

**YORK AREA UNITED FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

**APRIL 19, 2011
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Springettsbury Township Offices, 1501 Mt. Zion Road, York, PA.

MEMBERS IN

ATTENDANCE: Bill Schenck, Chairman
John Fullmer, Secretary
Don Bishop
Richard Guyer

MEMBERS NOT

IN ATTENDANCE: Austin Hunt, Vice Chairman
Tom Warman

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Steve Hovis, Solicitor
John Holman, Springettsbury Township Manager
Bob McCoy, Chief, YAUFR
Dan Hoff, Battalion Chief, YAUFR
Sandy Ratcliffe, Finance Officer, Assistant Treasurer, YAUFR
Tom Stees, YAUFR
Don Eckert, YAUFR
Jean Abreght, Stenographer

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Opening Ceremony

1. Pledge of Allegiance

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance. He reported that neither Austin Hunt nor Tom Warman would be present due to other commitments. However, he confirmed that a Quorum was present with Mr. Guyer present as a voting alternate.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck announced that there had been no Executive Sessions since the last meeting. An Executive Session was scheduled following the meeting this date to discuss a personnel issue.

3. COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

4. MANAGEMENT/ATTORNEY REPORTS

A. Steve Hovis, Solicitor

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis reported that two grievances had reached the step 3 stage, which meant that the grievances will come before the Commission for a resolution. The parties had decided, instead of making a formal presentation to the Board, they would submit their positions by written statements, which will be due the week prior to the next meeting. Solicitor Hovis stated that he would distribute their statements to the Commission in order to be prepared for discussion during the May meeting.

A lengthy discussion was held, a summary of which follows:

- The process for these particular grievances will not set a precedent for future issues.
- Collective Bargaining Agreement was reviewed and agreed upon by all parties, including union officials.
- Commission to review documents in advance and can request parties be present at hearing.
- Chief McCoy will present the department's position at hearing.
- Grievances relate to work schedule.

Consensus of the Commission was to require a hearing.

B. Robert McCoy, Fire Chief

MCCOY Chief McCoy indicated he had nothing further to report.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A. Payable Listing as of March 31, 2011

MR. FULLMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE LISTING AS OF MARCH 31, 2011. MR. BISHOP WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. BIDS, PROPOSALS & CONTRACTS

A. Approval of Purchase – Dell Power Edge T410 Server

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck noted that Chief McCoy requested consideration for a purchase of server equipment. He asked whether the expectation was that it was part of the service agreement with Springettsbury, or that YAUFR would purchase computer hardware.

MCCOY Chief McCoy explained that through the previous Springettsbury Fire Department, YAUFRR had been using a server to store files, emails, virus protection, etc. The server went down twice and caused the loss of two days of productivity. Chief McCoy requested Andy Hinkle to review what it would take to replace the server, and in addition to review the goals for future planning. Through a discussion Chief McCoy had with Mr. Bishop, he learned of more advanced options.

BISHOP Mr. Bishop explained several things:

- The purchase of a \$10,000 server for four people expandable in the future will be worth approximately \$1500 at that time.
- Other options for review include storing files on the Internet.
- Need to determine future goals and expenses.

MCCOY Chief McCoy reported that he had discussed the issues with Mr. Holman, and added that the server had been repaired and is running satisfactorily at this time. If the Commission determined that additional review and discussion was appropriate, the item could be tabled at this time.

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck asked if that was a solution under review rather than a physical piece of hardware. He noted he thought the township was moving away from servers.

BISHOP Mr. Bishop responded that the township was attempting to virtualize its servers, which would be included into this proposal. He noted that VM Ware is a virtual machine, which would be a good step to move forward. He also added that Google Apps was a free solution along with other alternatives. His experience with Google Apps was that it provided more capabilities at less expense.

MCCOY Chief McCoy noted that the server failure had alerted them to several issues, one of which was to be sure that things were backed up. He noted that Mr. Bishop suggested that the Internet could be used at this time as a trial back up.

BISHOP Mr. Bishop added that it would be worthwhile and that he would be glad to assist in the process.

MCCOY Chief McCoy mentioned that during his meeting with Mr. Holman the one biggest issue was the question of security.

FULLMER Mr. Fullmer agreed and indicated that his company is continuing to review growing with the technology as well.

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck mentioned that his company is involved in the same process.

