

Franklin Township Fire District No. 1 Meeting Minutes

August 11th, 2026

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 317th 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 H.Laine 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 H.Laine, present; Treasurer D. Stephens, present; Secretary P. Enea III, present; Vice President, C.Patkochis, present; Assistant Secretary, S.Bell, present.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: A Motion to accept the minutes of July 14th 2026, was made by C. Patkochis seconded by D.Stephens. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: D.Stephens advised of a total income of \$837.43 and expenses totaling \$27,547.07 for the period June 10th, 2026, through July 14th, 2026.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of July 14th, 2026, through August 11th, 2026, was made by S.Bell, seconded by P.Enea. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

H.Laine advised the Board that the firetrucks need the annual pump service. Fire and Safety Services will be doing them for \$800 each, totaling \$3,200. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

H.Laine advised the Board Brush 91 pump repair was not covered under warranty. The repair cost was \$3,008.

H.Laine advised the Board that they received a Resignation from A.Buterbaugh. Motion to accept the resignation was made by C.Patkochis, seconded by P.Enea. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

H.Laine presented Resolution 2026-11 Appointing of Fire Official, Richard Dziminski at \$32 an hour. Motion to approve the Resolution Amendment was made by C. Patkochis, seconded by P.Enea. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

H.Laine presented Resolution 2026-12 Appointing of Fire Inspector, Michael Abelowitz at \$25 an hour. Motion to approve the Resolution Amendment was made by C. Patkochis, seconded by P.Enea. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Franklin Township billing ordinance - H.Laine advised that this is awaiting the lawyer.

Franklin Township Fire District No. 1

Meeting Minutes

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT:

None

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Patkochis reported that the Quakertown Fire Company responded to 81 calls for service during the month of July, including 13 storm-related calls.

During the July 3-5 severe weather event, members responded to multiple storm-related incidents throughout the area. Quakertown Fire Company also provided mutual-aid assistance, including Engine 91 and Tender 91-1 responding to a working house fire in Delaware Township and Rescue 91 responding to a working garage fire in High Bridge.

Tender 91-2 assisted local farmers with providing water for livestock during the extended weather event. Members also responded to carbon monoxide concerns related to portable generators being operated too close to residences while power outages continued.

Vehicle rescue was the primary training focus during July. Members continued training in vehicle extrication and motor vehicle crash response.

Preparations also began for the Quakertown Fire Company's 75th Anniversary celebration, scheduled for October 3rd in conjunction with Amerifest.

The Chief advised that the company would continue to focus on emergency response, training, equipment readiness, and preparations for the 75th Anniversary celebration.

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Not Present.

Chief Patkochis advised the Board that they have 5 new members for approval of membership. All paperwork was submitted. Motion was made by C.Patkochis and seconded by S.Bell. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; S.Bell, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

Open Discussions:

Chief Patkochis advised the Board of concerns raised by members of the Quakertown Fire Company regarding fire protection coverage should the district withdraw from Alexandria Township.

The Board discussed that the Quakertown Fire Company is currently providing fire protection services to Alexandria Township for which payment has not yet been received. Alexandria Township has also declined to sign a Shared Services Agreement. The Board advised that further discussions would take place moving forward, pending payment, and additional discussions regarding the Shared Services Agreement.

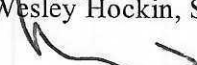
Franklin Township Fire District No. 1 Meeting Minutes

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:06PM by C.Patkochis seconded by S.Bell. All in favor, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Wesley Hockin, Secretary



Heikki Laine, President