

**North Branch Fire District #1
78 Dorr Fitch Road
West Dover, VT. 05356**

**Phone: 802-464-7560 x 110
Fax: 802-464-3040
E-mail: nbfd1@myfairpoint.net**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the North Branch Fire District #1, Prudential Committee, June 3, 2015.

This Meeting, having been duly warned, was called to order at 10:33 a.m. by Chairman, Hobart Terhune.

Members Present: Cyndee Frere, Thomas Ferrazza, Hobie Terhune, Edward Barber and Daniel Facilla.

Also Present: William Buswell, John Wowk, Bart Howes, Rebecca Snow and Linda Holland.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Ferrazza moved to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2015 as submitted. Seconded by Terhune. Passed unanimously.

Letters: None.

Treasurer's Report: Ferrazza moved to expend \$54,923.46 to pay the monthly bills. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously.

Snow reported that the current prudent Capital Reserve is \$258,396.09.

The Committee was also handed the Budgets, to review, and make comments/changes.

Facilla moved to place the current Priority List account interest, in the amount of \$123,535.31 in the Merchants Bank Hookup Savings account and whenever interest is available, in the Priority List accounts, it will be moved to the Merchants Hookup Savings account. Seconded by Ferrazza. Passed unanimously.

Facilla stated he needed to take a close look at the Bond figures prior to budgeting next year and add in the Government Sequestration based on the amounts in 2015.

Chief Operator's Report: Howes submitted a monthly written report indicating the hours of spray, rain/snow fall, pond levels and pump station hours.

Howes is also working on a Capital Plan that indicates expenditures for the years 2016 through 2027 currently totaling \$2,349,221.00. This Capital Plan is preliminary and is for review only as it is still a work in progress.

Regarding the Badger Meters, Howes stated we currently have 739 Radio Frequency heads and at \$185.00 each that is \$136,715.00 to upgrade the current heads to cell network heads. Switching from Badger Meters to a different brand of meter means changing not only the heads but also the meter bodies on all 739 meters, costing the Fire District more. Stiles stocks about a dozen cell network heads and the expected wait on heads currently not in stock is four to six weeks. Howes is budgeting \$50,000.00 for the next three years for the cell network system. The Committee asked Howes to find out when the warranty starts on the meters, when they are purchased or when they are activated.

Howes informed the Committee that the subsurface field has been in use and showing very good results with the dry weather. Ed Floyd and Howes are trying to schedule a meeting with John Akielaszek for mid-June to discuss steps for getting an increase in the maximum daily discharge.

Ed Floyd and Howes are working on a design for a sludge drying bed. An estimated cost for the “greenhouse” drying bed is approximately \$450,000.00. A facility in Whitehall, NY has a drying bed system and Howes, Floyd and Ferrazza will visit to get some understanding of how it functions in cold weather.

Howes told the Committee that the press has reached the end of its expected life and needs to be replaced as we are barely meeting our disposal limit of 12% or greater.

Executive Session for Legal Matters: Ferrazza moved to go into Executive Session at 12:10 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Seconded by Barber. Passed unanimously. Ferrazza moved to come out of Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. Seconded by Fere. Passed unanimously. **Decision:** Holland will contact our attorney and get answers for the June 10th. meeting.

Other Business: Buswell would like to see a stronger Bedroom Enforcement. This will be placed on the July 8th. 2015 agenda.

Old Business: None.

Terhune adjourned the meeting 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Linda L. Holland,
Administrative Manager

cc: H. Terhune, D. Facilla, E. Barber, E. Floyd, T. Ferrazza, Cyndee Frere, Bart Howes, Ed Floyd, Joe Mahon, W. Buswell, Amiee Pritcher, Arlene Palmiter, Donald Albano, Linda Anelli, Adam Levine, Jeannie Flanagan, Deerfield Valley News and the Brattleboro Reformer.

Posted: North Branch Fire District #1, Wastewater Treatment Facility & Administrations Building. Dover Town Office.