

**HOWELL AREA FIRE AUTHORITY**

July 19, 2023 – 6:00 pm

Oceola Township Community Center – 1661 N. Latson Rd. Howell, MI 48843

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**Board Members Present:**

Chairman Mike Coddington, Kieth Huff in place of Vice Chairman Sean Dunleavy, Treasurer Bob Hanvey, Secretary Mark Fosdick, Member Bob Ellis, Fire Chief Ron Hicks, Asst. Sec/Treas. Laura Walker

Absent: Vice Chairman Sean Dunleavy,

Chairman Coddington called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

**Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2023:** Referencing the minutes, Mr. Hanvey asked what the “2013” reference was to Chief’s Vehicle. Chief Hicks responded that 2013 was the year of the vehicle being replaced. MOTION by Mr. Ellis, SUPPORT by Mr. Huff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2023. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Call to Public:** No Response

**Discussion/Approval Hose Testing Contract:** MOTION by Mr. Hanvey, SUPPORT by Mr. Fosdick to award National Hose Testing the contract for this year’s hose testing in the amount of up to \$9,000. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Discussion/Approval MERS Healthcare Savings Program.** DC Czubenko reported that the Health Savings Account is intended to provide an employer funded bank of funds to be used after retirement to offset the cost of medical expenses. This will only be available to full-time employees. Mr. Fosdick asked if we pay anything into a person’s account after they retire, and DC Czubenko responded that we do not. There is a 10 year vesting requirement that must be met before an employee can use it. HAFA provides the plan, without contributions from the employee, and we are requesting to fund each employee’s account with \$1,000 for the first year. Each year the Board may elect a new amount to contribute based on financial conditions. Mr. Hanvey asked if the employee pays taxes when they take the funds out and DC Czubenko responded they do not. MOTION by Mr. Ellis, SUPPORT by Mr. Hanvey to enter into the MERS Healthcare Savings Program for all full-time employees. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Chief’s Comments:**

The new Brush 22 and Chief 2 command vehicle have arrived.

DC Czubenko applied for funds to be used toward the purchase of new turnout gear through the State of Michigan.

Ladder 20 repairs: No quote was given until after the truck was in for repair. It ended up costing over \$5,000 so Chief Hicks brought that information to the board to share due to the cost.

Chief 2’s contract is expiring, so he is requesting that the Board allow him to renew.

**Approve payment of Bills and Payroll:** MOTION by Mr. Ellis, SUPPORT by Mr. Fosdick to authorize payment of Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$203,699.07. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

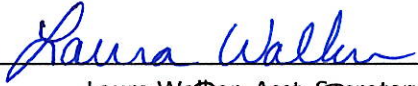
**New Business:** Mr. Ellis reported that Erin Britten is the alternate for him if he is ever absent from a Board meeting.


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**Adjourn:** MOTION by Mr. Ellis, SUPPORT by Mr. Fosdick to adjourn the meeting at 6:13pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted:   
Laura Walker, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Approved By:   
Mark Fosdick, Secretary