

The Board of Fire Commissioners, Gloucester Township Fire District # 4 held a Workshop Meeting on 3/1/2023. The meeting was held at Blackwood Fire Company, 14 W. Central Avenue, Blackwood, NJ 08912. This meeting has been properly advertised according to the State of New Jersey Sunshine Laws.

Commissioners: D. Vannoni, M. Cristella, J. Vannoni, M. Jones, J. McCann

Attendees: FF Dunlap, Sr., IAFF Local President Kemery

Commissioner Cristella stated he called Richard Braslow, inquiring if Fire District # 1 can be invoiced for Squad 88 answering calls in District # 1.

Commissioner Cristella explained that Richard Braslow's interpretation of mutual aid, is if you have an agreement with a fire district, and you provide protection, and they in turn do the same for you. If Squad 88 is providing primary fire protection, then we should be able to bill them for that protection, or just not go there. That was his opinion.

Commissioner J. Vannoni said this topic will be discussed at the Shared Service level. He also said a topic like this should not be discussed over the phone. Again, he said, the topic would be discussed at the Shared Service level. He said they would contact Richard Braslow. He also added that the referendum on the ballot for District # 1, for stipend duty crews, was voted down.

IAFF Local President Kemery suggested telling them the volunteers will be sent if available, but you are not sending Squad 88.

Commissioner Jones reported, when he and Commissioner Genzel from District # 2 met with District # 1, and a letter was sent to them also, they were told District # 1 did not have the money to contribute to Squad 88.

Commissioner McCann entered the meeting, and asked to be updated on the topic being discussed. Commissioner Cristella updated him.

IAFF Local President Kemery said Squad 88 responded to a call in District # 3 for a fully involved RV. Captain Reiss called for backup. He had to call 4 times, and on the 4th call he requested Runnemedede, because of no response from District # 1, #2, and # 3. District # 3 responded late, but # 1 never responded.

Commissioner J. Vannoni stated they need to talk to the Chiefs. He thinks there would be a issue, if they are paying for Squad 88, and they are unable to respond, because they are on a call for District # 4.

Commissioner McCann said the service ac be offered to them, but it cannot be forced down their throat. How many times is Runnemedede called out for them? Do we not run calls into Pine Hill, or down the South end? He went on to say, If Blenheim wants to tell us to pound sand, they could. Actually, they have, by only giving \$900.00 raise this year, and they feel as though they are doing us a huge favor.

Commissioner J. Vannoni said he will not pull out from anywhere; He wants a lawyer to put in in writing. He also said he will be bargaining harder next year with District # 3.

Commissioner Jones said if Captain Reiss needed to call 4 times, we need to get on dispatch for that.

The discussion continued on mutual aid.

Commissioner J. Vannoni said he is waiting on information on Engine 842, as he had people come out and look at it, and possibly getting estimates on refurbishing it. It was followed by a discussion on the cost of new engines.

Commissioner Cristella stated the Board is being accused of not spending money correctly, he agrees with looking into it.

Commissioner McCann asked since it has been stated 842 was put away with no fuel, has anyone had their hand slapped for putting it away without fuel ? Who put it away? Was it put away after testing without fuel? Was it after the Christmas parade? Who took it out without fuel? Has any of this been addressed?

Commissioner Cristella said we don't have a concrete answer on why it wont start.

Commissioner J. Vannoni said we need to stop talking unless we are in closed session. He said he will speak to the Chief.

Commissioner Jones said the current FAM and the former FAM believe all the junk in the bottom of the tank, clogged everything.

Discussion on when the Cascade arrived.

Commissioner J. Vannoni said the Tower Ladder is confirmed to be broken.

Commissioner Jones said the person who did the UL testing, did not see \$250,000.00 of work that has to be done on it. He would like to get a second opinion.

Commissioner J. Vannoni agreed it deserves a second opinion.

With no further business to discuss.

Motion by Commissioner Joes, second by McCann to adjourn. All in favor, motion carries.

DATED: March 1, 2023

BY _____
Michael Jones, Secretary