

**Egg Harbor Joint Fire Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, December 15, 2022- 6:00 PM Bertschinger Center**  
**7860 State Hwy. 42, Egg Harbor, Wi**

James Petersen, President  
Pat Gilday, Commissioner  
Mack Bonk, Commissioner

Jeremy Schopf, Vice President  
Clarence Scherer, Secretary  
Bill Edwards, Commissioner

1. Call to Order

Petersen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Commissioners present:** James Petersen, Jeremy Schopf, Clarence Scherer, Pat Gilday, and Mack Bonk.

**Commissioners absent:** Bill Edwards

**Municipal representatives present:** John Heller

**Staff present:** Fire Chief Justin MacDonald, EMR Crew Chief Dale Wiegand and Lynn Ohnesorge

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

**Petersen moved to approve the agenda, second by Gilday, motion carried.**

4. Review and Approve Minutes from November 17, 2022

- Get Clearer LOSA numbers from Assistant Fire Chief Jason Staats at the next meeting.
- The LOSA Committee meets 3 times a year.

**Gilday moved to approve the meeting minutes from November 17, 2022, second by Bonk, motion carried.**

5. Open Session - 10 minutes

6. Review of Bills from November, 2022

- **Petersen:** What was the Door County Treasurer June Fire bill?
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** Law enforcement requested the Highway Department set up barricades for the fire on Windsong Bluff. This was not requested by the fire department, but the fire department gets the bill. Fire Chief McDonald expressed his dissatisfaction to Commissioner Ash of the Highway Department unless the fire department requests something they should not get the bill. The County was under the impression that we would forward this bill to the property owner, which we do not do. Most of the cost of the bill was labor to bring the barricades to the site.
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** In a few weeks they will be changing from Frontier to Spectrum for Internet and phone line for station #1.
- **Petersen:** Where is the fire inspection team from?
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** From around the Dells.
- **Petersen:** Is the structure being built at the site of the old gas station getting weekly inspections?
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** Not yet. He just got a call from the company that will be installing sprinklers in the building asking if they would like adapters installed on the outside.
- **Petersen:** How big is the tank for the fire suppression system?
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** He doesn't recall.
- **Petersen:** Are the sprinkler lines charged?

- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** Yes.
- **Petersen:** That building would be a good training class for fire suppression systems.
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** We only have a couple of buildings with a fire suppression system.
- **Scherer:** Do you know if Shipwrecked put a fire suppression system in?
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** Yes. Shipwrecked was required to install a fire suppression system.
- **Petersen:** Does the Landmark or the Landing have fire suppression systems installed?
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** Neither one has a fire suppression system installed.
- **Scherer:** With the remodeling at the Alpine will they be installing a fire suppression system?
- **Heller:** Yes, they will have a sprinkler system installed.
- **Fire Chief MacDonald:** He hasn't seen any plans for Alpine with a fire suppression system.

#### 7. Fire Chief Report

- See report attached.

#### 8. EMR Report

#### 9. Correspondence

#### 10. Open Session - 10 minutes

**EMR Crew Chief Wiegand:** Why are we having all these Fire Commission meetings and reports? This Commission doesn't need to meet every month. The Sturgeon Bay Fire Commission only meets once a year. None of the items on the agenda are not part of their duties. He is questioning why they are reporting all of the bills and budget items to the Commission. If the Village has any questions the Fire Chief should report directly to the Village Board not the Fire Commission. It is not the Fire Commission's job to run the fire department. The Fire Commission has the approval of apparatus and discipline. The Fire Commission should only need to meet if the Fire Chief tells them there is an issue to meet for. Some Fire Commissioners are getting paid to go to officer meetings and that never happened in the past. The wages paid to the Joint Fire Commission members is over \$3,000 for 2022. The Fire Commission shouldn't be looking at the bills and discussing the joint bills. Take a look at what your duties are and see if you really need to have a Joint Fire Commission meeting.

**Scherer:** Has a Fire Commissioner been assigned to the Truck Committee?

**EMR Crew Chief Wiegand:** When they get done with the specs maybe they will have someone from the Joint Fire Commission Join.

**Schopf:** He has the Joint Fire agreement here and under section 2.6 The Fire Commission shall not contract for the purchase of apparatus. Essentially it falls on the Chief and it rolls downhill from there. That is what our duties are. He knows this Commission has met monthly for as long as he can remember. The Joint Fire agreement spelled out that there might possibly have been more decisions being made than should have been.

**Gilday:** Do you see that happening?

**Schopf:** All the information gathered here is nice to know and it is nice catching up. He looks at the bills for the department and they don't mean anything to him. As long as the department is spending within the budget and there aren't any personal issues happening. We are looking at information that we can't act on. If there was a personal issue within the department that is when they would come to the Fire Commission.

**Gilday:** If you meet once a year and a problem comes up, how do you know what is going on?

**EMR Crew Chief Wiegand:** The Fire Commission doesn't have to meet until there is a problem. Then you do the investigation.

**Ohnesorge:** I think Gilday is asking if you don't meet every month how do you know there is a problem?

**EMR Crew Chief Wiegand:** It goes up the chain of command to the Chief and the Chief would let report to the Joint Fire Commission. Also if you hear something in the community that the Fire Chief is really bad then you would make your own investigation.

**Gilday:** She doesn't see them making any decisions. The Fire Commission just listens to everything.

**Ohnesorge:** You can't tell the Fire Commission how often they can meet or what they can discuss. Only the Joint Village & Town Boards can tell the Fire Commission how often they can meet or what they can talk about.

**Heller:** As a Village Board they agreed since the Joint Fire Commission does meet to review the bills and budgets.

**Petersen:** The next time the Joint Village and Town Board meets they will discuss all the issues above.

**Petersen:** Who in the department carries Narcan nasal spray for overdoses?

**Fire Chief MacDonald:** No one.

**Petersen:** Why not?

**Fire Chief MacDonald:** We are State governed and we need to report if we use Narcan. That is something we don't do.

**Petersen:** Do the police deputies carry Narcan?

**Fire Chief MacDonald:** Yes, the police deputies carry Narcan. They are governed differently because they are law enforcement. The County does all our reporting and we don't carry any drugs.

**Gilday:** Some of the other fire departments are carrying Narcan nasal spray.

**Fire Chief MacDonald:** No other fire departments in the County are carrying Narcan nasal spray. They are giving it away to individuals for free at the public health department. That is not something we want to get involved in.

**Scherer:** Where are you at with the specs on the new truck?

**Fire Chief MacDonald:** We will be meeting with Fire Chief Hecht after the first of the year.

**Scherer:** Do we want to postpone holding any more Joint Fire Commission meetings? At one time we had talked about holding Joint Fire Commission meetings every other month.

**Gilday:** Isn't the Joint Village and Town Board going to meet and talk about that?

**Heller:** Yes.

The Commission decided by consensus to not hold a meeting in January 2023.

11. Set Date, Time, Location and Agenda Items for Next Meeting  
**The next meeting will be February 16, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bertschinger Center.  
There will be no meeting in January 2023.**

12. Adjourn  
**Scherer moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 p.m., second by Gilday, motion carried.**

*Respectfully submitted by  
Lynn Ohnesorge  
Village of Egg Harbor  
Clerk-Treasurer*

DRAFT