

The Board of Fire Commissioners. Gloucester Township Fire District # 4 held a Workshop Meeting on 12.6.2023. The meeting was held at Blackwood Fire Company, 14 W. Central Avenue, Blackwood, NJ 08012. This meeting has been properly advertised according to the State of New Jersey Sunshine Laws.

COMMISSIONERS: M. Cristella, J. Vannoni, J. McCann, M. Jones

Commissioner J. Vannoni brought the Board up to speed on the retention and recruitment meeting. He thought it went very well. He stated that Dunlap Jr. is trying to get him the data he needs, which will show exactly when trucks are leaving the building. Alvin is working on a Face Book page, to try to get members back. He will probably ask for a 90-day extension, since the committee was late getting started.

They also addressed the overnight duty crews, and having a female on the crew.

He told them they could use BCR, as long as it is not on a platoon B or C shift. He said they were thrilled, and it is well within their rights to sleep out there. He checked with the Union President as well as the labor attorney

The point was made by Commissioner McCann, the other members need to be advised if they are out at BCR, so if other members are responding to a call, they will know Squad 84 is out there.

Commissioner Vannoni said an alert will be sent on Active 911.

The discussion continued, and they do not want the career staff finding fault with every little thing, and discouraging them. Commissioner Vannoni said they understand their roll is being the back up, and he encouraged them to be the best back up they can be.

Commissioner Jones said his only concern is things like pots and pans, food, has been purchased by the career staff. Commissioner Vannoni said that will be addressed prior to the first duty crew at BCR.

Commissioner Cristella wanted to make sure the fire company put money in their budget for a new boiler. Commissioner Jones said they did.

The Board stated there needs to be better communication from Blackwood Fire Company on things like the budget, items needed, repairs needed. They do not communicate with the Board.

Commissioner McCann brought up the topic of the \$5.00 per call, and one member said he hasn't received his \$5.00 per call in a while. Commissioner McCann explained to him, that he must have at least 10% to qualify for the \$5.00 per call stipend.

Commissioner Vannoni reported that Reserve Engine 88 will now be stored at BCR, since the GTPD needs the building on Stetser Avenue to secure cars that are awaiting a search warrant.

He added if the call back program comes to fruition, and works, their gear is at BCR, so it will be beneficial. It will be stocked with existing fire equipment. Commissioner McCann was happy that if and when Squad 88 goes out of service, the reserve will be ready to go. It can be truck checked also.

Commissioner Vannoni said soon to be Chief Imielinski would like the following as his line officers, Derr as Assistant Chief, Jimmy Anderson as Captain, but with stipulations. He will be going to firefighter 2, and getting his instructor certification by the end of the year.

He said the subject was brought up about having a party here, with alcohol. He spoke to the Chairman and he vehemently opposes it. He said he does not feel it is worth the risk.

Commissioner brought up the subject of alcohol in the firehouse, and asked when that came to an end. He also asked if there was a directive. There is a directive, but Commissioner McCann said the directive states that on special occasions, the ban on alcohol can be waived with permission. He asked what role does the Board have in determining if alcohol can be used in the building, other than having to get the rider. The discussion continued.

The next discussion was concerning the cameras, and Commissioner Vannoni said President Stott had a sit-down meeting with Wil and corrected him on his ways. He explained that the cameras were installed when a female joined the organization, and it was done so if an incident occurred, it could be revived by the cameras.

Commissioner McCann spoke concerning LOSAP. The 2 names on the activity list that was posted, in red, do qualify for LOSAP. Their names were not on the official list that was posted. He spoke to the Chief, and the reason those names were in red, was because they had not been members for 1 year. Commissioner McCann explained that does not matter, and the Clerk sent the Chief an email that stated a new list must be posted, and hung for another 30 days which will include all 20 names. There were 3 names on the list that were questioned, R. Derr, D. Imielinski, and C. Mulvan.

Commissioner Vannoni presented the Board with 2 applications. He believes they are both Junior applications.

Commissioner M. Jones asked the Board if there is a way they could accept applications twice a month, instead of once a month? The discussion centered around applications, and the fact that one of the applications was turned in October.

Commissioner McCann suggested if there were applications at a Workshop, completed, they could let that person start, and memorialize the application at the next Regular Meeting. Get them their gear, rack space, get them excited.

Commissioner McCann then asked if resident's make a contribution to the fire company, of say \$150.00 or more, shouldn't they offer them a supporter shirt? There was a discussion concerning that.

With no further business to discuss.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Cristella to adjourn.

DATED: December 6, 2023

BY: _____
Michael Jones, Secretary