

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON FIRE ADVISORY BOARD  
HELD AT 7:00 P.M., ON MAY 1, 2012, AT THE PRINCETON CITY HALL**

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**1. Call to Order** – Chair Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance included:

**Members present:**

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

**Staff present:**

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

**2. Review/Consideration of April 3, 2012 Minutes**

Nelson pointed out that the date for the upcoming May meeting had a typo. It should read “May 1” rather than May 13.

NELSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 3, 2012 MEETING AS CORRECTED. LUNDEEN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**3. Agenda Additions/Deletions**

Chief Roxbury added discussion about the 2013 Fire Act Grant application and the disposition of a Princeton Police Department squad car under New Business. There were no objections.

**4. Reports:**

**A. Run Reports**

Chief Roxbury advised that, because of the harsh weather conditions, he did not have a chance to print out the reports but added that they would be mailed out. Most of the department was out doing weather spotting. The department responded to 25 calls in April, which was about average. The calls seemed to come in bunches as they had 5 calls in 6 hours one day.

**B. Department Update – Jim Roxbury**

Roxbury reported that the State is working on opening up another relocation location in Wabasha, otherwise, our efforts are on schedule with the annual training set for this August. Mille Lacs County is on schedule with their launch of 800 MHz...it should be up and running in 1-2 months. The PFRD applied for a \$2,500 grant from CenterPoint Energy for confined space entry equipment and received a \$2,200 grant. The PFRD has applied for a DNR grant for up to a \$5,000 to upgrade the Wyanett tanker and install a dry hydrant at Elk Lake. There was “skywarn” training at the library this evening, but – with the weather – he’s not sure how that’s going. Tanker 2 at Wyanett is getting the new fittings and drop tank installed. Tanker 9 is off getting refurbished and should be back in a couple of weeks. He has two house burn training events coming up soon – both in the city. The PFRD is getting both a \$2,500 training reimbursement as well as a \$3,500+ reimbursement for other activities. The two newest recruits have now been upgraded to “firefighters”. Billy Gerold has resigned because his new job caused him to move to North Branch.

**5. Old Business**

**A. Public Safety Building Update**

Karnowski advised that the legislature is in its final days and we’re still hoping that our public safety building stays in Senate Bonding Bill and is in the final version.

## **6. New Business**

### **A. Fire Act Grant for 2012**

Roxbury advised that the application period for the Fire Act Grant program will be coming up soon and he wanted to get the Board's opinion on whether or not we should again hire a grant writer. Roxbury explained that we used a grant writer last year and earned a grant. It's a \$500 expense that is an allowed grant expenditure only if we get the grant....otherwise the city pays for the service.

Roxbury indicated that the initial thoughts are that the Fire Act Grant folks appear to be looking favorably toward funding applications asking for computer, training equipment or a portable air supply.

The consensus of the board was to concur that we should, again, hire a grant writer for the Fire Act Grant.

### **B. Use of retired PD squad car as Chief's Car.**

Roxbury advised that the Princeton PD is disposing of one of the police squad cars because there are some rear end issues. Roxbury suggested there may be some advantages to transferring the squad to the PFRD for use as chief's car. He said it would be more cost effective than his current use of one of the grass rigs. He also said it would allow them to locate a grass rig in the southwest quadrant of the fire protection area (Blue Hill Township) where we have a couple of fire fighters currently residing. The vehicle would be housed in a private garage and would allow for a quicker response in that area. The light bar and cage may come with the vehicle if they don't fit on the new squad. Further, Roxbury thinks he can get the rear end fixed for a lot less than the estimate given to the PD. As far as the squad paint job is concerned, Roxbury said there's a company that can put a decal on the doors so the whole car's black.

The members again agreed with the concept. Roxbury will finalize the details and costs and come back.

### **C. ISO Rating**

Cathy Lundeen asked about the ISO with the Wyanett station and Roxbury advised that we're waiting for the tanker to be ready to go and then ISO will complete their paper work.

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5, 2012

## **8. Adjourn**

There being no further business:

STOECKEL MOVED TO ADJOURN. DOLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:32 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski,  
City Admin.