station 1.
- Truck committee request to put new 351 in 2026 budget.
- Clothing allowance.
- Recruitment and retention program.
- Station1 building.
- Signboard outside station 1.
- NERIS.

These items were presented in five pages (attached) from the members of District 1. They want recommendations from the Board and request a response by the next commissioner's meeting. There is still the question of the disposal of foam. The state is not doing anything. Commissioner Crownover stated that the department needs to find two more bids for the disposal. Suggested Clean Earth. Need something in writing. Commissioners are still waiting for the final LOSAP numbers for 2024. Motion to accept the Chief's report was made by Commissioner Luciano; seconded by Commissioner Crownover and carried.

Fire Official's Report

Fire Official Cowley reported that there were 7 home inspections in May and a combined 46 inspections of LHUs and registrations; one complaint inspection. Total accounts receivable for the month of May was \$2,519.00. Fire Prevention is on track to have all inspections completed in 2025. Currently working at 150 River Road. Requested the status on the mobile radio for the Fire Prevention vehicle. Per Mike Peski it is on order. The approximate cost for the radio is \$7,000 to \$9,000. Motion to accept the Fire Officials report was made by Commissioner Cook; seconded by Commissioner Luciano and carried.

Correspondence

- Received invoices from ALM; Verizon; Knox Connect; D3 Shared Services; 1st Due; Gen Serv; Fire and Safety; Beyer Fleet.
- Station two renovation meeting is scheduled for July 3rd at station 2 at 7 PM.
- Received an email from John Connelly confirming Pine Brook installed a trans/ceiver
- Submitted tax exempt form to First Due at their request.
- Called Kearns, Duffy and Vaccaro who requested info on a loss claim for water damage and was told to disregard, there was no police report filed either
- Sent LOSAP as adjusted by the department to Counsellor Bucco for review.
- Received an email from the DOLGS regarding Statutory Thresholds – does not apply to us.
- Received information from the Chief regarding the placement of apparatus for the fireworks on June 27th.
- Notified by John Connelly that Montgomery tower was out of service; multiple repairs may be necessary. Getting quotes as repairs are over the threshold. ESS was purchased by Northeast – looking for a quote from another company.

Old Business

Commissioners reviewed the Project Status report.

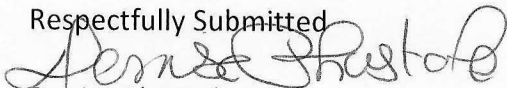
New Business

On a motion made by Commissioner Luciano seconded by Commissioner Crownover to write a letter of intent to move radio communication to the County system. All in favor. Motion was made by Commissioner Luciano and seconded by Commissioner Crownover to purchase a fax machine with scanner for each station to email the state. Approved at an approximate cost of \$300.00 each. There is already a machine available at station three. On a motion made by Commissioner Crownover and seconded by Commissioner Cook the commissioners have authorized the opening of an account at TD Bank for the Fire Prevention bureau. The signers authorized to open the account are Commissioner Caggiano and Commissioner Lewis. All in favor.

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Luciano, seconded by Commissioner Caggiano and carried. The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Cook at 9:09 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted



Denise Phostole

District 1 Clerk Montville Township BOFC District One