

The September 12, 2024 adjourned Full Board meeting of the New Jersey Firemen's Home Board of Managers held at the Wildwood Volunteer Fire Department, was called to order by Chairman Washer at 1500 hours and was followed by the pledge of allegiance. A beautiful invocation was provided by Manager Dutch.

Chairman Washer then addressed the managers advising that we have a guest stenographer and asked everyone to speak clearly and state your name and county before speaking. Also if anyone who wants to have side bar discussions please take them out of the room.

Mr. Hull advised public notice was provided in the official newspaper, the Star Ledger, and on the Home's website

Roll call was taken with all managers present except Mr. Freeman, Mr. Lugossy and Mr. Jeffer who were excused. Mr. Heflich had advised he would be late.

The minutes from the August 10, 2024 Full Board meeting approved.

**Communications:**

Secretary Hull reported that there were no communications received.

**Reports of Officers:**

**Secretary:**

Mr. Hull advised that anyone wishing to have hard copies of the minutes mailed to them in addition to the emails to please see him. He thanked the Board for their support and advised he planned to run for Secretary again in October.

**Treasurer:**

Mr. Sutphen advised that he had no report and also thanked the Managers for their support as he also plans to run for re-election as treasurer in October.

**Superintendent:**

Mr. Veras reported that we are moving along with our water issues. We have a contract for a chlorination system. He did check on the possibility of a UV system but they are not recognized by the Department of Health and it also could not handle our volume of water.

Mr. Veras advised that a chiller unit needed repair that cost \$21,000, it was discussed at the finance committee meeting to budget to replace the entire unit.

The Activities Department has been busy and they started doing hay rides with the guest to the rear acreage of our property. The guys love it. BBQ season will continue into October so if you wish to host one, sign up.

We will be scheduling a meeting with the finance committee and our auditors to work on the 2025-26 budget.

**Legal Counsel:**

Mr. Bell reported that there was no pending or anticipated litigation involving the Home as of 305 PM today. He is also working with Superintendent Veras on the statue involving guest behavior and conduct in the facility.

**Buildings and Grounds:**

Mr. Keyser reported that he responded to the Home on September 9th to meet with Maintenance Director Hodiernne about the chiller issue and for a status report Tom was on vacation and there is no report for today.

**Applications:**

Mr. Cunningham provided a written report of the application committee meeting held on September 3, 2024 which is attached. The report indicated 75 guest in Long Term Care and 7 in Residential Care for a total of 82 guests. There are 14 on the waiting list as one applicant withdrew his name. One resident answered their final alarm this month. No applications to review at this time. The next meeting for the Applications Committee is 0900 hours on Tuesday October 8, 2024 at the Home.

**Employee Committee:**

Mr. Dutch reported that as of yesterday all is quiet and in good shape. No further report.

**Finance and Budget Committee:**

Mr. Hull read a written report from the September 3, 2024 meeting of the Audit and Finance Committee which is attached. The committee reviewed revenue and expense reports as well as vouchers for the period. Bills were reported in the amount of \$526,268.05. Several large bills were discussed and reviewed further. Those included the \$21,000 repair to the chiller. The finance committee recommends to budget for replacement. \$14,000 for ongoing water testing, \$95,000 in State health benefits, and \$72,000 for our liability insurance. We paid the premium in full instead of monthly installments like we had done with our property insurance.

The committee will be meeting with our auditors to prepare the next budget in hopes of having it complete for presentation to the Board in October. Meeting date with our auditors have yet to be set. The next regular meeting of the committee will be at 8AM on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at the Home.

**Insurance:**

Mr. Strube advised that all was in order and there was nothing new to report.

**Legislative Committee:**

Mr. Lugossy provided a phone report to Mr. Hull to read off. There has not been much activity in the legislature. There is one bill that they have been tracking which is still on the Governor's desk awaiting his signature. That is bill # S2435 which revises the requirements for reimbursement from the EMS training fund. Mr. Lugossy had no further report.

**By-laws:**

Mr. Apgar reported that the committee will meet after October when the new assignments are given out. They will review the by-laws at that time. Mr. Apgar then thanked Mr. DeLaurentis for all of his guidance and support to the by-laws committee. Mr. DeLaurentis advised that he will always be available to help.

**Museum:**

Mr. Hull reported that he had no report. Mr. Wilson approved "Chief Hollywood Hull's" report.

