

ORCHARD PARK BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Orchard Park Fire District was held on March 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the meeting room of the District Offices, 4222 S. Taylor Road. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Szczepanik and began with the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call:

Chairman:	Mark Szczepanik	Dist. Chief:	Jay Knavel
Commissioner:	William Hanrahan	Treasurer:	Nick Enser
Commissioner:	Robert Benning	Secretary:	Roberta Buczkowski
Commissioner:	Frank Wierzbowski		
Commissioner:	Edmund Jensen Jr.		

Fire Company Officers Present:

Orchard Park Chief:	Rob Germano
Windom Chief:	Mike Carey
Hillcrest Chief:	Ron Hendershot

Others Present:

James Breitwiser, Windom	Dennis Bosely, Orchard Park
Robert Baun, Windom	David K. Jensen, Orchard Park

Memorial Resolution

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS:

Almighty God In His Infinite Wisdom
Has Removed From Our Midst

JOHN KANE

A Member Of The Orchard Park Fire
District in Whose Death We Are Bereft
Of A Brother Fireman, And

WHEREAS:

During The Years We Were Privileged To
Know Him, He Was a True And Faithful
Citizen Who By His Constant Devotion
And Assistance To The Best Interests Of
The Volunteer Fire Service, Has Endeard
Himself To His Host Of Friends, And

WHEREAS:

We Shall Miss His Companionship, His
Wise Council And Worthy Participation In
Our Activities, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED: That We Deeply Mourn His Passing And
That We Extend To His Family This
Expression Of Heartfelt Sympathy,
Confident That, Having Reached The End
Of His Earthly Journey, He Has Received His
Eternal Reward In Heaven, And Be It Further

RESOLVED: That This Resolution Be Spread Upon The
Minutes Of This Meeting. And That A
Copy Thereof Be Furnished His Family And
That This Meeting At The Completion Of
The Business To Come Before It, Stand
Adjourned In Memory Of
JOHN KANE

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting:

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen that the minutes of the February meeting be approved. All in favor; motion carried.

Comments from the floor (Public):

James Breitwiser from Windom stated that he still needs the required classes to be emailed to him. Administrator will take care of.

Communications and Action on Same:

1. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: use of hall July 19, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.
2. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: use of hall May 9, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Benning regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.
3. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: use of hall June 5 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.
4. Letter from Hillcrest Fire Company re: use of hall March 29, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The annual report has been sent to the State.

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor; motion carried.

District Chief Jay Knavel:

1. Monthly reports read. Attached to file copy.
2. District Drill will be Monday, March 17th at Newton Abbott and will be bailouts.
3. Stadium tours will begin tomorrow. Will have three (3) tours per month.

EMS

No report

Training

No report.

Orchard Park Chief, Rob Germano:

No report

Windom Chief, Michael Carey:

No report

Hillcrest Chief, Ron Hendershot:

No report

NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND REMOVALS:*****Orchard Park*****

None

*****Hillcrest*****

None

*****Windom*****

None

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**Commissioner Hanrahan:**

1. Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the Training Officers Guidelines. All in favor; motion carried.
2. Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the Incident Operation Program. All in favor; motion carried.
3. Resolution read regarding selling the SCBA's to Gowanda. Attached to file copy.
4. Reminder to Hillcrest Chief that the Board will only pay for once yearly floor cleaning.

Commissioner Wierzbowski:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Wierzbowski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to approve the paid position of District Chief as well as Firefighters. All in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Benning:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to approve the LOSAP Service Awards Program. All in favor; motion carried.
2. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan for the Permissive Referendum to be placed in the Orchard Park Bee in reference to selling of an ambulance to EMS. All in favor; motion carried.
3. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan to approve the changes to the policies and procedures. All in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Jensen:

1. Have reached out to David Lillick of the Orchard Park Central School District regarding possibly setting up a fire safety program beginning October 2025.

Commissioner Szczepanik:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to appoint Michael Williams to the Ethics Committee. All in favor; motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Per Commissioner Szczepanik, the District will be hiring a paid District Chief sometime in June with a start date of July 1st.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS AND ACTION ON THE SAME:

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen that the bills be paid as presented for a total of \$351,427.75. All in favor; motion carried.

Motions Made:

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the Training Officers Guidelines. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the Incident Operation Program. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Wierzbowski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to approve the paid position of District Chief as well as Firefighters. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to approve the LOSAP Service Awards Program. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan for the Permissive Referendum to be placed in the Orchard Park Bee in reference to selling of an ambulance to EMS. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to appoint Michael Williams to the Ethics Committee. All in favor; motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business to come before this Board, motion made by Commissioner seconded by Commissioner that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:16PM

Respectfully submitted, Roberta Buczkowski, Secretary