

**ORCHARD PARK BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Orchard Park Fire District was held on April 9, 2024 at 7:05 PM in the meeting room of the District Offices, 4222 S. Taylor Road. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gill and began with the pledge to the flag.

**Roll Call:**

Chairman:	Gregory Gill	Dist. Chief:	Jay Knavel
Commissioner:	Richard Mrugalski	Treasurer:	Nick Enser
Commissioner:	Mark Szczepanik	Secretary:	Roberta Buczkowski
Commissioner:	Robert Benning		

**Fire Company Officers Present:**

Orchard Park Chief: Rob Germano  
Hillcrest Chief: Ron Hendershot

**Others Present:**

Chet Covers, Windom	Dave Stromecki, Brown & Stromecki Insurance
Ed Jensen Jr., Orchard Park	Monica Theilmann, OP Fire District Administrator
Dennis Bosley, Orchard Park	Drew Carey, Orchard Park
Robert Baun, Windom	Christine Davenport, Hillcrest
David Jensen, Orchard Park	

**Bid Opening**

<b>Hillcrest</b>	<b>\$2250.00</b>
<b>Orchard Park</b>	<b>\$4645.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,900.00</b>

Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to send bid to committee for review. All in favor; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes of the Meeting:**

Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Mrugalski that the minutes of the March meeting be approved. All in favor; motion carried.

**Comments from the floor (Public):**

Ed Jensen Jr. Orchard Park, With regards to the renting out of the Central Fire Hall, there are ongoing issues with the current president so if the Board would like for him (Ed) to take over the renting he would be glad to do this.

### **Communications and Action on Same:**

1. Letter from Hillcrest regarding resignation of Firefighter. See new members and removals.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The tax check has been received.

The monthly cash flow report is attached to the file copy.

Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, 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. The SCBA's should be here the end of April or beginning of May.

### **Orchard Park Chief, Rob Germano:**

No report

### **Hillcrest Chief, Ron Hendershot:**

1. Question on the "medical Leave" for a firefighter. Per Chairman Gill, will address later.

### **NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND REMOVALS:**

#### **\*\*\*Orchard Park\*\*\***

None

#### **\*\*\*Hillcrest\*\*\***

Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Benning to remove Matthew Schmidt from the District Rolls. All in favor; motion carried.

#### **\*\*\*Windom\*\*\***

None

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

#### **Commissioner Mrugalski:**

1. Working with Saia Communications to upgrade the repeater under the water tower in the Village, adding a repeater to the tower at Chestnut Ridge and to the tower at the West Seneca Police Station.
2. Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to have the Fire District Attorney put together agreements between the Orchard Park Fire District and the Erie County Homeland Security and Emergency Services for installing a repeater, microwave equipment and the use of one of their antenna on the communication tower located at Chestnut Ridge Park. All in favor; motion carried.
3. Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to have the Fire District Attorney put together agreements between the Orchard Park Fire District and the Town of West Seneca Police Department for installing a repeater, microwave equipment antenna on their communication tower. All in favor; motion carried.
4. Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to contract with Saia Communication, Inc. to upgrade the existing repeater under the water tower in the Village

of Orchard Park, to install a repeater, microwave equipment and connect to an existing antenna on the Erie County Chestnut Ridge Park Communication Tower, and to install a new repeater, microwave equipment and antenna on the Town of West Seneca Radio Tower located behind the West Seneca Town Hall. The three (3) repeaters will be a simulcast system. The total contract not to exceed \$120,000.00. All in favor; motion carried.

**Commissioner Szczepanik:**

No report

**Commissioner Benning:**

No report

**Commissioner Gill:**

1. The District has contracted with WellNow for the District physicals, at the Orchard Park location only. Will have five (5) from each company schedule their physicals and give feed back to the board when done.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS AND ACTION ON THE SAME:**

Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning that the bills be paid as presented for a total of \$122,037.84. All in favor; motion carried.

**Motions Made:**

**Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to have the Fire District Attorney put together agreements between the Orchard Park Fire District and the Erie County Homeland Security and Emergency Services for installing a repeater, microwave equipment and the use of one of their antenna on the communication tower located at Chestnut Ridge Park. All in favor; motion carried.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to have the Fire District Attorney put together agreements between the Orchard Park Fire District and the Town of West Seneca Police Department for installing a repeater, microwave equipment antenna on their communication tower. All in favor; motion carried.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Mrugalski, seconded by Commissioner Benning to contract with Saia Communication, Inc. to upgrade the existing repeater under the water tower in the Village of Orchard Park, to install a repeater, microwave equipment and connect to an existing antenna on the Erie County Chestnut Ridge Park Communication Tower, and to install a new repeater, microwave equipment and antenna on the Town of West Seneca Radio Tower located behind the West Seneca Town Hall. The three (3) repeaters will be a simulcast system. The total contract not to exceed \$120,000.00. All in favor; motion carried.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:**

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

Meeting adjourned 7:16PM

Respectfully submitted, Roberta Buczkowski, Secretary

APPROVED