

July 7, 2011

The July 7, 2011 meeting of the NIESA Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chairperson, Charles Galbreath.

Voting Members Present: C. Galbreath, R. Lillywhite, R. Cole, E Griffes, R. Pollok, R. Hayes. Absent: City of Williamston Representative

Non-Voting Members Present: R. Hanna

Fire/EMS Personnel present: B. Siegel M. Flynn, S. Davis, S Cochrane, M. House, C. Chamberlain

Other: F. Wilbrink

Guests: None

Consent Agenda (Agenda I):

- Minutes of the June 2, 2011 Meeting
- Operations Checking Account Summary - June 2011
- Operational Budget through June 30, 2011
- Building & Equipment Budget through June 30, 2011
- Capital Projects Budget through June 30, 2011

Motion by Mr. Lillywhite to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Pollok. Motion carried.

Public Comment (Agenda II):

None at this time.

Leroy Township Fire Building Project (Agenda III-A):

Chief Flynn stated he assumed it was Laux Construction that showed up and filled a whole, and put seed down at the whole location and around the generator. However they did not level the dirt around the generator, they just put seed down. As for the bad spots in the cement, the painting of the vent, and the additional landscape issues, he has not heard anything from Laux. He also notified them of the crack in the wall, and they have not responded.

Mr. Lillywhite felt there were additional locations with bad cement. He indicated there are a lot of areas popping up on the south side. Mr. E. Griffes requested that Mr. Galbreath contact Laux Construction and question why things are not getting addressed, and request a time frame. If we can't get a response then we may need to get our attorney involved.

Chief Flynn stated they could not wait any longer for Laux to repair the area on the south side building where the soil was washing out, so they ordered some top soil. Some of the personnel are going to spread the top soil, and install grass seed. They are hoping it will stop the wash out problem.

Chief Flynn reported they had also purchased some tubing to install on the downspouts on the north side to eliminate the wash out issue on the north side of the building.

Mr. Pollok asked if the door issues had been resolved. Chief Flynn advised they still leak. Discussion followed.

City of Williamston - Backflow Prevention Device (Agenda III-B):

Mr. Galbreath stated he had done nothing regarding this issue. He indicated the Board would understand further when Mr. Hanna provides his Treasurer's report. This issue is on the back burner right now until we see where the funds are going to come from to handle other issues.

Fire Service Billing Review (Agenda III-C):

Mr. Galbreath advised a review is underway. Hopefully the Finance Committee will meet next Wednesday to discuss it.

Finance Committee meeting was set for Wednesday July 13 at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Hayes asks how NIESA determines when they will do cost recover. Mr. Galbreath advised that NIESA has a Billing Ordinance. Mr. Hayes requested a copy of the ordinance. Ms. Curtis will forward the information.

Additional Old Business - Village of Webberville - Hydrant Billing

Mr. Lillywhite felt NIESA should approach the Village to negotiate a resolution to the hydrant issue. Mr. Galbreath indicated the next move was the Village's. It was left that the Village was going to do some hydrant analysis this Spring regarding the water flow etc, and after the analysis it was going to be discussed further. Discussion followed.

New Business (Agenda IV):

Nothing at this time.

Treasurer Report (Agenda V):

Mr. Hanna advised the credit card summary was in the packet. It was under \$700 so he had no comment.

Regarding the checking account summary, there was a \$13,490 payment for the SCBA lease purchase which is the final payment. There is also a \$3,000 payment to Roof Technologies which is a down payment for the downspout and snow guard installation. A \$1,174 payment to Capital International Truck for repairs to ambulance 16, and \$1,780 to Rod's Plumbing for boiler repairs. The other large payment is \$41,960 for the insurance premium.

Ms. Curtis advised NIESA still needs to receive a premium refund from old insurance carrier.