**Public Relations:**

Mr. Wilson reported that everything is set up at our table and ready to go. Please get there in the morning to help give our stuff out. If we get it all done tomorrow we don't have to be there Saturday. Mr. Wilson thanked everyone for their help.

**Ethics and Code of Conduct:**

Mr. Sutphen advised that luckily he had nothing to report.

**Pension:**

Mr. Washer advised no report and asked the Managers if anyone had any questions about their pension. (No response from the floor)

**Inventory:**

Mr. Wilson reported that everything is going well, any new items we receive are added to the inventory by Superintendent Veras.

**Golf Committee:**

Mr. Signorello reported progress and that we will begin talks in January.

**Liaison to the State Association:**

Mr. Hull advised that the convention is here and he had no report, deferring to the "gaggle" of executive committeeman present at the meeting.

**Inspections:**

Mr. Giglio reported that he had inspected the location of the Wildwood meeting and everything is ok at the Pine Avenue fire station.

**Long Term Planning:**

Mr. Sutphen reported that they received information back on all of the items involving the hme (roof etc.) They will be meeting next month to discuss plans. He felt that we need to come up with short term solutions due to our waiting list. We need to put these people somewhere not just leave them standing.

President Ordway responded that the State has a program that offers up to \$12,000 a month for nursing home, refer them to the State.

Mr. Sutphen advised that any applicants he speaks to, he gives them information on the State Program and hopes other managers do the same.

Mr. Veras added that the Home's social workers do provide information to applicants about the State's Health Care Program.

**Addition Committee:**

Mr. Cunningham advised that at this point he had no additional information to report as they are awaiting on a report from the actuary.

**State Firemen's Association:**

President Ordway advised that they are as prepared as they can be for the convention tomorrow and Saturday. He then joked that someone on the Board of Managers leaked that there was door prizes being given out that's why there was such a large contingency of Executive Committeemen presented

**Unfinished Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Mr. Keyser advised that on August 31st he attended the Labor Day parade in Boonton. He wished to thank the staff of the Home for the great job they did bringing 15 guests to the parade. The staff kept them hydrated and applied sun tan lotion as need to prevent them from getting burned. They did a great job.

Mr. Heflich advised that the had to swear in a new Chief today and apologized from being late.

**Payment of Bills:**

Mr. Hull reported the total bills in the amount of \$526,268.05. Upon motion, a roll call vote was taken and the bills payment was approved.

**Motions and Resolutions:**

None.

**Public Participation:**

None

**Executive Session:**

None had.

**Good and Welfare:**

Chairman Washer presented to proclamations to Mangers DeLaurentis and Denny as they are both retiring.

Mr. Denny responded that it had been a very interesting ride. He met a lot of nice people along the way and enjoyed it. He wished the managers and new managers well.

Mr. DeLaurentis said he appreciated the proclamation very much. He advised that when he was elected he didn;t know much about the Home but it is in his heart now. He plans to stay in the loop with the Home stating "I'll be watching and I ain't gonna put up with no sh\*t".

Mr. Wilson reported that he had spoken to past mangers Silvestri and Greci. They both are doing well and send their regards to the Board.

Frank Walker, Executive Committeeman from Salem County addressed the Board. He congratulated Mr. Denny and Mr. DeLaurentis on their service to the Board of Managers. Mr. Walker advised that they do not have a replacement for Mr. Denny and he will be doing the duty of manager in the interim. He asked that the Board's information be shared with him until they can find a manager. He provided Secretary Hull with his contact information prior to the meeting.

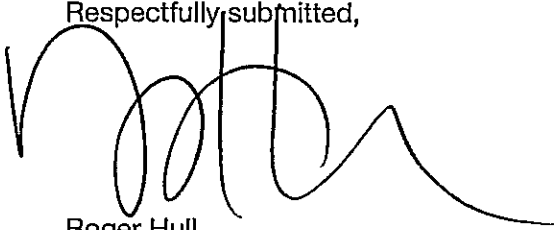
Former Manager Greg Leonberg addressed the board in disappointment in the break down in communication with the former managers. He felt that once a manager retires they are "forgotten". He was upset that information about the passing of retired managers was not sent out to the former managers.

Chairman Washer suggested that the former mangers be included in the email chain of information and sent any correspondence that goes out.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 1536 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Hull', written in a cursive style.

Roger Hull  
Secretary