

**Franklin Township Fire District No. 1**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
July 8, 2025

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 302nd meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Franklin Township Fire District No. 1, Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, was called to order by President C. Patkochis at 6:30 PM.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** "This meeting is convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice of the meeting has been provided by furnishing announcement thereof, to the *Hunterdon County Democrat*, and/or *The Express Times*, and/or the *Star Ledger*, and/or the *Courier News*, by posting notice in the Municipal Building and by filing a notice with the Municipal Clerk."

**ROLL CALL:** President C. Patkochis, present; Treasurer D. Stephens, present; Secretary P. Enea III, present; Vice President, E. Kolibas, present; Assistant Secretary, H. Laine, present.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH:** A Motion to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2025 meeting was made by E. Kolibas, seconded by D. Stephens. All in favor, Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** D. Stephens advised of a total income of \$ 112,223.75 and expenses totaling \$11,970.84 for the period of June 11, 2025 through July 8, 2025.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of June 11, 2025 through July 8, 2025 was made by P. Enea, seconded by H. Laine. Roll call vote, D. Stephens, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

**RESOLUTION 2025-8 APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE BERGEN COUNTY CO-OP PRICING THROUGH NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE PRICING ALLIANCE**

C. Patkochis introduced the above Resolution, advising the Board that this Co-op is no cost and has many local vendors that participates. In light of the fact that 3 quotes are required for purchases over \$ 2500.00, this will simplify the process in that the co-op provides State bid pricing. H. Laine made a the Motion to join this Co-op, seconded by E. Kolibas. Roll call vote, D. Stephens, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

C. Patkochis advised the Board that the yearly contributions from Union Township and Alexandria Township have been received. The contributions totaled \$111,000.00, with our budget being \$115,000.00. Alexandria contribution did not increase at all, Union's increased \$1500.00. C. Patkochis further stated that it is time we make a formal push for a Shared Services Agreement with both townships to be signed by November 1, 2025 to continue providing services in January 2026. A two Commissioner Committee to include our Attorney will need to meet with representatives of the Townships. Knowing that there has been no luck in the recent past with Alexandria, H. Laine suggested approaching Union Township first, ironing out any issues and the presenting the Agreement to Alexandria. C. Patkochis will make arrangements with Attorney to set up initial meeting with Union Township.

C. Patkochis inquired if anyone was familiar with the State of New Jersey's new policy on Public Notices. With the elimination of Newspapers, where are public notices to be posted? D. Stephens will reach out to our Attorney for guidance.

C. Patkochis advised the Board that service is due for Ladder 91, pump service for Engine 91 and two of the Tenders. Fire and Safety, under Co-op pricing will do the service. P. Enea made a Motion to approve the respective service, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

C. Patkochis informed the Board that H. Laine will be running for Commissioner in the November, 2025 election. E. Kolibas is not going to run again. With that, a candidate is needed for the open spot by July 25, 2025.

**FIRE MARSHAL REPORT:** C. Patkochis advised the Board that the Fire Marshall has been working with the software company on a custom report. At this time there is no report for June. C. Patkochis updated the Board that A. Buterbaugh and D. Stephens had a Zoom meeting with the Division of Fire and Safety last week where it was determined that all of the deficiencies in the initial report have been rectified. This will allow the potential Shared Service with Union Township for Fire Marshal Services to move forward. C. Patkochis advised the Board that there are a lot of issues to be discussed, ie., fees, manpower, to name a few, along with a January 2026 start at the earliest.

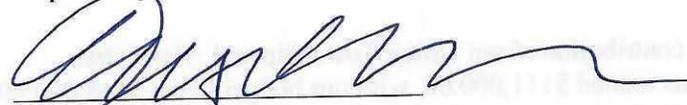
**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT:** R. Medine advised of 82 calls for service in the month of June, 31 in Franklin Twp, 19 in Alexandria and 16 responses in Union Twp, respectively. See attached detailed report for additional activities for the month.

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** R. Geib advised the Board of two new members of QFC, Skip Bell, as a Volunteer Fire Fighter and Mason Patkochis, as a Junior Member. QFC will host a golf outing fundraiser on July 21, 2025 at Beaver Brook Country Club.

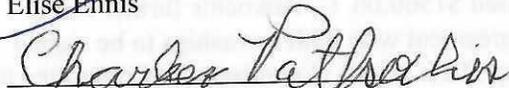
P. Enea made the Motion to accept the application of Skip Bell, having completed his background check and physical, seconded by D. Stephens. All in favor, Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:53PM by P. Enea seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Elise Ennis

  
Charles Patkochis, President