

**EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT**

February 10, 2021

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING – FINAL**

Regular Meeting 7:00

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Stephen Forschler, Chairman  
Michael DiGiacomio  
Kevin Fierro  
Russell Tompkins  
Robert Trzcinski

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

None

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Robert Simon, Treasurer  
Jim Passikoff, signed off at 7:30 p.m.  
Roderick MacLeod, Attorney for the Board, arrived at 7:00 p.m.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- From Marshall & Sterling dated January 27, 2021, amendment to Department Regulation #87 – Commissioners copied
- From Dutchess Community College Annual Report 2020
- Willmington Trust Statement of Account for 06/01/2020 through 12/31/2020 – Commissioners copied
- From Ford dated January 2021, vehicle notification for 2016 Explorer for roof rail covers that may become loose or detach from the vehicle – to Mr. Russell
- From National Fire Protection Association, access codes on line – to Chief Estes
- Pinsky Law Group 13 Annual Fire & EMS Law & Management Conference March 25-28, 2021 – if anyone is interested, let Chairman Forschler know. Training is required every time someone gets elected or appointed. You have nine months to get the training done.
- NYS Association of Fire Chiefs 2021 Gift Certificate for partial payment on a conference
- NFPA Renewal Notice – to Mr. Simon
- Vanguard Prospectus – to Commissioner Trzcinski
- RBC Portfolio Review period ending December 31, 2020 – Commissioners copied
- RBC Account Statements: 2020 Annual Statement, December 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020, January 1, 2021 – January 31, 2021 - Commissioners copies on all
- Disclosure statement – Chairman Forschler read and will send back to the secretary for filing.
- We have received the LOSAP document set that Chairman Forschler and Commissioner Trzcinski has to sign – both signed it last year. Commissioner Trzcinski has reviewed it and it is what we had in place. He will sign it and get it back to Chairman Forschler.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Tompkins and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to approve the re-organization meeting minutes of January 13, 2021 as presented.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tompkins and seconded by Commissioner DiGiacomio to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 13, 2021 as amended.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**FINANCIALS:**

A motion was made by Commissioner DiGiacomio and seconded by Commissioner Fierro to pay the bills per the abstract dated January 30, 2021. All commissioners reviewed the vouchers. Mr. Simon said there is an additional bill which he added to the abstract for \$415 to EMSAR for the ambulance cot and stow on. Mr. Simon emailed an updated abstract and a copy of the bill. Chairman Forschler asked Mr. Simon to please figure out why we are getting a bill every month from Airgas. Mr. Simon said he will put something together to explain the bills. Right now we have four big tanks and three small tanks. He is going to send one of the big tanks and two of the small tanks back. At one time, we had decided to keep a spare because we ran out of oxygen but it's costly. Commissioner Trzcinski said he was going to ask the same question and wondered about looking into other providers such as Lindy or Prax Air. We are paying an average of \$530 a month. Mr. Russell said Lindy is not a good provider. Commissioner Tompkins said he was looking at previous months' vouchers and at one point, one vehicle needed the water pump replaced and new hoses and he wondered what vehicle that was for. Mr. Russell said that was for 38-61. Mr. Simon will get the voucher to Mr. Russell so he can explain it. Chairman Forschler said we have two vehicle bills – one to Northeast Ford for annual service in the amount of \$384.81 and one for Juniors in the amount of \$1,263.17 for 87, the mini pumper, and 63 and asked what these bills were for. Mr. Russell said the water pump was leaking which is why they had to change the belts and hoses as the leak ruined them over time. Mr. Tompkins asked why we take the Ford explorer to Millerton to the Ford dealer – can't we have the work done anywhere? Chief Estes said it was a recall so had to go back to Millerton. Commissioner Trzcinski said it looks like they charged us for the warranty work on the invoice. Mr. Simon said they charged us for a handle reinforcement on the door. Mr. Russell said the recall was on the suspension and we couldn't open the door. Commissioner Trzcinski said there are no maintenance log books on the vehicles. Mr. Simon said in the future, he will put the bills in a folder for each vehicle.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Tompkins to accept the bank statement for the period ending on January 30, 2021 and in agreement with that noted on the balance sheet as put forward by Mr. Passikoff with the understanding that the balance sheet for the Millbrook checking account will be corrected by a \$1. The account was off by \$1 on the bank statement relative to the fund value. Mr. Simon said we noticed that and corrected it. The incorrect balance is still on the statement. Mr. Simon said they will fix it.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**AUD** – Mr. Passikoff said he and Mr. Simon will start working on the AUD in a couple of days. He wants to do the consolidation that we need to do so will put it on extension and will have it for the March meeting. Mr. Passikoff will get the AUD to the commissioners a couple of days before the meeting. Mr. Passikoff said the state has changed over the years what is part of the general fund and the latest change is they have taken the LOSAP assets and liabilities and included them in the general fund so on the balance sheet, the LOSAP column will move next to the capital improvement fund and be part of the total for the general fund. It is a cosmetic change. The reason they made the change is the state is trying to make the small state entities report the same way the big city entities do. They are blaming it on accounting principles but the jist is they just want everything put together. One reason could be they are trying to figure out how to take over the investment aspects of the LOSAP.

