

EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT

March 11, 2020

COMMISSIONERS MEETING – FINAL

Regular Meeting 7:00

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Stephen Forschler, Chairman
Michael DiGiacomio
Russell Tompkins
Robert Trzcinski

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Robert Simon, Treasurer
Jim Passikoff, left at 8:05 p.m.
Rod MacLeod, Attorney, arrived at 7:20 p.m.

There was a moment of silence for a fallen firefighter from Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Forschler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and explained to the public the process of reviewing the Vouchers and Financials.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Annual election of PERMA Board of Directors dated March 4, 2020 – to Commissioner Trzcinski
- Basic Fire Commissioner Training to be held April 4, 2020 in Circleville, NY
- HVVFA request for endorsements for John P. Farrell, Jr. – to the department
- Two RBC Prospectus – to Mr. Simon
- Willmington Statement of Accounts for 06/01/18 through 01/31/20 – Board members copied.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Trzcinski and seconded by Commissioner Tompkins to accept the February 12, 2020 regular meeting minutes as written.

Commissioner Tompkins	Aye
Commissioner Trzcinski	Aye
Commissioner DiGiacomio	Aye
Chairman Forschler	Aye

Motion carried 4-0.

FINANCIALS:

Having reviewed the vouchers, a motion to pay the bills per the abstract dated as of February 29, 2020 was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Tompkins.

It is noted that the district received the check from the town which Mr. Simon deposited. Also noted that in the stack of checks is the two transfers to the reserve funds per the budget and a check to send RBC for the annual LOSAP contribution.

Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye

Chairman Forschler Aye

Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to accept the bank statement for the period ending on February 29, 2020 and in agreement with that noted on the balance sheet as put forward by Mr. Passikoff with no exceptions.

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye

Chairman Forschler Aye

Motion carried 4-0.

AUD status – Mr. Simon is will review with Mr. Passikoff next week. The extension has been filed and we have until May 1st. The goal is to have it done by the end of this month as it is needed for the audit.

Independent audit – Mr. Simon has received a complete checklist of items that we need to complete and he is working through the list. Chairman Forschler would like to see that get out to the necessary people as soon as possible as June 30th is the goal to have the audit completed.

Final financial statements for 2019 - On page 2, total liabilities and net assets are \$145,457.95 Chairman Forschler said we are allowed to have up to 10% of budget unencumbered which would be \$50,000 so we need to allocate \$95,000. Mr. Passikoff said looking at the February financial statement, net expenses for January and February are approximately \$72,831 so he suggested to keep a fund balance of \$75,000 as opposed to \$50,000 and to move \$70,000. The comptroller's office won't take exception to that.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski that the board approve a transfer of \$50,000 to the equipment purchase fund and \$20,000 to the capital reserve fund thereby encumbering a fair portion of the 2019 surplus. There was a discussion on the repair reserve fund. Mr. Passikoff said he would not recommend adding to that fund as the board would have to pay back money used and a public hearing would be required. Presently, there is \$42,500 in the repair reserve fund and that should cover anything that needs to be done immediately. Mr. MacLeod said twenty years is the recommendation for

replacing engines, not ambulances or tankers. Mr. Passikoff said as equipment gets closer to thirty years, it gets harder to get parts. Chairman Forschler said the engine is marked for replacement at 25 and the tanker for 30. Commissioner DiGiacomio said we also need to put away money for facilities – do we have enough seed money for facilities. At the end of the day, a bond for 2.6 or 2.8 doesn't change things drastically. Commissioner Tompkins said vehicles that are not driven every day and are maintained properly can have a long lifetime. Commissioner DiGiacomio said we need the new firehouse more than new vehicles. Can we stretch the trucks a little further?

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye

Chairman Forschler Aye

Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Simon was directed to move from the general fund savings to the equipment purchase fund and capital improvements fund the \$50,000 and \$20,000 respectively.

FIRE POLICE: Tim Odell – Not present.