MCCOY Chief McCoy mentioned an interesting note of the whole concept was that it would assist in the connection of all the fire houses.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

There were no commissioner comments.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Volunteer Committee
- B. Building Committee

ECKERT Mr. Eckert presented a combined Volunteer and Building Committee report, summarized:

- Final contract with potential buyer; minor modifications made and returned for review.
- Negotiations continuing, difficult at times with potential land purchase but process moving forward.
- Productive meeting held with Chief and Trustees of Alert, Manchester. Scheduled to attend one of their regular member meetings in May to promote the volunteers.

9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

There were none for action.

10. ACTION ON MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes: March 15, 2011 – Fire Commission Meeting

MR. BISHOP MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15, 2011 FIRE COMMISSION MEETING. MR. FULLMER WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

11. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business for discussion.

12. NEW BUSINESS

MCCOY Chief McCoy presented Rescue Revenue, a service that he had previously mentioned to the Commission. He was dealing with this in Manchester

Township. He had discussed the matter with Solicitor Hovis and Mr. Hunt. Rescue Revenue deals with insurance companies for revenue and billings for vehicle accidents. The discussion is summarized:

- No cost other than a 20% collection fee of what they collect.
- Accident information is provided to them; they deal with settlements with insurance companies.
- Large revenue cannot be guaranteed; maybe less than \$10,000 a year.
- Currently YAUFRR does no billing for any type of vehicle accident including hazardous materials.
- Manchester has not been using the service; firefighters handling rejection letters, etc. Majority of Manchester's accidents involved non-township residents.
- Neither Springettsbury nor Spring Garden has ordinances that would allow this process; would need to adopt identical ordinances.
- Experience of Pennsylvania collection rate is lowest; 19%.
- References could be provided.

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck commented that there are extraordinary events that should be billed for hazardous material and for recurring responses.

BISHOP Mr. Bishop added that the billing option should be something that YAUFRR should be knowledgeable about and able to make recommendations to other municipalities.

GUYER Mr. Guyer stated that he would like to pursue the issues further and have additional knowledge about it along with references. He commented on the fact that Pennsylvania is their lowest return rate, which may relate to the way things are set up in Pennsylvania.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis added that the legality, the practicality, the pros and cons are all issues to be investigated.

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck agreed in that the insurance companies are denying claims and he wondered what the legal basis would be.

MCCOY Chief McCoy mentioned that an issue that had been mentioned was that the moving vehicle is held responsible for the bill based on the insurance. He questioned whether YAUFRR would go after the claim or whether it would have to go through the township.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis responded that it would have to go through the townships.

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- MCCOY** Chief McCoy noted that he would continue to evaluate what Manchester is doing through his involvement. He will bring back some additional information.
- BISHOP** Mr. Bishop commented that it sounded like a reasonably low risk.
- ECKERT** Mr. Eckert mentioned that the results of accidents are not always related to negligence on the part of the operator. As far as billing the insurance company, everyone involved has to be billed, which might open the township up to liability.
- HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis added that there are many different issues related to accidents and the fact that the fire department shows up and an individual is charged for a call he/she did not request; those types of issues must be reviewed.
- ECKERT** Mr. Eckert mentioned the cost of oil dry that the fire police use to clean up accident sites. During bad weather with ice they call PennDOT and request a sand truck.
- MCCOY** Chief McCoy added that a billing could be issued to recover costs in dealing with Hazmats by law.
- ECKERT** Mr. Eckert added one additional point concerning the wrecking or towing companies. They are being paid good sums of money to pick up vehicles, but many times they do not pick up the assorted parts and pieces left at the accident scene. He thought that they should be paid to clean it up entirely.
- SCHENCK** Chairman Schenck responded that he made an excellent point. Mr. Eckert had mentioned this issue in previous discussions. He noted it rested in who is made to be responsible.
- ECKERT** Mr. Eckert commented that he did not know which entity would be responsible to make the wrecker pick up all the pieces.
- HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis noted that Spring Garden is in the midst of bidding out its towing contract. Many municipalities have towing contracts. If anything it is the responsibility of the owner to insure that the vehicle and all related parts leave the roadway. It is a valid concern.
- MCCOY** Chief McCoy stated that he wanted to present the matter to the Commission and will continue to investigate it for additional information.

B. Approval – Purchase of MIS Equipment

This item was acted upon earlier during the agenda.

C. Meeting Date – Change of May Meeting Date

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Due to the fact that May 17th is Election Day, consensus of the board was to change the May meeting date to Tuesday, May 31, 2011.

The time of the meeting will change to 6:30 p.m. in order to participate in the Grievance Hearing.

Solicitor Hovis will handle the advertisement requirements.

13. ADJOURNMENT

SCHENCK Chairman Schenck adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Fullmer

Secretary

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