

February 5, 2009

The February 5, 2009 meeting of the NIESA Board was called to order at 7:03 pm by the chairperson, Charles Galbreath.

Voting Member Present: C. Galbreath, N. West, F. Wilbrink, R. Cole, J. Pratt, R. Lillywhite.
Absent: Wheatfield Township representative.

Non-Voting Members Present: R. Wiegandt, A. Hale, P. Griffes

EMS / Fire Department Personnel Present: B. Siegel, G. Risch, M. Flynn, G. Flynn, M. House,
R. Oesterle, K. Forester, S. Davis.

Other: None

Guests: None

Consent Agenda (Agenda I):

Minutes to the January 8, 2009 Meeting

Checking account summary January 2009

Budgets- Operational, Building & Equipment, Capital Projects December 2008

Motion by Mr. Lillywhite to accept the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. West. Motion carried.

Public Comment (Agenda II):

None at this time.

Sale of Building-627 E Grand River (Agenda III-A):

Mr. Galbreath advised that there had been a showing of the building on Monday, but he has heard nothing further from Mrs. Estes. So everything is status quo.

Review of NIESA Bylaws (Agenda III-B):

Mr. Galbreath reported that the Bylaws Committee met with both Firefighter Associations to discuss the proposed bylaw changes. Some additional changes were made, and a revised draft of the changes were given to each association president to review with their group. A copy of the proposed revisions were forwarded to the board members in their packets.

Mr. Galbreath asked if the associations had reviewed the changes. Mr. House indicated that the Leroy Township Association was fine with the changes. Chief Siegel indicated he had heard nothing back from the Williamston Association.

Mr. Galbreath felt that a changed needed to be made on the first page under Section 4, third paragraph. He indicated that it need to be defined a little more. He recommended that it be changed to *"In case of a personnel shortage that may cause immediate scheduling conflicts, the chief administrative officers shall request approval from the Personnel Committee to take the appropriate*

steps to resolve the shortage, pending Board approval at its next Board meeting.”

The other issue is the organizational chart. The Board had been presented two options. Discussion followed. The Board’s preference was the organizational chart that had the Biller and the Office Manager both reporting to the Director.

At the January Board meeting, the Board members had expressed they wanted public input on the proposed bylaw changes. Mr. Galbreath recommended putting a notice in the paper for the next Board meeting, and to make a copy of the bylaws available to the public at the both stations.

Motion by Mr. Wilbrink to accept the draft of the bylaw amendments, with the change recommended by Mr. Galbreath, and with the organizational chart selected, seconded by Mr. Lillywhite. Motion carried.

Ms. Curtis was directed to put a notice in the paper regarding the request for public input on the bylaw changes at the next Board meeting on March 5, 2009 at the NIESA / Williamston Fire Station. She is also to advise to make a copy of the changes available for review at both stations.

Closing on 315 W Walnut (Agenda III-C):

Mr. Galbreath advised the Mr. West had completed the rest of the paperwork for the closing, and the information has been forwarded to the title company. He and Mr. West are proposing a closing date of February 20th, provided that the Title company approves all of the paperwork.

Discussion followed regarding the closing date.

Motion by Mr. Lillywhite to set the closing date for 315 W Walnut, Webberville at the first available date of Mr. West, and Mr. Galbreath’s choosing. Seconded by Mr. Wilbrink. Motion carried.

Moving Fire Department Signs (Agenda III-D):

Mr. Galbreath spoke with Mr. Wight of Hobbs and Black about moving the fire department signs from the East Grand River address to the West Grand River location. Mr. Wight stated it was not his responsibility. So Mr. Galbreath has contacted Wieland - Davco concerning the signs. He felt it may be necessary to go directly to MDOT. Discussion followed.

Bids for Professional Services-Attorney (Agenda III-E):

Mr. Galbreath advised that the Board members had received copies of four letters of interest from local attorney’s in their packets. They were from Mr. Adams, Ms. Gray, Mr. Gormley, and Mr. Hitch.

Mr. Galbreath indicated that Ms. Gray’s resume showed less experience in municipal law than the other three candidates. Mr. Pratt felt her fees were high. Mr. Pratt advised that Mr. Hitch is very involved in his community.

Mr. Lillywhite indicated Mr. Gormley had worked for the Village of Webberville, and had done a

good job. Mr. Pratt asked if the Board had problems with the Mr. Adams. Mr. Galbreath stated that there had been issues regarding timeliness, however his knowledge of NIESA is a plus. Discussion followed.

Motion by Mr. Lillywhite to have Mr. Adams, Mr. Gormley, and Mr. Hitch make presentations to the Board at their next meeting. No second.

Mr. Wilbrink felt that the Board did not need to meet with the attorneys. He felt that their letters of interest provided enough information. Discussion followed.

Motion by Mr. Lillywhite to have the Personnel Committee meet with Mr. Adams, Mr. Gormley, and Mr. Hitch, and that the Committee bring their recommendations back to the Board at the next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Cole. Motion carried.

SUP Revision Request (Agenda III-F):

Mr. Galbreath stated there was good representation from NIESA at the City Council meeting a few weeks ago, to bring up our concerns and request for the SUP to be revised. He advised that the Planning Commission was meeting tonight, and the SUP revision was on their agenda. He recommended that as soon as NIESA's meeting was completed that everyone go to the Planning Commission meeting to support the revision.

He advised that the City of Council was very receptive to changing the SUP, and felt it needed to be changed, however it is not the Council's decision to make. The Planning Commission needs to make the change.