Mr. Hanna advised NIESA had received an invoice from the Ingham County Treasurer for \$11,482.79, which represents millage money that needs to be refunded. The Michigan Tax Tribunal gave tax relief to some individuals and this is NIESA share. One of the properties receiving a refund is D & W Market within the City of Williamston, approximately \$1,100, which is in the DDA District. The City captured approximately \$800 of those funds.

The largest refund is for Aldi's in Webberville. There refund is approximately \$9,700. Aldi's is not in a DDA or TIFA district, so the entire amount will have to be refunded by NIESA. There is another adjustment coming from the Webberville area, and that is for the Anderson's.

While he was meeting with Mr. Dolley at the City of Williamston, Mr. Dolley received notice that Bekum Industries had received some tax relief from the tax tribunal as of June 30th, but he has no information as to the amount.

Bottom line is that these funds will need to be refunded to the County, and the budget presented to the Board in August will be our best guess. Mr. Galbreath advised the tax reductions are set as of May 31st, so some of these changes will not effect us until next year. Then we will probably have to pay another large refund to the County. Discussion followed.

Mr. Hanna reminded the Board that NIESA's millage vote is due next year. Discussion followed.

Mr. Galbreath advised he met with Attorney Adams to discuss the wording of our next millage and the possibility of doing a special assessment. NIESA can not establish a special assessment, only the units of government can establish special assessments. Discussion followed.

Mr. Hanna advised on a good note, we have collected over 100 percent of our forecasted millage income for 2011. He completed the Finance Committee on their good work.

Mr. Hanna stated he is going to contact Ingham County to see if payment arrangements are a possibility.

Committee Reports (Agenda VI):

Personnel Committee: Mr. Wilbrink advised the committee had not met. He does need the Chief's to provide their comments on the SOG "Minimum Requirements for NIESA Firefighters."

Comments from the Director (Agenda VII):

Mr. Galbreath advised at the request of the Personnel Committee he had discussed the issue of requiring physicals for personnel. He was advised by Attorney Adams it could be required as long as it was across the Board. All departments would have to require it, and if it's required then NIESA has to pay for it. Discussion followed.

Mr. Galbreath stated he's had a few calls from Shroyer's regarding the outstanding invoice for

the hazmat incident in Williamstown Township. It appears that the Township feels it is not their responsibility. Mr. Hayes advised the Township is looking into it further.

Robert Ott, from Ingham County has provided some information regarding a local government reimbursement program, and it sounds like you could receive reimbursement from the program. But Mr. Galbreath was not sure if NIESA could apply for the reimbursement. It is available to "local" governmental units. He does not know if NIESA would be considered a "local" governmental unit.

Mr. Hayes suggested NIESA contact some hazmat clean up services and contract with them and have them provide their rates ahead of time. Mr. Hayes also suggested NIESA not pay Shroyer's yet, and requested a meeting between NIESA and Williamstown Township to discuss it further. Chief Siegel suggested they ask Robert Ott to attend the meeting as well.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Pollok stated several years ago Ingham County provided an agreement regarding this type of issue. A cost recovery ordinance. He asked if NIESA could provide a copy for the Finance meeting next week. Ms. Curtis will see if she can locate it.

Mr. Hanna requested Mr. Galbreath contact Shroyers to let them know we are not ignoring them but are still working on getting some answers. Discussion followed.

Mr. Galbreath was directed to set up a meeting to discuss the issue.

Scott Cochrane stated he could try and obtain some information from the State of Michigan-DEQ regarding the issue. He checked at their website, and did not find anything specific but he would be willing to call the State to see if he could get some information. Mr. Galbreath advised he would appreciate it.

Mr. Lillywhite suggested the Finance Committee meeting be posted since it appeared more than just the finance committee would be attending. Ms. Curtis will post a notice.

Mr. Galbreath stated that the main focus of the Finance Committee meeting will be to do the Budget.

Mr. Lillywhite also suggested when Mr. Galbreath contacted Shroyer's that he request a copy of their rates per piece of equipment.