DEPARTMENT:

Car 1 – Don Estes – Monthly Calls: 4 Year to Date: 10

- Calls have gone up exponentially.
- The drill will be on March 17th and will cover SCBA, decon, Cascade System review, thermal image camera, and one module, probably sexual harassment
- The annual flow test will be on March 20th. At that point, we will be looking at the number of SCBA packs to reduce to 12 to save money. We are currently at 16 – 12 is necessary.
- Cascade system has been having a few problems with equalizing and has not been serviced for a while. It will be serviced shortly.
- The EVOC class is this weekend in Stanford. We have two members attending.
- The open house and commissioner's inspection is on April 25th at 1300 hours. We have been advertising for the open house. The company is paying for a mailer to go out to all residences in the fire district which states our response level. Ms. deHaan is working hard on it. The post cards will go out next week. It will also go on the website.
- Fire extinguishers were recently tested on the apparatus and buildings. One failed and will be replaced.
- Ten sets of forestry gear will be ordered this week. Nine sets will be issued to the exterior and interior firefighters and one set will be kept as a spare on 61. It is more logical to use that gear for grass, woods and brush fires rather than interior turn out gear which is expensive to replace and would be more dangerous for the firefighters.
- Salt Point bridge will be one lane until sometime in August.

- Members are advised to keep off Schultzville Road unless the call is right there. Apparatus can't move if another car is coming northwest of Maple Lane.
- The two drill a month system is going exceptionally well. We are doing a lot of OSHA and the drills have high attendance. There is a high attendance at the EMS drills of fire people who are responding to calls and assisting.
- The open house will go on the sign. It would be good if the burn ban could go on the sign also.

Car 2 – Jim Bathrick – not here.

Car 3 – Kevin Russell

- Hose test - The department was not happy with Waterway last year so Mr. Russell called Failsafe and they sent a quote that is within \$300 of what Waterway was paid last year so they will be the new vendor.
- Driver training is going along well.
- 38-12 has a blinking light. Premier looked at it and it was the light tower that was jammed with a cone. It has a bad switch so they will be getting a new tower. The light tower is out of service for now.
- Phones in the firehouse can't hold a charge. This is on Chairman Forschler's list.
- Inspections on rigs – trying to hold off until the end of the month.
- Mr. Russell asked if we have heard anything on the flattened company sign.
- We are looking for the title for 38-12. Mr. Russell will follow up.
- The generator on the rehab vehicle runs for about 45 to 50 minutes then it shuts off. The generator repair suggested a few things to try which did not work. Mr. Russell will call them back tomorrow if he does not hear anything from them.

SUPPORT: Not present.

EMS - Susan deHaan Monthly Calls: 7 Year to Date: 21

- It's been a quieter month so far; fire is busier.
- The drills have been active. Last month we covered CPR and this month will be Narcan training on March 26th at 6:00. A Department of Health representative will be coming in to train and refresh. This is also a way to get fresh, unexpired Narcan without paying for it and will get rid of the outdated Narcan.
- Coronavirus updates are being done daily so it's been a chore to catch up and stay on top of it. It is basic hygiene - washing hands, keeping distance, following protocols. The county and state have new protocols and we are following them. If you transport someone with symptoms, it requires more decon. We have respirators to protect personnel and they are under lock and key. We have face masks, soap, and wipes. Vassar has a new policy on radio procedures and notification on how to transport and deliver. Chairman Forschler said if you are

transporting someone with symptoms, put oxygen on right away which protects the patient as well as the EMS responder.

- The screen panel in the driver's compartment in the ambulance is not lighting up so needs repair. Mr. Simon provided an update of what they told him to do. If it can be refurbished, it will be no cost to us. If there is not a refurbished unit available, there will be a cost. Once we get the new monitor, we replace the broken one and send it in.

MEMBERSHIP: Ed Olson – Not present.

SAFETY: At the last meeting, Chairman Forschler said we had a reportable accident in December and preventables were discussed and we went through zone reports and improvements. Commissioner Trzcinski said he has training classes available on a USB.

Cancer insurance update – Commissioner Trzcinski said he received an update on the law from Linda Flanagan. Mr. MacLeod said the only change involves what allows districts to provide other evidence that firefighters have taken a fit test within five years and is the same change as last year. Commissioner Trzcinski said, as per the discussion at February's meeting, he has not been able to get ahold of other insurance companies for comparison as yet. The documents Linda's team is presenting has an exclusion that if you are not totally and completely disabled due to cancer, that is an exclusion of payment and she does not have a good answer for that. Mr. MacLeod said there is not a lot of action on this as bail reform and corona are more important. Commissioner Trzcinski suggested we give Linda the number of people that should be covered for now. We are looking at about 10 people for about \$150 annually a person for basic.

