

The eight hundred and twelfth meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #2, Gloucester Township was held in the Chews Landing Fire Station on Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Commissioners present were: Genzel, Reichert, Evans, Donahue and Grady Also present were Asst. Chief Haines, , Administrator Robb and Solicitor Carlamere.

Chairman Genzel opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the flag salute and acknowledgement of the meeting being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act and having been advertised as such.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Grady to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.

Chief's Report: Asst Chief Haines reported that the Relief Association meeting was held here on March 28th. Squad 88 has been removed from Station 86 Rescue boxes. FF Barkley has been hired as a career firefighter by GTFD #6, FF *Pozniewski* has been qualified on TL82, and A Platoon has been invited to attend a five burn on May 17th in Gloucester County. On April 5th the crew attended the flag burning ceremony at Lakeland and the duty crews will continue to offer open house tours to attract new members. Lastly, Gloucester County provided a training class on residential fire alarms on March 31st which was attended by multiple members of the fire department.

Administrator's Report: Administrator Robb reviewed the attached agenda. A discussion was held regarding an Acting Fire Chief for multiple days that Chief Millisky, Asst. Chief Haines and Capt. Gant will be out of town.

Solicitor's Report: None

Group Report: "A" Building Maintenance, Park (K. Donahue) None

Group Report: "B" Fire Prevention, EMS (J. Reichert) Comm Reichert reviewed the Fire Prevention Bureau report provided by FM Young, noting that the new camera has been delivered and that FF Lindell is attending a photography class for emergency services personnel provided by the Camden County Prosecutors Office.

Group Report: "C" Apparatus & Equipment (R. Evans) Comm. Evans reviewed the Station and Apparatus Report submitted by Capt. Procopio and also noted that a truck committee meeting is scheduled for April 14th.

Group Report: "D" Insurance, Hydrants, Radios & Uniforms (L. Grady) None

Group Report: "E" Training, Personnel, Office (G. Genzel) Chairman Genzel will discuss his topics in closed session

Old Business: A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Reichert authorizing Chairman Genzel to sign the letters permanently removing FF Scott's firefighter privileges in GTFD #2.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Comm. Reichert asked Solicitor Carlamere if he found any information regarding the district's ability to bill the gas company for gas leak calls not the responsibility of the residents but strictly the gas company. Mr. Carlamere said he does not know of any regulations that say you can't bill the utility company, noting that he's not aware of any other districts in the area billing for this service.

Comm. Grady questioned Asst. Chief Haines regarding the percentage requirements for junior firefighters to maintain membership. It was discussed that junior members are asked to attend as many meetings and drills as possible, but are not required to maintain the same percentages as Active Firefighters. It was also noted that recent changes allow junior firefighters to start formal fire academy training at age 16, to include live burn training. If a junior firefighter successfully completes the academy training, they're able to apply for their FFI Certificate upon turning 18.

New Business: A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Grady to approve the bills presented for payment this evening in the amount of \$139,847.28

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Evans to accept the receipts presented this evening in the amount of \$5,085.63

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Genzel and 2nd by Evans authorizing a provisional offer of Junior Firefighter membership to Antonio Valentin, pending successful completion of a pre-membership physical and drug screen.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A Resolution 25-17 was made by Evans and 2nd by Grady authorizing the removal from inventory of nine obsolete Panasonic Toughbook computers, to be disposed of via the Gloucester Township Electronics Recycling Program.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A Resolution 25-18 was made by Genzel and 2nd by Evans approving the purchase of a CF-33 Panasonic Toughbook computer for SQ88 from Wireless Communications of W. Berlin, NJ of the state contract price of \$4,475.00. The cost will be split with District #4, resulting in a District #2 expenditure of \$2,237.50.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Good of the District: FF Piepszowski outlined the Junior firefighter requirements of attending one drill and one meeting a quarter.

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Grady to go into closed session at 7:36pm

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Interviews for the position of fire chief were interrupted by an emergency dispatch to a building fire in Fire District 1. Commissioner Evans departs at 8:15pm.

A motion was made to go back into open session by Reichert and 2nd by Donahue at 8:20pm.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes, Evans-absent

A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Reichert to schedule a special meeting for April 15th at 7:00pm to continue the chief position interviews.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes, Evans-absent

Discussed possible edits to Policy 16-4, Department Fire Chief.

