

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON FIRE ADVISORY BOARD HELD  
AT 7:00 P.M., ON MARCH 2, 2010 (no Feb. Mtg.), AT THE PRINCETON FIRE STATION**

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**1. Call to order** – Chair Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. He asked those present to introduce themselves to the group. Those in attendance included:

Members present:

Paul Whitcomb, Chair	City of Princeton
Gene Stoeckel	Princeton Twsp.
Stephen L. Dolin	Greenbush Twsp.
Cathy Lundeen	Wyanett Twsp
Bill Andresen	Blue Hill Twsp.

Others present:

Doug Larson, Asst. Chief, P.F.R.D.  
Tim Jenson, Captain, P.F.R.D.  
Ron Lawrence, Captain, PFRD  
Jason Baumunk, Captain, P.F.R.D.  
Randy Cook, Captain, P.F.R.D.  
Troy Thompson, P.F.R.D.  
Brad Hodgson, P.F.R.D.  
Chris Wilke, P.F.R.D.  
David Wood, P.F.R.D.  
Josh Cary, P.F.R.D.  
Bob Gerold, P.F.R.D.

Other Elected Officials Present:

John Roxbury	Princeton Twsp.
Tom Burdick	Wyanett Twsp.

Staff present:

Mark Karnowski, City Administrator  
Jim Roxbury, Chief P.F.R.D.

**2. Review/Consideration of January 5, 2010 Minutes**

DOLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2010, MEETING. STOECKEL SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**3. Agenda Additions/Deletions** – None.

**4. Reports:**

**A. Run Reports** – The run reports for the month were not available (there were 8 runs) and will be mailed out. Roxbury handed out the annual run report that indicated the department responded to 196 calls in 2009.

**B. Department Update – Jim Roxbury**

Monticello Relocation: Chief Roxbury advised that the city agreed to a 2010 contract for \$54,000.

Bridge Replacement: Karnowski advised that the proposed starting date for the bridge replacements was now May 15<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion about whether a temporary stoplight would be erected at CSAH 13 and TH169. Roxbury indicated that he was advised that the state retained the temporary stoplight equipment erected for the TH23 bridge repair and that it may be used at CSAH 13 during bridge construction.

Chief Roxbury commended Wyanett for their work on the substation. The Township thanked the PFRD Relief Association for buying a pumper to locate in the Wyanett substation. There is now both a pumper and grass rig in the substation. Wyanett is still considering buying a tanker for the substation that could also be used for dust control on gravel roads. No decision has been reached as yet.

Chief Roxbury noted there was ongoing discussion with Princeton Township to locate a pumper at their township garage during the bridge project. The Township has offered the space.

ISO Rating: The re-rating of the PFRD is still under review. The Dalbo training records were being forwarded to ISO for review. The new rating should be coming soon.

800 MHz: Chief Roxbury advised that the city was given a Federal Fire Act Grant in the amount of \$108,000 to purchase 800 MHz radios and new pagers. It's an 95-5% grant program. Mille Lacs County is still finalizing their 800 MHz system.

Medical Response Update: Chief Roxbury noted that they are getting more medical calls but they still have to iron out some "bugs" regarding dispatching issues.

Size of PFRD: Chief Roxbury noted that the department is down 5 members over the past couple of years because of retirees and folks moving out of the area. We've not hired any new firefighters in over 3 years and he would like to get a few more on board. He's aware of candidates in the area that have already been trained, so the training costs would be reduced. They have Council approval for up to 40 members and are currently at 30 active members.

DOLIN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE HIRING OF UP TO FIVE (5) NEW FIREFIGHTERS. LUNDEEN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **5. Old Business**

### **A. Public Safety Building Update**

The FAB was advised that the City Council agreed to extend the PFRD's coverage area in Blue Hill Township to include all of the township upon receipt of a written request.

The FAB was advised that, apparently, the area in question (currently covered by the Zimmerman Fire Department) may be subject to an existing contract that may be in effect through 2010. The Blue Hill Township Board will be meeting this week and Roxbury will be in attendance.

**B. 2010 fire billing report** - The 2010 billing report was not available

### **C. Relief Association update**

PFRD Relief Board President, Troy Thompson, advised that it was a much better year for investments than several in the past. They switched their investment consulting firm to Waco-via/Wells Fargo. There were quite a few retirements that cut into the funds. Nevertheless, the Relief Association is fully funded. He also expressed the organizations pleasure in being able to pay for the pumper located at Wyanett. He explained that the funding for that purchase did not come from tax dollars or PFRD contract money. It is from funds either raised through the sale of bottled water, other fundraisers or the contribution of the Relief Association members.

### **D. Blue Hill Township Contract Update**

Andresen advised that Blue Hill Township wanted to switch coverage for a portion of their township from Zimmerman to Princeton but that a contract notification period was not met in time for them to do that this year. He indicated that it was just a matter of time before that occurred. They will await any public comment at their upcoming township annual meeting.

## **6. New Business**

### **A. Township Annual Meeting Visits**

Chief Roxbury advised that both he and Councilman Whitcomb will again be making the rounds to all the township annual meetings on March 16<sup>th</sup> and expressed his appreciation for the Boards' interrupting their agendas to allow them to get in and out and attend all the meetings. If there is a problem, there will be one PFRD member also in attendance to field any questions should a meeting adjourn before Roxbury and Whitcomb arrive.

**7. Next Meeting(s) & Agenda**

It was noted that the next regular meeting is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**8. Adjourn**

There being no further business:

DOLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN. STOECKEL SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark H. Karnowski  
City Administrator