Board of Election building update – As per the February meeting, Chairman Forschler sent a letter to the Republican and Democratic Board of Election commissioners and as a result, Commissioner Trzcinski said representatives from the Board of Election came to the firehouse and took pictures. He showed them where the election took place. They did not know it was an active firehouse with an active fire engine. As of this morning, we are no longer an election polling place. A suggested new place was the church on Salt Point; if not, the default would be the town hall.

Facilities committee update – The committee did not meet last month. Commissioner DiGiacomio has too many time constraints to continue to participate. There was discussion about how to handle this committee and the decision was to re-address when the empty commissioner's seat is filled.

Dutchess Overhead Doors – A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner DiGiacomio to approve the contract for annual preventative maintenance with Dutchess Overhead Doors for the four overhead doors pursuant to this proposal. It is \$125 a

door for service and if they find a problem, it is \$137 an hour for each person. The board agreed to a yearly contract so as not to be locked in. Chairman Forschler signed the copy and gave to Mr. Simon to return with the deposit.

Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye

Chairman Forschler Aye

Motion carried 4-0.

Schultzville Bridge – Chairman Forschler said Todd Martin, Highway Superintendent, wants to arrange a meeting next week regarding taking the Schultzville Bridge out of commission. Attendees would be two commissioners and a chief from East Clinton and West Clinton, Dana Smith or an appointee and Robert Balkind. The meeting will be held on March 18th at 7:00 at West Clinton Station 1. Mr. Balkind is trying to convince West Clinton to move one of their two engines into the town garage.

ISO Rating – Mr. MacLeod said to get the agreement, you need a list of residences. Commissioner Trzcinski said there is a list of first call to East Clinton from West Clinton. We need Chief Estes to look it over, then go to Todd Martin and their board and get their agreement, then go to the county and they update the CAD system. It is an intermunicipal agreement between East and West Clinton which are two political entities. This is not for pay, just for mutual aid. They will provide the mutual aid and we give them a \$1. Chief Estes did that a year and a half ago and it was agreed to with the county but there are only 10 addresses. We are looking for anything from five miles from West Clinton Station 2 in our district to be covered. There was discussion on how to start getting the data for this list. Commissioner Trzcinski said he will start at the town hall with the assessor. Mr. MacLeod said you need a contract because that is what the insurance companies want. Commissioner Trzcinski said Chris from Varesq said mutual aid is enough, a mutual aid CAD assignment is all we need.

Active Member List – We need clarification regarding people who are eligible to respond to calls that we can post on the board. Secondary to that, we need to differentiate who is in Tier One and who is in Tier Two with the names highlighted on the LOSAP printout. Commissioner Trzcinski said the list should be on the chief's desk and if something changes, the chief needs to communicate that to the board. The secretary will provide this information at the next meeting.

District policies:

Drug Testing Policy – Mr. MacLeod said he talked to other districts and none of them run their own drug testing policy as it's too risky. If you are running the random selection process, you run the risk of a lawsuit if someone suspects they were prejudiced. Quest Diagnostics does the whole thing. You provide a list of the active firefighters and they do the arrangements and

testing. The question is do you want to do it yourself or contract with someone? Commissioner Trzcinski asked if we are we going down a rabbit hole with this? Do other districts do random drug testing or leave it alone? Mr. MacLeod said half do and half don't but they all have a policy. The districts who do contract out. We have a policy which is not being done. Mr. MacLeod said it's a poor policy. There was discussion about what parameters need to be in the policy regarding random drug testing, if there is an accident, if there is a police report, if there is personal injury, if it's a minor accident. Mr. MacLeod said if the chief has a reasonable suspicion, he has the authority to immediately send that person for a drug test or they will be suspended. Commissioner Trzcinski asked what the liability is to remove the policy. Chief Estes asked if the accident is not the fault of the driver, then there would be no test required? Chairman DiGiacomio suggested requiring a test if there is reasonable suspicion or if you hurt someone or if you have two accidents a year. Chief Estes said he has no problem with mandatory drug testing. If there is an accident and the accident is the fault of the driver, how does the person get to the test site? What about random testing at the time of the physical? If you do a physical on your own, its automatic. Commissioner Tompkins said if you have an accident with physical injury, the police will come and they will determine if the driver is impaired and will ticket him. Mr. MacLeod said so the board would want an outside provider for random testing, testing if there is personal injury in an accident situation, and if there is reasonable suspicion. The board is open on non-injury accidents or internal random testing. When asked, Mr. MacLeod said New Hackensack does not drug test but if you want it, they will provide it. They give the chief authority and leeway if he suspects or wants to know something or has reasonable suspicion a person is under the influence. Mr. MacLeod said he has enough to get it started.

