

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 1
330 Stillwells Corner Road
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Regular Meeting

August 26, 2025

Chairman AJ Story called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 6:00pm and led the flag salute. Roll call was taken, and the Commissioners present at the meeting were AJ Story, Michael Fogarty, Phil Engel and Jonathan Dunberg. Board Attorney-Richard Braslow as well as Board Secretary-Rachel Davis joined the meeting via teleconference.

Motion was made by Mr. Engel to approve the minutes from the July 29, 2025 regular meeting.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the August 26, 2025 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$55,000 from Ocean First Money Market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$46,795.13.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Legal: Board Attorney-Richard Braslow informed the Board that effective March 2026 the Board of Commissioners must post the election notices on their website. After the election, the notices must then be placed into the archive section on the website.

Buildings: Commissioner Engel reported that he is in possession of two quotes to repair the ceiling in the bay, and two companies never called him back. The whole ceiling quote will cost \$16,000, and he will have the other quote next week. Mr. Braslow said two quotes are sufficient, and the threshold is \$17,500. The Board will discuss the matter at the next meeting. Commissioner Engel also reported that the annual service was done on the generator at Georgia Road.

Insurance: Commissioner Dunberg reported that VFIS sent a representative out to go over various items, including driver's training, buildings, etc. An action plan along with a yearly update is required, and he is waiting on paperwork to see how to proceed. Commissioner

Fogarty suggested asking them if the rates will go down after a retraining program. Commissioner Dunberg thanked Chief Haas for sitting in on the VFIS meeting.

The Freehold Township Police Sergeant contacted Commissioner Story requesting the possibility to move their gym to the Georgia Road bay for approximately 9 months. No one objected. Commissioner Dunberg is waiting for VFIS approval of a hold harmless agreement.

Chief's Report: Chief Craig Haas reported the following:

- 90 is out;
- Had to buy part for FIT test machine;
- Order new lock box;
- Gear cleaning/repairs done; two moisture barrier failures; final 3 sets being ordered this week; Commissioner Fogarty wants a list of what gear will be expiring next year;
- Commissioner Fogarty needs a date scheduled for trucks getting cameras.

President's Report: No one was present to represent.

Old Business:

- Commissioner Fogarty requested a meeting with the Fire Company to see what SCBA bottles are needed so we can move forward. Board discussed the matter in detail as well as the financing strategies.
- Commissioner Fogarty noted that the engineers on payroll will get a check in the amount of \$208.32 for next month, as discussed at the last meeting.
- Commissioner Fogarty advised Chief Haas to have his budget ready for next meeting.
- Commissioner Fogarty updated the Board on the LOSAP analysis, possibly changing over to an annuity; will discuss at a later date.
- Chief Haas updated the Board on the fire police policies.
- Computers and emails are all set up and running; phones switched over by Pete.

New Business:

- Email from a student on the Freehold Township Varsity Soccer team requesting a fundraiser car wash at the firehouse on September 6th 10am-2pm. Captain Mike Celano will supervise. Commissioner Story will respond. No one objected.
- Email from Jamie Story requesting a fundraiser book bin be placed at the Georgia Road firehouse. No one objected.
- Commissioner Story asked Chief Haas for information on the extrication class. Commissioner Dunberg received the insurance certificates. Chief Haas' understanding is that everyone is paying on their own. Commissioner Fogarty requested that next time the Board must sign the contract, not the Fire Company. Chief Haas will get the contract so that Mr. Braslow can review.
- Commissioner Story noted that October 19th is the Touch-a-Truck event. No one objected. There will possibly be a K-9 demo, an extrication demo and two Black Hawk helicopters.

Audience: Robert Rozman (245 Monmouth Road, Freehold): retired FTFD1 fireman looking for his policy from 2001. Mr. Braslow advised him to contact VFIS. Commissioner Story gave him the information that he had and will research the rest.

There being no further business, Mr. Engel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

5-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Dunberg, Secretary

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