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

Chief Flynn: Reported Leroy Township fire responded to 12 calls in June. Nothing major. He stated the training houses they were given had already disappeared, they were torn down. Their last training was relay pumping.

He advised if the Board members would like a good laugh, the Leroy Township Firefighters will be playing softball against Fowlerville Fire Department on Saturday July 9th at Noon. The game is at the Webberville Elementary School.

Chief Siegel: Reported Williamston also responded to 12 calls in June. Had some assist to the ambulance, PI accident in Williamston, and some down power lines. It was pretty slow.

Williamston Fire did submit a grant for the EMS Department for an oxygen fill station. Cost \$66,000. At the present time Ms. Davis does not have the appropriate container to hold the oxygen when they are filled. Having the station would also eliminate the rental tank fees, and the oxygen purchase cost.

Along those lines, when Chief Siegel was in Indianapolis at the FDIC he spoke with the FEMA person regarding the grant submitted last year for a ladder truck which was denied. After the discussion it was decided to resubmit the same grant this year.

Chief Siegel advised the Jubilee parade went well. He indicated that he, Ms. Davis, and Police Chief Young enjoyed themselves.

Sherry Davis, EMS Supervisor: Reported EMS responded to 61 calls in June, she was not sure how many were refusals. Mr. Galbreath indicated there were several.

Charles Galbreath, Biller: Reported we are halfway through the year, and ambulance revenue is only at 33 percent. We are behind. Discussion followed.

Comments from Office Manager (Agenda IX)

Gutter Repairs: We have received the insurance check for the repairs, and have given the contractor a \$3,000 prepayment to order the necessary supplies. He will be contacting us shortly with a date to do the repairs.

Post Repairs: Jelsema Concrete has completed the repairs of the post. The post still needs to be painted. Hopefully the project will be completed this month.

MABAS Resolution: Per the resolution NIESA is suppose to appoint someone to sit on MABAS Executive Board. Ms. Curtis suggested that the appointment be a position not a person ie, Chairperson, Director, Vice-Chairperson.

Mr. Galbreath asked if the representative should not be one or both of the Fire Chief's. Ms. Curtis advised she did not know if the individual need to have the authority to make decisions and authorize actions on NIESA's behalf.

Mr. Lillywhite requested she obtain further information on what they are looking for regarding the representative, before they made an appointment to the MABAS Executive Board.

Chief Siegel advised that Chief Royston from Holt/Delhi should be able to provide further information.

Audit Report: Ms. Curtis advised that Mr. Haddrill contacted her regarding the audit after the agenda was sent out. She is scheduled to meet with him July 25th, and 26th. He stated he will have the audit completed for the August meeting.

Ms. Curtis advised him that she was concerned that the audits are being presented later and later each year. She mentioned to him that it needed to be done earlier. Discussion followed.

The Board indicated they wanted the audit completed next year by May's meeting. Ms. Curtis is to have the records ready for Mr Haddrill by February 1st. If Mr. Haddrill does not feel he can complete the audit within that time frame we may need to look elsewhere.

Comments from Board Members (Agenda X):

Mr. Hayes asked about the letter from MTA in the packet. Mr. Galbreath advised MTA backed out of doing the Workman's Compensation Insurance. He indicated the core group of people that were submitted early, were not a good risk and the underwriters would approve the policy. We are still with Accident Fund. Discussion followed

Also regarding the other insurance policies, the premium was actually less than the initial quote. Mr. Orton's original quote expired while we were deciding whether we were going to change. When he resubmitted it, it went down \$1,600. Discussion followed.

Comments from Association Members (Agenda XI):

Nothing at this time.

Public Comment (Agenda XII)

None at this time.

Adjournment (Agenda XIII):

Motion by Mr. E. Griffes to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm, seconded by Mr. Lillywhite.
Motion carried.

Paula M Curtis, Secretary

Date