Physical requirements – When asked how it is done it New Hackensack, Mr. MacLeod said it is left up to the firefighters. If you can't do the job, don't do it. They do have a doctor do the yearly physicals and require a physical when returning from an injury. East Clinton's policy is quite extensive but it is not followed exactly. Commissioner Trzcinski asked if that was a liability for the taxpayers. Mr. MacLeod said a physical is only one point in time. The physical is required every year and they have a physical every year. The determination of ability falls to the provider, not the district. If the district is requiring a yearly physical and the members are getting and passing the yearly physical, then your liability is covered. If the firefighter is not telling the PA all the details, you are not responsible for that. Mr. MacLeod suggested shortening the policy to require a physical every year for the firefighter to do the job for the category to which they are assigned. Expectations are part of the category policy, not the physical policy. You provide the category to the physical provider – interior, exterior, support, driver, EMS. Commissioner DiGiacomio agreed saying you don't want requirements in the policy that are not enforced. Mr. MacLeod said the physical policy should be relatively broad. Let the doctor or PA decide if they can do it. The district needs to know the firefighter can do what they need to do but you don't tell the doctor or PA how to determine that. Chairman Forschler said the company administering the physical needs to have the expertise and non-bias to determine ability. Mr. MacLeod said he has enough to start.

Camera system update – Mr. Simon called the company today. They will be here Monday at 10. Commissioner Trzcinski will be here when they get here. He will put the camera in the corner and run cable into Don’s office.

Service Award Program – Disability – Mr. MacLeod provided a draft of a motion for the board’s review which clearly sets out what the law provides the district to do and what it can’t do. There are four classifications of disability: total and temporary disability, partial and temporary disability, total and permanent disability, and partial and permanent disability. Commissioner Trzcinski said per Penflex, the board has the authority to extend permanent partial disability for six months with the expectation they will come back. Mr. MacLeod said that will be in the next policy. It was never the intention of LOSAP that someone would get 5 points a month forever. The board has the authority to set timelines to get these people back which will be in a separate resolution. Total and permanent disabilities do not get points for the rest of the person’s life – they would get a payout because worker’s compensation would come in. Commissioner Trzcinski said according to Penflex, that is forever for life – you are entitled to receive your benefit at that time if you are permanently and totally disabled in a lump sum. It is a calculated amount of what you would have gotten if you worked until you were 55. At that point, you are done as a firefighter and never coming back. Commissioner Tompkins asked how the decision is made for total and permanent disability and Commissioner Trzcinski said we don’t make that decision – the Workers Compensation Board will make the determination and if you or the worker disagree, it would go before a judge. Under partial and temporary disability, no points are awarded. The person is not fully disabled and it is temporary. Mr. MacLeod said this resolution does state that any Program benefits previously and erroneously awarded to any East Clinton Fire District active volunteer firefighter shall not be construed to have set any precedent of any kind, that any Program benefits previously and erroneously awarded in the past to any firefighter shall no longer be awarded in the future, and that any and all Program benefits previously and erroneously awarded shall not be revoked.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to approve the following motion, to-wit:

WHEREAS, the eligible voters residing within the East Clinton Fire District approved, at a referendum held on October 14, 2008, the establishment of a Service Award Program for active volunteer firefighters of the East Clinton Fire District in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law (hereinafter the “Program”); and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Program regarding firefighter participation, benefits earned and paid, and Program operation must be formerly stated in a written East Clinton Service Awards Program Plan Document (hereinafter the “Plan”), and