**Independent Audit** – Mr. Passikoff will contact RBT after we have the AUD completed. RBT expects the AUD at the end of February or beginning of March. The board wants to review the fixed assets as part of the AUD and will need values on the equipment. Mr. Simon said the list is nearly complete.

**Guaranteed Replacement Cost of the Firehouse** – Commissioner Trzcinski forwarded an increase in the premium of the GRC of the firehouse. He will send it to the secretary to have in the file. Mr. Passikoff said as a follow up to the value on the firehouse, is there a replacement value on the fire trucks for insurance? Commissioner Trzcinski said we put numbers on them but not full replacement. Chairman Forschler said we declared values on them. That is what they are using for insurance. Mr. Passikoff said you may want to consider going full replacement value because it is nickels and dimes. Chairman Forschler thought it would be worth floating the question to Linda so Commissioner Trzcinski will do that. Commissioner Tompkins asked for a five year old truck, does full replacement mean a brand new truck? Mr. Passikoff said yes.

**FIRE POLICE:** Tim Odell – Not present.

**DEPARTMENT:**

Car 1 – Chief Don Estes                      Monthly Calls: 7                      Year to Date: 7

- The drill will be on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> which will be the first module of the year – TBD as to which one. We will also do a radio operations review including proper radio procedures and a carbon monoxide class with a live exercise.
- The carbon monoxide meters and sensors have been re-calibrated.
- We will be having an EVOC class at the station in the spring. We have 4 or 5 members who are mandated to attend. He is in agreement with the board’s decision that all members of the support/rehab group are mandated to drive rigs so must complete EVOC. With fire and other members able to drive the ambulance, it frees up the EMT’s.
- The chief’s vehicle will be inspected this Friday.
- We are encouraging all members to certify on the ambulance and many are.
- We will not have the Easter egg hunt this year due to health concerns so we would like to do something similar to what we do for Christmas and have an Easter parade with the Easter bunny. We need the district’s permission. It will be on April 3.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Tompkins to authorize the department to use the district vehicles for an Easter parade event in lieu of an Easter egg hunt.

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

Motion carried 5-0. There is no profit and the company purchases the handouts. It’s great for PR.

Car 2 – Jim Bathrick – Not present.

Car 3 – Kevin Russell

- We are progressing well on driver recertifications.
- The hose test will be late spring, early summer. He asked when the new hose can be purchased as they would like it here at that time so they can rack it on the truck instead of us. The hose from MES will be \$4,799.35 which is about \$1,200 less than what we budgeted for. Chairman Forschler asked if this is a state bid – if not, we have to go out for quotes. He explained that we have some hose that is coming out of useful service so when we get the hoses off for the test, we can just rack the new hose.
- New pagers was included in the budget – when can they be ordered. Chairman Forschler said to wait a month until we get the check from the town.
- Car one went to Northeast for the suspension recall and while it was up there, we did the oil change and fixed the door.

- The bulbs were changed in the men's bathroom and in the meeting room and they are still doing the same thing. Chairman Forschler has not yet called an electrician and asked for recommendations. Commissioner Trzcinski suggested switching to LEDs. Chairman Forschler thought that would be expensive and would probably have to be bid on but we can ask the electrician while he's here. He will call Hitchcock. Mr. Russell has someone who is good and will text the name to Chairman Forschler. Commissioner Trzcinski asked Mr. Russell how to get the 12 volt bus on line. Chairman Forschler will show him how to do that.

