



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

100 MICHIGAN BOULEVARD
MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360
219-873-1570
LOUISE MOCK, PRESIDENT
, VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT POLLOCK, SECRETARY
GEOFF PLUMMER, COMMISSIONER
CHARLES WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER

Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting Minutes: March 3, 2014

President Mock called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was noted with Commissioners Louise Mock, Robert Pollock, Geoff Plummer and Charles Williams all in attendance. Also present were Attorney Pamela Krause and Fire Chief Ronnie Martin. Councilman Chris Schwanke was absent.

At this time, President Mock asked all present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pollock to accept the minutes from the February 3, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Plummer 2nd. **Ayes 4 Nays 0; motion carries.**

Communications/Claims-

Claims-Commissioner Pollock stated the payroll and claims for March 2014 was \$1,276.67.

Also for communications was a list of all active firefighters and what shift they were on. This list was handed to all commissioners.

Report from City Council Liaison, Chris Schwanke- No report.

Report from Commission Attorney- No report

Report from Union Local 475- No Report

New Business- No Report

Old Business- Commissioner Plummer asked where the changes to the ordinance that were voted on at the December meeting were at. Pamela Krause, the commission Attorney, stated that the City Council Liaison was going to submit the changes to the council after they were voted on. However since he was not present at this meeting, they could not find out an answer at this time.

Report from Chief Martin- Chief Martin wanted to first recognize three firefighters that have been with the department 25+ years. They are: Dennis Wantland, Howard Fuller, Doug Gardner.

A report on Lemon Kelley was given. Mr. Kelley has not been able to attend an EMT school because one has not been available. Chief Martin asked the commission not to hold it against Mr. Kelley as it is not his fault. The next alternative was to send Mr. Kelley to Hammond for the EMT school. Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve and Commissioner Plummer 2nd. **4 Ayes, 0 Nays; motion carries**

Chief Martin stated the next academy would be from May 12 – July 11, 2014. It was also stated that if a department was sending any recruits to the academy, that they would have to send someone to help train or be charged \$3,000 per recruits. Chief Martin stated that he could not guarantee that he could have someone there Monday-Friday for those weeks.

Along with Commissioner Pollock, Chief Martin is moving forward with placing a Firefighter curriculum into the Michigan City Area Schools. It is in New Prairie and working there. Audra Peterson, Head of A.K. Smith, has been working very hard with Chief Martin to make this happen. It would be a huge benefit.

At this time, the two new hires were called to the front and introduced. They are Kevin Hutson and Sean Baker. Chief Martin made sure they knew the commission was the ones that hired, could fire, promote and demote them. Facing the crowd now Chief Martin reminded everyone what an outstanding department we have. That these two were joining a brotherhood. To overlook the small things. That we can disagree and have different opinions, but when the bell rings, we all come together.

Chief Martin wanted to thank Randy Russell, who is superintendent of the Water Department for his fast thinking on Friday, February 28, 2014. There was a house fire across the street from him and because he noticed the flames and told the family who was in the house at the time and alerted authorities, everyone got out ok and it could have been a lot worse, so hats off to Randy.

A letter was read from Robb Quinn, about Engine 2 who was called to a scene with the victim in full arrest. Engine 2 started CPR immediately and when EMS arrived they took over. Engine 2 remained on the scene and when it was determined there was nothing more that could be done, Engine 2 helped move the victim to the bed so the family could have closure. Robb Quinn just wanted to thank them for doing this when they did not have to. (Letter is enclosed)

Chief Martin also wanted it known that it was just in the paper how a Sanitary District employee was not feeling well one day, a fellow employee had talked to him and just didn't like the feeling he had so he went to check on him. Upon arrival, he made his co

worker go to the hospital because he felt he was having a heart attack. Upon arriving at the hospital, it was determined true, yes he was having a heart attack and this saved his life. However, it was Mark Baker that had trained about 140-150 city employees and students at AKS and Chief Martin wanted it known that thanks to Mark's great teachings, this employee saved his fellow employee's life.

Finally, Chief Martin asked the Commission to stand, And stated that as Chief he has to remember to always say Thank You. So he wanted to thank the Firefighters and welcome the new members to meet the commission.

Public Comment- Robert Steinborn stated that he has heard rumors that the promotional test has been changed and if so, would the commission let them know about these changes. Commissioner Mock said that at this time, they were just rumors and as far as the commission knows, there are no changes.

Brock Kohler asked that when the hiring freeze is lifted, what list will they work off of first? Commissioner Mock said that since the list were not in front of her, she was not prepared to answer it right now.

Commission Comment- Commissioner Pollock asked that a copy of Rob Quinn's letter be sent to the secretary so that it may be added to the minutes.

Commissioner Plummer just wanted it known that he may not be at the next three meetings due to a scheduling issue with his job.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commission Pollock and 2nd by Commissioner Plummer. Ayes 4; Nays 0 motion carries.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 21, 2014 at 5:00 pm.

Ron Martin

From: Ron Martin
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2014 1:29 PM
To: Ron Martin

From: EMS MCBASE3 [mailto:EMS3@LaPorteCounty.org]
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2014 7:33 AM
To: Ron Martin
Subject:

Chief Martin,

Tonight we were dispatched along with Engine 2 to an unconscious person. While enroute to the call, E2 notified us that we had a full arrest. Upon our arrival, your crew was performing CPR and utilizing their defibrillator. As this was a witnessed arrest, they were acting appropriately. We applied our monitor to determine that the patient was pulseless and in what appeared to be an asystole rhythm under the pacemaker. What happened next was above and beyond the call. At that point in time, I asked the crew before they cleared if they could help me get the patient off the floor and into his bed in the other room until the coroner could arrive. Not only did they help, they pretty much moved him completely. This was something they did not need to do but it allowed the family some time to sit with their husband and father prior to the coroner getting there and give them some closure.

Ron, we have known each other a long time and we have worked together for a long time and I am proud to call you my friend. I will never forget Sunday morning breakfasts at the old station one. (their aren't too many of us left that would remember those days.) I am not sure how much longer this body is going to allow me to take the beating that this job can put on it on a day in and day out basis and things like what your crew did tonight were way above and beyond the call. Was it heroic, certainly not. Will it be read by people in the papers and have a picture on the front page of the paper, definitely not. Will it be forever remembered by myself and the family we were with tonight, without a doubt. Working with the crews on this shift (our B) is always a great experience. I cannot speak for the other crews, just for the one I am lucky to work with. Tonight it was station 2, next shift it may be station 1 or station 4, who knows but these guys on a day in and day out basis help us out in ways that you probably never hear about whether it is coming to help us get a fractured hip down a flight of stairs at 3AM to the full arrest at Lighthouse place parking lot, they are there and willing to do just about anything I ask them to do and I just want to express my thanks to you and your department. Often I don't get the chance to personally say something to them before they can get away.

Thanks Chief and please express my thanks to all the men we work with on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

Robb Quinn
Paramedic, B Shift Michigan City

Dibble
mellen
Bruders
Schaeley