

**Minutes of July 16, 2018 WESC Meeting**, held at Warwick Ambulance station.

**In Attendance:** Scott Barr, Sonny Ebersole, Herb Flosdorf, Andy Greiner, Don Hoover, Jim Hoover, Frank Kenavan, Scott Kingsboro, Edna Kline, Rodney May, Duane Ober, Ron Oettel, Mike Smith, Keith Rothermel, Chris Strayer, Brian Wiker, Greg Young, Sam Young and Dan Zimmerman.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Herb Flosdorf at 6:00pm.

**Treasurer's Report:** Andy Greiner reviewed the 2018 budget, as of July 6, 2018. Sam Young made a motion to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Brian Wiker and passed.

**Previous Minutes:** Andy Greiner made a motion to approve the April 2018 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Sam Young and approved.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Earned Income Tax / Property Tax Relief** – Continued discussion occurred about initiating the tax credit in our area. Andy Greiner spoke that Lititz Borough is considering matching the example that East Hempfield Township is using. Mike Smith requested that we keep it simple, as to not exclude anyone who gives any amount of time. Chris Strayer pointed out that this tax credit will be viewed more as a reward for those serving and less of an incentive to get new members, to which everyone agreed. Andy Greiner made a suggestion that Lititz Borough, Warwick Township and Elizabeth Township create a draft proposal for the next WESC meeting for the Board to approve so we can move forward with it.

**Fire Services Feasibility Study** – Dan Zimmerman read an email from Rob detailing the current status of the study and reviewed what Rob needs from everyone to keep the study on track. Rob has met with an officer from each of the four fire companies and representatives from two municipalities. Rob is hoping to be close to wrapping up by the end of September / early October. It is our goal that Rob will be present at the October WESC meeting to at least provide a draft update of his report.

### **New Business**

**Mid-Year Stats** – Duane reviewed the statistics from the four fire companies for the first six months of 2018. Call volume is down for Brickerville and Brunnerville when compared to same time in 2017; Lititz and Rothsville are both maintaining the same call volume. All fire companies are averaging less than 10 firefighters per call when not including junior firefighters. 8am-4pm tends to be the busiest time of day for fire calls. A review of the use of apparatus was also discussed. Compared to 2017, the fire companies have brought in fewer new members.

**WESC Picnic** – Duane stated that WESC will be hosting a picnic for all fire and EMS members and their families on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Warwick Township campus. Sign up sheets will be posted for members to sign up.

### **Open Comments**

**Brickerville** – Keith Rothermel reported that Brickerville has been looking at the option of purchasing a Brush Truck to replace their Engine 2. They have been looking at nearby similar units and have had vendors bring vehicles for the members to inspect as well. Keith invited the other companies to come to their station on July 23<sup>rd</sup> to take a look at Newmanstown's refurbished Squad / Air unit and brush truck. Keith also reported that he is trying to get enough

students for a vehicle rescue class in September and that the fire company will be having a Chicken BBQ on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Lititz** – Ron Oettel reported that they have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to use the Wilbur building for a variety of training while it is being torn down. Ron pointed out that a total of nine fire companies helped provide standby during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks in Lititz Borough. Lastly, Ron shared that a committee of the County Fire Chiefs Association is soliciting support from all fire chiefs in the county to sign a letter of support, to be sent to the County Commissioners, to maintain voice paging for fire and ambulance calls. He stated that there is research being done on the potential of having voice paging on the new radio system, as opposed to a separate, stand-alone paging system.

**Rothsville** – Sam Young reported that Rothsville will be hosting a Soup Sale in September.

**Warwick Ambulance** – Frank Kenavan reported that their call volume is down this year as compared to last year. The tickets to the Beer Fest sold out in a few hours – 3,5000 tickets this year; previously they sold 2,000 tickets.

**Rothsville Ambulance** – Jim Hoover reported that their new ambulance should arrive in a few weeks. It is a Ford Life Lion unit, with a new color scheme of red and black. Total costs for the ambulance is about \$188,000 and most of the equipment to go in it will be from the ambulance they are replacing. Jim also reported that one of their full-time EMT's has been injured for the past 6+ weeks. During that time, Warwick Ambulance has been helping by providing paid staffing.

**Northwest EMS** – Scott Kingsboro introduced Operations Manager Edna Kline as NWEMS's new alternate representative to our Board. Scott advised that their Brickerville unit will be taking part in the Brickerville Lutheran Church community event and the Hopeland Community Picnic, both taking place on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Warwick Township** – Dan Zimmerman reported that construction on the bridge on Route 772 between Lititz and Rothsville has been occurring 7 days a week to stay ahead of schedule. He stated he is very pleased with their commitment to stay on schedule to be completed by Labor Day week.

**Lititz Borough** – Andy Greiner thanked the fire companies and ambulances for their assistance during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities in the borough. Andy also pointed out that they are close to a resolution between the borough and the home owner with the sink hole issue on West Second Avenue.

**Don Hoover** reported that there have been too many farming accidents lately, despite the work being done to educate the farming community. Law enforcement could possibly start charging for accidents that result in death if negligence is found.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Duane Ober, July 27, 2018.