**Support:** Not present.

**EMS** - Susan deHaan            Monthly Calls: 14            Year to Date: 14

- We are happy to report we had a save. A patient in cardiac emergency was brought to the firehouse by his daughter and he was in a critical state. We were able to transport him ASAP. There were no commercial units available and no paramedics. He had a widow maker heart attack and we got him to the hospital alive.
- The EMS drill will be on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be a follow up to the fire drill involving oxygen administration, difficulty breathing, and carbon monoxide.
- We are going to proceed with scheduling some new CPR classes. We had a discussion with the company about offering the classes to the public since both Ms. deHaan and Mr. Simon are instructors. We could offer the class for \$5 a person and the company would pick that up. We have mannequins and could do a maximum six people at a time. Chairman Forschler said we would need to get members and drivers done first.
- The only call we missed this month ended up being a positive COVID call. It was picked up by NDP. We have had no COVID exposures. We are continuing on every call as requested and completing the COVID form which is submitted to the secretary.
- We have purchased a case of mega movers. They are like a sheet but have interlocking web pieces with 14 sets of handles and have proven to be invaluable at \$20 apiece. We got them for \$16 apiece. We bought a case as there are times they are left at the hospital.
- We are hoping everyone in the district has received the mailer. We mailed out 810 post cards and have about 200 left which we would like to put out at different places. It was suggested to mail a card to the 911 center, to Mr. MacLeod, to the town officials and the town clerk and possibly leave a stack in the vestibule of the town hall. Chairman Forschler said Mr. Simon should attach a card to the voucher so we have the financial record for the mailing fee. The card stated the meeting date was the second Wednesday of the month when it is the Wednesday after the second Monday. They will put up a correction on the website.

**Safety** – Chairman Forschler – Nothing to report.

**Membership – Maryann Thompsett**

- Ms. Thompsett read a letter submitted by Patricia VanLeuven dated January 19, 2021 requesting a leave of absence for an undetermined period of time until she gets her vehicle problems straightened out. Chief Estes has no problem with it. Commissioner Tompkins asked if someone goes out on leave and then comes back, how do we handle the yearly training? Mr. MacLeod said when the board approves her return from leave, she will have to make up any training she needs. If she is on leave, she cannot respond even if she is at the firehouse. She will be temporarily designated as inactive on the active member roster.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Tompkins to accept the request for a leave of absence from Patricia VanLeuven. Mr. MacLeod said she will still have to make her 50 LOSAP points to qualify for 2021 LOSAP. When asked, Chief Estes said generally, a leave such as this will be reviewed again at three months.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

- There is one new application submitted by Zacharias Shapiro for the rescue squad as a junior member. Chairman Forschler said typically we don't have junior members. He would come in as a probationary member and as a rescue squad member. He could start training as an under 18 and take the test at 17. There are currently no classes scheduled. Possibly there will be a class scheduled for the summer or fall. He can commence before his birthday but must be 17 to take the test. If he is a member of a fire department, he does not have to take the test out of pocket. Mr. MacLeod said there are no junior members, just active firefighters. Anyone under 18 is an active firefighter with restrictions on what they can do. Ms. deHaan explained some of the rescue squad restrictions such as he has to stay by the ambulance until there is an EMT on the scene. She said she will use discretion as to when to allow him into a scene. Chief Estes said they are not permitted to respond to a scene without an unrestricted member and are not allowed in the firehouse alone.
- Update on 501C3 – The application was sent in in March of 2019 and was in review for many months. The final declaration is that our EIN number that we've had since 1984 had gotten deleted from the system so the number was reinstated as of December, 2020. The new application was submitted and we are waiting. They can start tracking it in April. Ms. Thompsett will provide an update at the April meeting.
- 1402 Filing – Commissioner Trzcinski asked if this filing has been done with the county. Mr. MacLeod said a 1402 applies to a private fire company. The Clinton Volunteer Fire Company is not private so he is not sure the 1402 is required. The information on the 1402 is really a statement of the offices of the company and does not attach financial information. Commissioner Trzcinski said it does indicate directors and officers and their contact information but it also says properties. Ms. Thompsett said we have

always listed assets. Mr. MacLeod said he is not sure it is required. When asked, he said a private company would be if two people formed a corporation to provide fire protection to a city, town or district. East Clinton is a business. Chairman Forschler asked if there are fire companies in Dutchess that run like that. Mr. MacLeod said no. He will provide clarification and an opinion on whether a 1402 needs to be filed. Commissioner Trzcinski said that needs to get to the company ASAP.