Whereas, the East Clinton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners duly adopted such a Plan on January 27, 2010, which Plan remains in full force and effect; and

Whereas, New York State Workers' Compensation Law provides, pursuant thereto, for benefits directly related to the following disability classifications:

- Total and temporary disability,
- Partial and temporary disability,
- Total and permanent disability, and
- Partial and permanent disability; and

Whereas, Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, specifically Section 217.c.viii, provides that if any active volunteer firefighter is either totally and temporarily disabled, or partially and permanently disabled, and such disability occurs during the course of such firefighter's service as an active volunteer firefighter, such a firefighter shall receive five (5) points for each full month of such disability, which Section is the only statutory provision allowing the awarding of Program credit (points) for disabilities; and

Whereas, Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, specifically Section 219.e., provides that if any active volunteer firefighter becomes totally and permanently disabled (not necessarily incurred during the course of such firefighter's service as a volunteer firefighter), such firefighter shall be entitled to receive payment of such firefighter's service award benefit as described in the Program and Plan, regardless of age or length of service; and

Whereas, Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, specifically Section 219.e., further provides that if an active volunteer firefighter becomes disabled during the course of such firefighter's service as a volunteer firefighter, the sponsor of the Program, that being the East Clinton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners, may, at the sponsor's option, authorize the awarding of an additional benefit to such firefighter, as provided therein; and

Whereas, the East Clinton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners has not exercised the option as set forth in New York State General Municipal Law, specifically Section 219.e., to wit, awarding an additional benefit to such disabled firefighters; and

Whereas, Paragraph 18.a. of the Plan entitles an active volunteer firefighter to be awarded a Total and Permanent Disability, pursuant to the conditions stated therein; and

Whereas, Paragraph 18.b. of the Plan authorizes a lump sum payment of such disabled firefighter's benefit under the Program and Plan, the amount of which lump sum payment is defined therein; and

Whereas, neither New York State General Municipal Law Section 217 c.viii, New York State General Municipal Law Section 219.e. nor the Plan allow for additional Program benefits to be awarded to active volunteer firefighters who are totally and permanently disabled, whether or not such total and permanent disability arises from the course of such firefighter's service as a volunteer firefighter; and

Whereas, the East Clinton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners may have, inadvertently, in the past, allowed Program credits to be awarded to active volunteer firefighters who became totally and permanently disabled, regardless whether such disability may, or may not, have arisen from the course of such firefighter's service as a volunteer firefighter, and which Program benefits were not, and are not, allowed pursuant to New York State law or the Plan;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that effective as of the date hereof, the East Clinton Fire District will award Program benefits in strict compliance with New York State General Municipal Law and the East Clinton Fire District Service Awards Program and Plan Document, as all may be amended from time to time; and

It Is Further Resolved, that any Program benefits previously and erroneously awarded to any East Clinton Fire District active volunteer firefighter shall not be construed to have set any precedent of any kind; and

It Is Further Resolved that any Program benefits previously and erroneously awarded in the past to any East Clinton Fire District active volunteer firefighter shall no longer be awarded in the future; and

It Is Further Resolved, that any and all Program benefits previously and erroneously awarded to any East Clinton Fire District active volunteer firefighter shall not be revoked; and

It Is Further Resolved that the provisions of the Plan Document of the East Clinton Fire District Service Award Program are hereby ratified and the Program shall continue to be administered by the Board in accordance with the Plan and Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, as they may be amended from time to time.

Mr. MacLeod did note that the board has not exercised the option to award an additional benefit to an active volunteer firefighter who becomes totally and permanently disabled during the course of such firefighter's service as a volunteer firefighter. However, a future board could amend that.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to adjourn into executive session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss a disability case.

Commissioner DiGiacomo Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye

Chairman Forschler Aye

Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to return to public session at 8:55 p.m.

Commissioner DiGiacomo Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye
Chairman Forschler Aye
Motion carried 4-0.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Stephen N. Forschler, Chairman Aye
Michael DiGiacomio Aye
Russell Tompkins Aye
Robert Trzcinski Aye
Motion carried 4-0.