Mr. Pratt also felt it was important for NIESA representatives to attend the meeting. He is hearing rumblings that the Planning Commission is not receptive to the change. He indicated that it is not a cut and dry deal. Discussion followed.

Mr. Wilbrink asked if the City Council can override the Planning Commission. Mr. Galbreath indicated they could not. Discussion followed

Election of Officers (Agenda IV-A):

Mr. Galbreath advised the Board that the current officers are; Chairperson-Mr. Galbreath; Vice-Chairperson- Mr. Pollok; Secretary- Ms. Curtis; Treasurer- Ms. Curtis.

Mr. Wilbrink asked if the Secretary and Treasurer positions should be two different individuals given Mr. Haddrill's recommendation regarding the depositing of funds, and the recording of the deposits. Mr. Galbreath advised that the Treasurer is responsible for reporting financial information to the Board. The actual handling and recording of the funds is the Office Manager's duties. Discussion followed

Motion by Mr. Cole to install the current slate of officers for the next year, Chairperson Galbreath, Vice-Chairperson Pollok, Secretary Curtis, Treasurer Curtis. Seconded by Mr. Lillywhite. Motion carried.

Committee Reports (Agenda V):

Building Committee- Leroy Township: The Committee met with Mr. Wight from Hobbs & Black last night to make a few minor changes in the to renovation plans. Mr. Wight made the requested changes and returned the revised plans today. There is a copy on the table at the back of the room.

The latest revised plans appear to be more functional, and call for a less demolition. Mr. Wight should have cost estimates some time next week.

Bylaws Committee: As stated previously they met with the association, and they have provided the Board with a revised copy of the recommended changes.

Comments from Chief's , Supervisors, Biller (Agenda VI):

Sherry Davis- EMS Supervisor: Reported that EMS responded to 67 calls in January, with 17 of those calls being refusals. Also the Leroy crew took 15 of the calls.

Chief Flynn: Reported that Leroy Township Fire responded to 12 calls last month. Four of them were PI accidents, and one structure fire.

They had the garage doors and door openers serviced, and did some minor repairs to the vehicles. He also has one individual that will be taking the Train The Trainer driving course. He will then be certified to do the driver training.

They are also in the process of getting all the personnel fit tested for the SCBA's and make sure they know how to properly don the equipment.

In March they will be having an individual in from Rescue Jack to provide a demonstration of their equipment. The demonstration will be at Bill's Wrecker, and he invited the Williamston station to attend.

Chief Siegel: Reported that Williamston Fire responded to 9 calls in January. They had a little bit of everything, nothing serious. Williamston is also working on getting everyone fit tested, and having them complete their health questionnaires. He is also going to start using the old fire station for some training.

He is scheduling four people to attend the NIMS 300 and NIMS 400 classes. He advised the Board members that individuals from the City and Township governments are also suppose to take the NIMS classes. It is related to the homeland security mandates implemented by the State and Federal Governments, and it is his understanding that governmental units are required to have individuals trained.

Chief Siegel thanked Mr. Pratt for his comments and support at the City Council meeting regarding the revision of the SUP, and the installation of the street light. Mr. Pratt advised he would check on

the status of the street light.

Chief Siegel advised that he is putting together an order for adapters for the two new vehicles, and is also working on the list of equipment to obtain in regard to the DNR grant the Williamston Station received.

Mr. Galbreath- Biller: Reported that NIESA collected \$235,000 in revenue for 2008, which is \$40,000 over budget. Currently we have collected \$21,000 for January of 2009.

Comments from Secretary / Treasurer (Agenda VII):

Ms. Curtis advised that we are still having issues regarding the exterior lighting. Integrity had indicated that some of the outages were related to the bulbs. They felt since they were over a year old, they probably have reached their life expectancy. However they realized that some of the lights have been an ongoing problem. So Integrity was out and changed the ballast and the bulbs in some of the exterior fixtures. They felt this would eliminate the problem, however it has not worked. Two of the fixtures they changed out, were not working last night. Discussion followed.

She also advised that we had some water leaks in the radio room and in a crew quarter bedroom. Wieland Davco was contacted and they found some of the problems, however they also feel there is an ice dam issue on the roof. The problem areas are where the office section meets the apparatus section, and on the north side of the building especially over the crew quarters. We are currently looking into options for fixing the ice problems.

Mr. Lillywhite suggested getting prices for installing additional insulation above the living quarters. Discussion followed.

Ms. Curtis advised that the generator also received some maintenance. The coolant heater was replaced, as well as the switch for the coolant heater. A portion of the cost was covered by the warranty.

Mr. Galbreath had also discussed with Tom Smith the items on the punch list that had not been completed yet.

Comments from Board Members (Agenda VIII):

Mr. Lillywhite asked that Hobbs & Black's cost estimates, and the discussion of the next phase for the Leroy Township building be put on next months agenda.

Mr. Galbreath welcomed Mr. Cole as Locke Township primary representative to the Board, and Mr. Griffes as Locke Townships alternate.

Comments from Association Members (Agenda IX):

Mr. Wiegandt advised that the Williamston personnel attended Blue Mass at St Mary's Church and that the Knight's of Columbus wanted him to thank Mr. Galbreath for allowing them to build their

light parade float at the old station.

Public Comment (Agenda X)

None at this time.

Adjournment (Agenda XI):

Motion by Mr. Lillywhite to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm, seconded by Mr. Cole. Motion carried.

Paula M Curtis, Secretary

Date