

**THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PRINCETON FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
HELD AT 7:00 P.M., ON TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014, AT THE  
PRINCETON PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING**

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**1. Call to Order/Introductions** – Chair Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM in the training room in the newly opened Princeton Public Safety building. Those in attendance included:

**Members present:**

Paul Whitcomb, Chair	City of Princeton
Gene Stoeckel	Princeton Twsp
Arvid Jenkins	Spencer Brook Twsp.
Roger Nelson	Blue Hill Twsp.
Cathy Lundeen	Wyanett Twsp

**Staff Present:**

Jim Roxbury	Chief, P.F.R.D
Mark Karnowski	City Administrator
Troy Thompson	Capt. P.F.R.D.
Josh Vaccari	Capt. P.F.R.D
Tim Jenson	Capt. P.F.R.D
Jamin Wood	Pres. PFRD Relief

**Members absent:**

Jim Beck	Greenbush Twsp
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**Visitors:**

Ken Murray	Wyanett Twsp
John Roxbury	Princeton Twsp
Marlene Nelson	
Tom Lundeen	

**2. Review/Consideration of February 3, 2014 Minutes**

LUNDEEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2014 AS PRESENTED. STOECKEL SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

**4. Reports:**

(Note: The PFRD Relief Association report was moved up on the agenda to here but is reported below)

**A. Run Reports**

Chief Roxbury went over the annual report discussing the run reports and a lot of statistical information relating to the run history for 2013 and noted that their average response time is getting better and better each year and is currently at just over 7 minutes for all calls (including mutual aid to other departments).

**B. Department Update**

He noted that the Department purchased a pumper from the Roseville Fire Department to replace the city's oldest pumper. The new (1991) pumper also has the capacity to use Class B foam which would be critical if there were a fire at United States Distilled Products. Roxbury noted that USDP is going to be buying \$10,000 in Class B foam for the department's use at their facility and elsewhere. If used elsewhere, the foam would need to be replaced.

He also reviewed the results of the annual election where Joshua Vaccari and Jason Baumunk were elected to Captain positions. Brad Hodson received a 25 year service pin while Jeff Kerfeld, Jay Roxbury and Jason Baumunk each received a 15 year service pin and Joshua Vaccari and Jamin Wood each got a 10 year pin.

Murray asked if the Wyanett Sub Station is helping with response times and Roxbury responded that the sub-station has greatly improved response times for that area.

It was also noted that we have two Captains who live in Blue Hill Township and, between them, they keep a grass rig stationed at their home(s) so they can respond to medicals, etc. more quickly.

Dolin questioned whether Dalbo's Fire Department has started to respond to calls out of the Wyanett Station. Lundeen said that they have not for the last 5 years and that they aren't expecting that will change. She thinks Wyanett will, eventually, tire for the push back the Township is getting from the Dalbo Fire Department.

The Board was advised that the city will have representatives at the Townships' annual meetings on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Roxbury noted that he would appreciate it if the Townships, as they have before, got them out of there ASAP so they can stop at as many meetings as possible.

Stoeckel commented that he noticed, when he drove by an accident scene at the Princeton Roundabout, that the firefighters directing traffic were not using paddles or any other equipment to assist in traffic control and thought some additional equipment would make it safer for the firefighters. Roxbury said they have paddles but, sometimes, don't use them. He agreed all should be using the safety equipment available.

### **C. Relief Association Update**

PFRD Relief Association President Jamin Wood addressed the meeting to advise about the Relief Association. He talked in general about how relief associations are organized and that they are a separate entity from both the Fire Department and the City. The purpose of the organization is to provide retirement benefits to the PFRD's firefighters.

Currently, the Relief Association pays each fire fighter \$2,875 for each year of service. That amount has not changed since 2001. They become vested after 20 years and can access the lump sum payment upon reaching age 50.

There are currently 33 active Relief Association members and one inactive (currently on leave). The retirement fund is currently at \$1,267,607. The funds is supported by State Aid, investment income as well as an annual contribution from the PFRD's annual budget.

The Relief Association also has a general fund that is used to assist the city in purchasing fire trucks, equipment as well as donate to local organizations, organize a fire prevention program and to fund an annual 'thank you' dinner for the fire fighters' spouses/significant others. The money in that account comes from fund raisers and contributions from the fire fighters. There is currently \$23,269 in that account.

## **5. Old Business**

### **A. New Fire Station**

It was obvious to all that the New Fire Station is operational. Roxbury said that they're still unpacking stuff from the other building.

Karnowski reminded all that the \$2.1 million building was built without using taxpayer dollars. The funds to pay off the bonds come from the municipal liquor store profits.

## **6. New Business - none**

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

The Board was advised that the next FAB meeting will be Tuesday, April 1. The Board indicated they'd like to meet at the new fire station and not at City Hall.

There being no further business:

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NELSON MOVED TO ADJOURN. STOECKEL SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski,  
City Administrator