**Active Member Roster** – Chairman Forschler said we sent letters to people who did not make their requirements in 2020. Two people responded who want to get into active member status again. The equipment was returned from the former rescue squad member last week to Chief Estes. As far as cancer insurance, do we consider exteriors or other members? Chairman Forschler said he thinks the board does not have the desire to move forward with that coverage at this time. Commissioner Tompkins said you can provide the insurance to someone who is an exterior but only if they served at least five years as an interior before that, correct? Commissioner Trzcinski said for an interior, a FIT test and five years is mandated; if he becomes an exterior after that, the insurance must be maintained for five years; if he leaves the district, it is mandated to keep the insurance coverage. The district can opt to include coverage to anyone who qualifies with FIT tests and no apparent cancer. Commissioner Tompkins said he read that an exterior can't get the insurance unless he served as an interior for at least five years. Commissioner Trzcinski said he does not agree with that. We can insure anyone even if they were never an interior as long as they don't have evidence of cancer and are active members in the district. Mr. MacLeod said his interpretation agrees with Commissioner Trzcinski's – as long as they have a record of five years of no cancer, an interior or exterior can be insured. Chairman Forschler said a couple of the people who are part of the 11 people we cover were interior but are now exterior and we have to pick up the insurance but only for five years.

**Gas Meter Calibration Station** – Chief Estes said we had a problem with the carbon monoxide detectors so the MES rep came out and zeroed back the readers. About two weeks ago we had a carbon monoxide incident and when Chief Estes went in to get the readings, the meter was going haywire. Mr. Russell showed up and they used their personal readers to verify. Chief Estes texted Dan right away who said the meters have to get recalibrated and the sensors replaced. However, another viable option is a docking station that calibrates the meters automatically every month – they self-calibrate and charge. Chief Estes thinks this is a no brainer and takes the liability away from the company. We need this. We can't mess around with carbon monoxide. The handheld readers give an early warning and are good but don't give specific readings. This would be a purchase, not a rental. Commissioner Trzcinski asked if the calibrator ever needs re-calibrating and Chief Estes said no. The cost is \$2,066. If this is not a state bid price, we would have to go out for bid per our policy. We would need two verbal quotes. Chief Estes will find out if this is a state bid price. Chief Estes wants to move forward

on this as the liability on him is extreme and he is not willing to accept it. Chairman Forschler said if we find out this is a state bid price, we can move forward.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski to approve the purchase of a Ventis MX Gas Meter Calibration Station for \$2,066 on the condition that the aforementioned price represents a state bid price and that no further bids are necessary to fulfill the obligations of the purchasing policy. Commissioner Trzcinski is concerned about calibrating the calibrator. He has had experience with liabilities with this. What happens if the calibrator goes out of calibration? The calibrator would need to be sent to a company that would give it a stamp of approval periodically. Chief Estes will find out about the calibration. If he finds out the unit get serviced annually, let's go forward. Commissioner Trzcinski said or whatever the manufacturer requires. Mr. MacLeod said it is a liability – you have to make sure tools are calibrated. You hire a company to do a hose test every year to make sure they work. You will need to get a company in to calibrate the gas testers. Chairman Forschler withdrew the above motion.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner DiGiacomio that the board approve the \$2,066 purchase of the Ventis MS Gas Meter Calibration Station with the condition that the \$2,066 represents a state bid price and the condition that appropriate understanding is forwarded relative to the calibration needs of the station itself. He shares Chief Estes' urgency but does not want to get something we don't understand completely. We need to know what is the frequency of the calibration of the calibrator and who does it and how often. We can go forward if it is state bid price but not if it requires two verbals. Chief Estes sent a note out and is waiting for a response. The motion was tabled.