There being no other business a motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Grady to adjourn at 8:43pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Read and approved:

Chairman: Serge H. Senzel

Submitted:

Clerk: Marlene E. Rabb

Date: MAY 14 2025

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Bill Robb – Administrator

RE: Meeting – April 9, 2025

1. Shared Services / Interlocal Agreement Programs:

- a. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2024 at 7:00pm at Station 82.
 - b. D4 has provisionally promoted Captain Frank Reiss to the rank of Fire Chief, effective March 30, 2025, and have announced their intention to provisionally promote FF Brandon O'Connor to the rank of Fire Captain effective April 16th. As a result, Captain O'Connor will be transferred to the B Platoon and FF Urso will be transferred to the C Platoon effective the same date.
 - c. 1st Quarter Squad 88 Shared Services costs have been calculated, per the attached memo. Once all expenses were reconciled, D4 owes D2 \$2.86.
 - d. At the request of Mayor Mayer, GT Police Chief Dave Harkins and GTOEM Coordinator John Swack recently met with District 1 representatives to discuss a delayed response to an activated fire alarm at the Glendora School in January of this year. Based on participant reports, the meeting involved a discussion of District 1's use of Squad 88 to cover daytime calls for service. The D1 representatives reportedly expressed interest in the concept but cited budgetary constraints as an impediment to providing the compensation sought by Districts 2 and 4 to provide the services of Squad 88. It is anticipated that District 1 officials will be reaching out to our districts to further the discussions regarding the use of Squad 88 for incidental calls for service.
 - e. The special response to provide the response of Squad 88 to assist District 6 with calls for service was cancelled effective March 28, 2025. District 6 now has six career firefighters, which are divided evenly between three platoons. They are assigning a per diem firefighter to fill the third position on each platoon, pending the hiring of three additional career firefighters. Per the Interlocal Agreement an invoice has been sent to D6 for compensation in the amount of \$2,826.07 (13 calls at \$287.39 per call). D4 has forwarded an invoice to D6 for the same amount.
 - f. J.A.P. 25-001 – Voluntary Recall to Duty, has been approved by both districts and communicated to all members of the career staff. The policy took effect April 1st. As a side note, the availability of RE88 at the Blackwood Road station proved beneficial on the morning of April 4th. A storm passed through the area in the morning, resulting in multiple calls for service. Squad 88 / C Platoon was still handling calls at shift change, so the B Platoon members placed RE88 in service to handle additional pending calls.
2. Upfitting of the new chief's vehicle continues.
 3. The LED Lighting Upgrade project is complete. Captain Procopio is still awaiting a quote for replacement of the apparatus room motion sensors.
 4. The recommendations from the January 5th ice rescue award committee have been forwarded to the Board. I've asked the committee to forward suggested language for each of the awards based on their deliberations. Chief Millisky has sent correspondence to the committee requesting reconsideration of some awards. Suggest we also form a committee to determine

the appropriate awards for the August 21, 2024 tree rescue in Station 84's local. C Platoon members and Station 82 volunteer staff were involved.

5. As approved by the Board, FF Pozniewski is currently attending the FDIC Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana this week. He departed on Sunday and will return this Saturday.
6. A Junior Firefighter application has been received from Antonio Valentin, a 16 year old resident of Gray Pebble Circle in the Sicklerville section of the township. I discussed with Mr. Valentin and his mother the challenges presented by the distance between his residence and the fire house. Both said they understand but that Mr. Valentin really wants to join this department, adding that he attended the recent open house hosted by the volunteer firefighters. The background check is complete and resulted in positive recommendations. **If the board is in agreement, request a Motion to extend Mr. Valentin a provisional offer of Junior Firefighter membership, pending successful completion of a pre-membership physical and drug screen.**
7. **Request approval of Resolution 25-17 authorizing the removal from inventory of nine (9) obsolete Panasonic Toughbook computers, to be disposed of via the Gloucester Township Electronics Recycling Program.**
8. **Request approval of attached Resolution 25-18 to authorize the purchase of a CF-33 Panasonic Toughbook computer for Squad 88 from Wireless Communications of W. Berlin, NJ for the state contract price of \$4,475.00.** If the purchase is approved, the cost will be split with District 4, so the total D2 expenditure will be \$2,237.00. Ordering the computer now will avoid a May 1st Panasonic price increase.
9. The board has been provided with notification letters for Michael Scott, Chief Millisky and President Ardecki to officially notify them of the board's March meeting Resolution to permanently revoke the authority of Michael Scott to serve as a volunteer firefighter for Fire District #2. **Request a Motion to authorize Chairman Genzel to sign the letters on behalf of the fire district.** If approved, I will forward the letters to the appropriate recipients.
10. Chief Millisky has advised that he, Assistant Chief Haines and Captain Gant will all be out of town from April 21, 2025 to April 25, 2025. Request a Closed Session discussion of this topic, as there are potential contract implications should the Board decide to designate one of the Career fire Captains as Acting Chief during that time.
11. Letters of interest and resumes for the position of Department Chief have been received from Asst. Chief Haines and Captain Knight. Per the discussion at last week's workshop, the Board plans to maintain the position of Volunteer Fire Chief at the present time. Assistant Chief Haines has been invited to interview for the position tonight, and Captain Knight has been invited to meet with the Board to thank him for applying and to discuss future plans.

Closed Session:

Fire Chief Interview