

Franklin Township Fire District No. 1
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2025

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 304th 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, absent; 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 August 12, 2025 meeting was made by E. Kolibas, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: C. Patkochis advised of a total income of \$ 1178.29 and expenses totaling \$12,119.92 for the period August 123, 2025 through September 9, 2025.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of August 12, 2025 through September 9, 2025 was made by P. Enea, seconded by E. Kolibas. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

C. Patkochis advised the Board that our increased electric bills from JCPL have been submitted to Hunterdon County for consideration by their Co-op for Municipal agencies for a possible price reduction.

C. Patkochis advised R. Geib that the heating units both in the main building and the Dog House need to be serviced as this has not taken place in the last couple of years. R. Geib acknowledged that he will look into it.

C. Patkochis reminded representatives from QFC in attendance that proper notification of any accidents or property damage needs to be reported to the Fire District, in writing and ensure that it is done in a complete and timely manner. A recent incident was not reported directly to the Board and the report did not include the apparatus involved. P. Enea will follow-up.

C. Patkochis reported that Union Township has verbally indicated that they will sign a Shared Services Contract, with Alexandria Township still holding out. Our Attorney will be following up with Alexandria Township this week, at which time a decision will have to be made regarding providing services going forward.

W. Hockin reported that he is working on switching over the District emails to Microsoft and to only utilize District emails going forward. The website is also in the process of being created by the new company, Local Seven. R. Geib advised that the QFC will no longer support the District for Office 365 subscriptions which will end this month. C. Patkochis advised R. Geib to coordinate with W. Hockin on the changes being made so that we will not lose our data that is stored.

C. Patkochis advised R. Geib and R. Medine that the District Budget for 2026 will be introduced at our November meeting and ANY AND ALL requests for next year need to be made in writing prior to October 1, or will not be included. It was stressed that this is a yearly request which largely goes unheeded by QFC creating potential hardships for both entities.

C. Patkochis introduced a new application for Per Diem Fire Fighter/EMT who has completed the physical and background successfully. P Enea made the Motion to approve, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT: See attached detailed report. C. Patkochis advised that the Fire Marshal was able to purchase a used Tuff Book for \$ 400.00 instead of the anticipated \$ 7000.00 from the initial request. Because of this he has requested to utilize the unused funds to purchase a computer for the office to be used with a donated TV for use in CAD and additional inhouse training. E. Kolibas made the Motion to approve the computer purchase, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

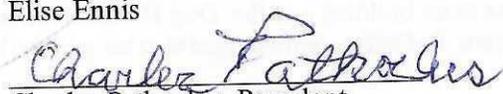
QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT: Battalion Chief R. Medine advised of 65 total calls for service in the month of August. New ambulance was delivered September 2 and will be put into service following paint and graphics, hopefully by Oktoberfest on October 4. Training has taken place in the past month on engine company operations, CPR and drafting from underground cisterns. QFC hosted the local senior group for a BBQ dinner. See detailed report.

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President R. Geib advised on the delivery of their new ambulance and Oktoberfest fundraiser on October 4. Friday September 12 the QFC will cook dinner for the members of the South Ridge Community Church. See detailed report.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:55PM by P. Enea seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Elise Ennis


Charles Patkochis, President