**LOSAP** – The posting has not been up for the required 30 days so we will consider the challenge made at the March meeting.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski that no LOSAP points will be awarded for any quick call or equipment inspections done outside of the normal quick call schedule that is attended by members and usually held on a Monday evening for safety and accountability. Commissioner Trzcinski said no LOSAP points can be given for non-approved activities because you don't have VFBL – no VFBL, no points. No one can just show up at the firehouse without approval by the board. A motion is not required. Chairman Forschler said a motion is not required but is for clarification since the inference can be that if you can't come down Monday night for quick call, come down on another night and do it. That is not allowed for safety and accountability reasons. Commissioner Trzcinski said already that is not approved by the board. The motion does not take away from the past. No one can just show up without the board approving the activity. Chief Estes said it is not the board, it's the chief. If the chief needs extra work done, he approves it. He said he approves work detail, not the board. Mr. MacLeod said both of you are correct. The chief can schedule things the board has not approved but that does not mean it qualifies for LOSAP. The board has to approve the activities that qualify for LOSAP. Chief Estes said the board already approved firematic work detail. Chairman Forschler said he thinks a motion would get the message across that if there



has been in the past any inference that quick call or equipment inspection can be done at a time other than when the members congregate for that specific purpose, it is from this time on prohibited for safety and accountability issues. Motion or not, that needs to be emphatically stated and he will personally deliver that to the department if that is what we decide.

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

Motion carried 5-0. Chairman Forschler will deliver the message.

**Hose** – Chief Estes said the hose is state bid. The price of the hose is \$4,799.35.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Tompkins that the board authorize the chief staff to purchase the requested hose to replace that hose which is going out of date and service for the amount of \$4,799.35 which is at state bid price.

Commissioner Trzcinski reminded the board the insurance payments are coming up in March. Chief Estes said there is no hurry; the hose test won't be done until April or May. He just wants to get it ordered.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**Ventis MX Gas Calibration Station** – Chief Estes said it is state bid. Chairman Forschler said he is perplexed that the docking station never needs calibration. He asked if West Clinton has one – if they do, we can find out how they go about it. Commissioner Trzcinski said it may be a function checker and not a calibrator. Chief Estes will find out.

**RBC** – Commissioner Trzcinski said he had a meeting with RBC on investments – no changes are suggested at this time.

**TEK** – The signed contract has been received.

**Sharon Ambulance** – Chairman Forschler said Sharon has received our letter of intent. We have not decided if we do a permissive referendum or pay for it out of the general fund surplus that we will have. Commissioner Trzcinski said he thinks it is always better to do a permissive referendum unless there is a time sensitivity. Chairman Forschler said the unit will not be available until May or June. Mr. Simon will review and email Chairman Forschler the general fund surplus after insurance is paid. Chairman Forschler said he remembers carrying over a surplus of \$54,000 which represents the 10% of the budget that can be unencumbered. Commissioner Trzcinski said he thinks a permissive referendum would be more transparent which would necessitate bringing money out of the equipment purchase fund. Chairman Forschler said one could make a case about transparency but these are public meetings with people from the community who attend. Mr. MacLeod said if the vote was to do this out of the

general fund surplus in lieu of a permissive referendum, you could put the notice on the website and have discussions about this specific topic at the March meeting. That provides transparency. Commissioner Trzcinski is okay with that as this is a fantastic deal. Chairman Forschler said he will write a posting for Mr. Simon to post on the website that the board will be discussing this at the March meeting. Commissioner DiGiacomio suggested including in the posting the board’s rationale in the notice and mentioning what a great deal this is. Chairman Forschler said this is a used ambulance for a price that the board considers to be a real value and the board has signed a letter of intent but in the spirit of transparency, the board will give the public an opportunity for input by reserving a specific time at the March meeting for this. Commissioner Trzcinski said to include that we were going to spend quite a bit more on upgrading the existing ambulance and already have this in the equipment fund plan – we will be saving a lot of money for a better product.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski that we use monies out of the general fund surplus for the purchase of the ambulance from the Sharon Fire Department in the amount of \$30,000 with the caveat that he will write the posting and authorize Mr. Simon to post on the website and Facebook and anywhere else appropriate that the board will reserve a specific time at the March meeting for public discussion. Commissioner Trzcinski said \$30,000 may not be enough for painting and radios, etc. Chairman Forschler said we are going to be selling a vehicle which will offset part of the cost. That is part of the transparency. It is not \$35,000 out of pocket. If we can get \$20,000 for the vehicle we are selling, we will be spending \$15,000 for something we will have for years to come. The price from Sharon is \$30,000 but we will need lettering, etc. Right now, we will pay Sharon \$30,000 and decide down the road where the other money will come from.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**Upon Lake Christian School** – Chairman Forschler said we have had a communication from the principal at the school expressing concern when they found out we won’t be responding on first dispatch in an EMS capacity specifically. Fire is not as much of a concern as we are responding on first alarm now. The school is not in our district. None of the buildings are in district, just the driveway and pond. We had a contract with the Town of Washington for a ridiculously low price for many years, twenty at least, and last year the ECFD and TOW could not come to terms on a contract. At that point in time, we offered to the TOW to cover the school under EMS. They said no thank you. It would be difficult to move this forward without the explicit permission from the TOW and the Millbrook Fire Department. The additional insurance we paid for having the protection district almost ate up the contract price. To Mr. MacLeod – if we offered to cover the Upton Lake School out of district at no charge and got the permission of the TOW and the Millbrook Fire Department, what would we have? Mr. MacLeod said you would have a contract with the TOW and the Village of Millbrook to serve properties. It would amount to a protection district. It would be a contract to provide certain coverages to certain properties for a certain price. You can’t do it on your own. Chairman Forschler asked

