

McConnellsville Fire District

Commissioners Meeting

January 20, 2025

**Attendees:** Secretary: Peggy Darling

**Treasurer:**

**Commissioners:** Peggy Darling, Karen Edwards, Trisha Finen, Martin Handler

**Representatives from Fire Department:** Chief Finen

**Absent:** Katrina Reed

**Public Attendees:**

**Guest:**

**Meeting:** called to order at 18:30 by Chairman of the Board

**Treasurer:** Secretary made monthly report and presented bills/invoices to be signed that were submitted by the treasurer. Treasurer was absent from the meeting.

**Correspondence:** Bid from 4 Green Power Systems, Bid from Home Power Systems, Financial Training for Fire District Officials, AFDSNY newsletter,

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. A bid request will be submitted to the Queen Central to have the exterior of the Department painted.

i. **This will be tabled until a treasurer is hired.**

ii. **This will be tabled until Spring of 2025**

2. Discussion of physicals coming due in November 2024.

Secretary Darling will reach out to Access and obtain some dates. An EKG will be completed on all interior, exterior, personnel over the age of 70 years, and anyone who Access recommends.

- i. **Physicals have been completed and a letter has been mailed to those who failed to attend scheduled sessions. The letter informed the individuals on what needs to be completed in order for them to remain an active member.**
- ii. **One of the members completed their physicals**
- iii. **See new business for the other two**

3. Discussion that a generator is needed to power the building when service is interrupted as the Department is a shelter in place. Motion made by Commissioner Edwards to advertise bid in paper in regard to specs and cost. Commissioner Handler 2nd the motion. Commissioners polled- Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor motion carried.

- i. **Clarification was needed on this bid. It will run in the paper for two weeks and bids will be opened at the next meeting**
- ii. **Secretary reached out to two dealers who provided a bid-see new business**

4. Chief presented a new member Rob Sankey. Rob is a lifetime member that has been out of the area for quite a while. The Department has approved his reinstatement pending a LENS clearance and background check.

- i. **LENS report needs to be obtained**

5. Office Suite and blank envelopes received

6. Motion was made to send letters out on December 31, 2024 to the two members that have not completed physicals and inform them that they are inactive and can not respond to any calls or drill until a completed physical is obtained. If proof of a completed physical is obtained before December 31, 2024 a letter will not be sent .

- i. **See new business**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Motion was made by Commissioner Finen to accept the December 16, 2024 minutes with stated corrections. Commissioner Edwards 2nd the motion. Commissioners polled: Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Finen- Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye. Motion carried.
2. Motion was made by Commissioner Finen to accept the December 9th, 2024 minutes. Commissioner Edwards second the motion. Commissioners polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor -motion carried.
3. Two proposals were received for installation of generator for the bldgs when power is lost. Bid proposals were reviewed from 4 Green Power Systems and Home Power Systems. Bid was awarded to 4 Green Power Systems. Secretary will reach out to 4

Green Power System and inform them of the decision and move forward with installation.

4. Letters were mailed to the two members that have not completed annual physicals. Letters were not delivered or picked up from post office. Chief and Chairman will be reaching out to these individuals and informing them that they are inactive and can not respond to calls or drill until they are deemed active by providing proof of a completed physical.
5. Motion was made by Commissioner Finen to appoint Commissioner Edwards as vice/co-chairman of the Board. Commissioner Handler second the motion. Board polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-abstain. Motion carried. Commissioner Edwards accepted the appointment.
6. The draft of the Whistle Blower policy was reviewed. Motion made by Commissioner Finen to accept the policy as is. 2nd by Commissioner Edwards. Board polled: Commissioners polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor -motion carried. The finalized copy incorporated into the Districts Policy format will be presented at next meeting to have signatures obtained.
  - a. The policy will be distributed to fire department members at the next Fire Department meeting and members will sign in receipt of it.
7. The draft of the Rules of Behavior at Meetings of the McConnellsville Board of Fire Commissioners was reviewed. Motion made by Commissioner Finen to accept the policy, with corrections. 2nd by Commissioner Edwards. Board polled: Commissioners polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor -motion carried. The finalized copy incorporated into the Districts Policy format will be presented at next meeting to have signatures obtained.
8. Motion was made by the Chief to purchase three Unication pagers. Motion was made by Commissioner Handler to purchase three pagers with the cost not exceeding \$1200.00 Motion was second by Commissioner Edwards. Board polled: Commissioners polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor -motion carried. The finalized copy incorporated into the Districts Policy format will be presented at next meeting to have signatures obtained.
9. Snow banks had to be pushed back/removed from the Department due to the snow banks being a safety hazard and one unable to see oncoming traffic. Liberty/sealcoat submitted bill for this.
10. The furnace in Bldg 1 stopped working over the weekend. An emergency repair was done by Salsman Repair. Motion was made by Commissioner Darling to pay invoice when it arrives. Motion was second by Commissioner Edwards. Board polled: Commissioners polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor -motion carried.
11. Motion was made, by Karen Edwards, to accept the 2025 Organizational minutes with corrections stated. Motion 2nd by Commissioner Edwards. Board polled: Commissioners polled: Commissioner Finen-Aye, Commissioner Edwards-Aye, Commissioner Darling-Aye, Commissioner Handler-Aye. All in favor-motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Commissioner Edwards to adjourn at 18:56

Minutes Submitted

Peggy Darling

Secretary

January 23, 2025