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Defined contribution filing – Commissioner Trzcinski said Ed Holihan is in discussion with the attorneys and has provided the information that the full finances of the plan was available in the room with multiple highlighted copies during the vote. There is no ruling yet

Phones – A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to authorize Mr. Simon to purchase three new cordless phones not to exceed \$300.

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye
Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye
Commissioner Tompkins Absent
Chairman Forschler Aye
Motion carried 3-0.

Lions Club – A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to allow the Lions Club to use the meeting room for their annual fund raiser on April 18th. There will be no alcohol.

Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye
Commissioner Tompkins Aye
Commissioner Trzcinski Aye
Chairman Forschler Aye
Motion carried 4-0. Chief Estes will notify Roger Matri.

Emergency One/TEK – A proposed service agreement has been received from TEK. Mr. MacLeod will review this. We have not set forth what we want them to do as far as expectations for the different categories so language will need to be added accordingly. The tests they give will be determined by categories as defined by the East Clinton Fire District from time to time. This would be an appendix to the contract as they may change. The PA at TEK consults with a physician but she is the principal of TEK. Either TEK or E1 are in the business of doing firefighter workplace physicals. E1 will come here as long as you have 24 people. There was some discussion as to whether a PA or a doctor should administer the physicals. It is unknown if E1 uses a doctor or a PA. Commissioner DiGiacomio said these are not complicated

tests so he feels a PA should be able to handle it. Commissioner Tompkins said he has more confidence in PA's than doctors. Chairman Forschler has no opposition to using a PA but would like to see what E1 has to offer. Commissioner Trzcinski will get that information from E1 for the April meeting and Mr. MacLeod will tweak the TEK contract.

Membership - Ed Olson – Mr. Olson submitted three membership applications. One for fire police, one for exterior and one for rescue. He also submitted a change of status for Tom O'Brien from active member status to inactive life member of the company only. Chairman Forschler noted that Mr. O'Brien added a lot of value to the department over his time here. Steven Brown is applying as an EMT and Jenna Leroy is applying for fire police and support. The department did interviews with each one already and are recommending these people for membership. When asked, Mr. Olson explained the interview process. Mr. Olson, Chief Estes and a representative of whichever subsidiary group the applicant wishes to join talks to them explains what is involved, what is expected from the applicant and from us, required training and when the training will start. Expectations are laid out and each applicant has responded appropriately. Applicants are told what requirements need to be met within a year's time. Ms. deHaan said the State of New York has cancelled the EMT tests until next month due to social distancing. Commissioner Trzcinski asked if the board would like to also interview the new applicants. Commissioner DiGiacomio said he thinks it should be left up to the company and the department and Commissioner Tompkins said he could go either way. Mr. Olson said he will ask the applicants if they want to come to a meeting to meet the board. When asked, Mr. Olson said he does not go through the policy book at the initial interview. Mr. Olson said one applicant is unique in that she has gone through this process twice previously and failed to commit. She has passed the arson and background check less than two years but more than one year ago. Mr. MacLeod said the arson and background test should be done within a year. Mr. MacLeod added that the board can deny a member. Mr. Olson said the policy in the company is you can apply three times. The third time is your last shot. She will have to take the exterior firefighter class, show up at meetings and drills, take the required number of modules, and get the physical. New applicants have one year to do this. The board instructed the secretary to send the three applications to the sheriff's office for a background check.

Open house April 25th – 1:00 - This is when the commissioners perform the yearly inspection and the public is invited to come visit the fire house and look at the equipment. Information will be presented about the different usages of the equipment and the mission of the fire district.

Open commissioner's seat – Two residents have submitted a letter of interest. The appointed person will finish out this year and would then have to run for election at the December vote. Chairman Forschler will contact the two applicants to see if they can come in for an interview on March 24th.

Easter Egg Hunt - Mr. Olson said the Easter Egg hunt will be held at the park on April 11th. He will check to make sure it is on the list of approved fundraisers for the year.

Public Comment – None.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tompkins and seconded by Commissioner DiGiacomio to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Commissioner DiGiacomio Aye

Commissioner Tompkins Aye

Commissioner Trzcinski Aye

Chairman Forschler Aye

Motion carried 4-0.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Buechele, Secretary
East Clinton Fire District