Commissioner Trzcinski to project this to Linda. He said we would need a contract in place. Commissioner Trzcinski said the insurance will call it a protection district. Chairman Forschler said if that's so, we will have a pretty hefty liability on this. Commissioner Trzcinski said this is not just a residence, it is a lot of people coming and going at various times. EMS coverage to a school or church is different than a residence. Mr. MacLeod asked what would be covered? Chief Estes said this is all in the Town of Washington – the parsonage, the high school, the church building, and the elementary school which is attached to the sanctuary. There are no private residences. They are not looking for coverage for the parsonage. He said Millbrook is a paid ambulance, they are not volunteer anymore. Any call dispatched to ALS or BLS has a fee. There is a fully functional K through 12 school there. We are only talking about the school and church. There is 28 acres with the church and a vacant parcel of 19 acres. They are looking for EMS coverage for the 28 acres. Commissioner Tompkins said the letter says this will be brought up at their February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and it says the town would be required to enter into a contract. It would be premature for us to act on this until they discuss it at their meeting tomorrow night. Commissioner Trzcinski said this is complicated - we can't act on it yet – we need to know the cost of insurance. Chief Estes agreed with Commissioner Trzcinski and said he does not think there is a chance Millbrook will relinquish this. With the volume of kids and sports, it is a large client for a paid ambulance service.

**Ventis MX – Gas Meter Calibration Station** – Chief Estes said he has found out that no service is required except for buying calibration gas. It is calibrating and charging. It makes sure the meters work property. The gas is what is calibrated. Commissioner Trzcinski said the gas goes into a device with sensors – the sensors are what get calibrated.

A motion was made by Chairman Forschler and seconded by Commissioner Trzcinski that the board authorize \$2,066.45 for the purchase of the Ventis MX-Gas Meter Calibration Station.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**Facilities Committee Update** – Commissioner Fierro said there is a committee meeting tomorrow night via zoom starting at 6:00 p.m. The commissioners can sit it on the meeting if they'd like. Chairman Forschler will re-send the meeting notice to have the meeting starting at 6:00. Chairman Forschler said we should have a separate meeting to discuss the proposals – possibly at the end of February or beginning of March.

**Public Comment:**

- Arthur Weiland sent a brief email to the board and cc'd Chief Estes and Mr. Russell regarding a ZBA application for an individual asking for a variance. They are asking the fire company to look at his property in terms of accessibility of equipment up by his house. Chief Estes already looked at it and said he understands the homeowners concerns – it is a confined area – he will send a respond to Mr. Weiland. Mr. MacLeod

said he does not think this is in the purview of the Fire Department. What professional qualifications do any of us have if a driveway is big enough for a turn around? That is what state codes are for. We are not qualified to give an opinion and should not. Mr. Weiland asked Mr. MacLeod to send him a note to that effect and Mr. MacLeod agreed. Mr. MacLeod said if Chief Estes offers his opinion, it is his opinion as in individual, not as a representative of the fire district.

A motion was made by Commissioner DiGiacomio and seconded by Chairman Forschler to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Buechele, Secretary  
East Clinton Fire District