

FIRE ISLAND PINES FIRE DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER MEETING April 11th, 2026  
Fire Island Pines Fire House

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN RHODES-TEAGE AT 12 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all, followed by a moment of silence.

Present:

Holly Rhodes-Teague, Chair  
Eugene Cook, Vice-Chair  
Walter Boss  
Joseph Micheels  
Eugene Cook  
Robert McGarity  
Richard Barry, Secretary  
Robert Marzella, Treasurer  
Jordan Cohen, Chief

A presentation was made by Fire Rescue Systems for an Incident Event Manager. This is a system that would help keep track of member attendance at meetings/drills/alarms and events.

A presentation was made by the firm of Bromley & Calderi, Architects concerning their thoughts and opinions on how to renovate the old firehouse, and how to make our existing structure ADA compliant and up-to-date.

A Zoom discussion was had with our District Accountant, Robert Craig. We discussed our yearly audit results and how to handle the financing and accounting of our capital project to update our old firehouse and our existing structure. We were informed that we can make a capital reserve fund specific to this project, we are allowed to accept donations from the public for that specific purpose. We were told to open a separate bank account for this purpose.

\*\* See Motion page

A Zoom presentation was made by the firm of LKMA Architects concerning their thoughts and opinions on how to renovate the old firehouse, and how to make our existing structure ADA compliant and up-to-date.

After separate presentations by both architectural firms, it was decided to investigate if we could merge their expertise. Bromley Calderi has extensive expertise with work on Fire Island, yet LKMA has extensive experience with firehouse construction/design and permitting work on the mainland. Commissioner McGarity will reach out to both parties to see if that could be possible.

### Secretary Report -

We were advised that we have to vote a permissive referendum to use reserve funds or we have the option to borrow against the reserve but pay it back with whatever interest we would have earned.

The Board went into EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss a personnel issue. It was decided to refer this matter to Robert Fuchs, Esq.

Discussed March Meeting minutes. See Motions Page

### Treasurer's Report -

Discussed Water Island monies, and billing for this current year. Invoice will be sent to the Town. We have spent approximately 25% of our budget so far this year. \*\*\* See Motion Page.

### CHIEF'S REPORT

#### ALARMS/DRILLS/MEETINGS/WORK DETAILS -

##### ALARMS -

3-9-26	#4048	COOPS - Unit 3 - False Trip - Construction on-site
3-13-26	#4049	Mutual Aid - Cherry Grove - False Trip
3-31-26	#4050	Mutual Aid - Cherry Grove - False Trip - Cancelled

##### DRILLS -

4-11-26 Drill #1 - Hose Handling, Nozzles

##### MEMBERSHIP STATUS -

Camilo Navas - Resignation letter received. Scheduled to drop off pager.

Mark Gazdik - inactive life member status requested as he is moving out of State.

Chief Jorden Cohen was voted by the department for life membership. \*\*\* see motion page

##### REQUESTS/COMMENTS -

1 8 Motorola R5 radios ordered from Integrated Wireless at Integrated Wireless being engraved and programmed.

2 Conversation regarding Pines Care Center donation of two radios.

3 Discussed new pelican lights \*\*\* see motion page

4 Discussed battery operated chainsaw.

5 Discussed purchasing two bluetooth speaker mics.

6 Discussed flatbed motrec

7 Discussed repair of 5-28-4 - Proliner

8 Discussed handle issue on 5-28-1

- 9 Connor Buetel needs boots - size 9.5
- 10 We need more helmet shields so we have for probationary members  
\*\*\* see motion page
- 11 Dinner table gift show & tell.
- 12 Discussed scott pac, bunker gear and masks to be ordered for grant.
- 13 Chief Cart - discussed maintenance issues and wire issues. Commissioner Boss will discuss with District Mechanic.
- 14 Commissioner Micheels discussed East Islip Fire District would like to donate 3000 feet of 5 inch storz hose to us. \*\*\*See motions page
- 15 Reminder that we need new designation forms from all fire department members. They will be handed out the day of physicals.

#### Committee Reports -

#### BUDGET, RECORDS, INSURANCE & LOSAP - Commissioner Cook

Insurance is all up to date, premiums have been paid for annual life insurance policies. We discussed the 2025 Audit, and will check on a member inquiry regarding their LOSAP payment.

#### GROUNDS - Commissioner Micheels

Discussed Flower Girls estimates for landscape services at the firehouse and at the Annex. Spring clean up \$800. Monthly fee of \$425.00 for Annex and firehouse, running June through November. \*\*\* see Motions page.

Discussed cleaning services for the interior of the firehouse and annex, we received a quote from last year's vendor. We will check with other companies to see what their fees are.

Discussed pricing for decking near the backdoor of the Annex. It was suggested to get a quote for CCA lumber.

Discussed boardwalk and platform for the LP tanks.

#### Public Relations - Commissioner McGarity

Will prepare a draft letter for the FIPPOA spring meeting, including Commissioner vote and building renovation. Will circulate to all Commissioners for review before sending final to FIPPOA.

#### ALARMS, ISO, OSHA changes & Reconciliations - Chairperson Rhodes-Teague

March Pink Sheets have all been reviewed including the meeting of 4/11/26. Bank reconciliations have been completed up until 3/31/26.

APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT & RADIOS - Commissioner Boss

Repair estimate for 5-28-11. There was an e-mail chain approving \$1,100.00 to fix the exhaust manifold. \*\*\* see motions page

GRANTS - COMMISSIONER McGARITY & SECRETARY BARRY

Retainer was signed by Chairperson Rhodes-Teague and forwarded to Bond Counsel, Robert Smith, Esq.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS -

Again reviewed what the architectural firms have calculated as an approximate cost for the new building and renovation. We will be advising bond counsel that we will seek \$3 million for the work.

MEETING ADJOURNED BY CHAIRPERSON RHODES-TEAGUE AT 3:30 P.M.

Commissioner Meeting Motions of 4/11/26

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER MICHEELS, seconded by COMMISSIONER MCGARITY to accept the meeting minutes of March 7, 2026. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER COOK , seconded by COMMISSIONER BOSS to accept the District Accountant's yearly audit for 2025. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER COOK , seconded by COMMISSIONER BOSS to establish a new bank account specific to the firehouse renovation and rebuild. We will transfer \$20,000 from the Chase Reserve Account ending in 9231 into the new account. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER COOK, seconded by COMMISSIONER BOSS and approved by all Commissioners for the expenditure of \$67,678.00 for the following:

Percy Hoek, Inc	Accident & Sickness Policy	\$ 656.00
Firematic	30 Min 4.5 cylinder	\$ 152.00
Firematic	30 Min 4500 PSI refill	\$ 72.00
Suffolk County Fire Academy	Pump Test 5-28-4	\$ 275.00
Arthur Nelson Electrician	West End Siren Repair	\$ 750.00
Coastline Freight	Firematic Shipments	\$ 68.00
Brinkmann's Hardware	Misc Tools	\$ 31.00
Bank of America	Printer Ink, gas, equipment	\$ 413.00
All American Awards/Uniform	Beutel & Halpin Uniforms	\$ 1,937.00
Appraisal Affiliates	Year End Asset Report	\$ 500.00
Brookhaven Town Officers Assoc	Dues	\$ 150.00
FI Pines Fire Department	Water Island Share of Contract	\$15,474.00
Glatfelter Specialty Benefits	Basic Life Policies - Full Year	\$ 966.00
Joe Micheels	Training & Purchase of Ant Traps	\$ 154.00
Michael Pollack	CPR Card reimbursement	\$ 20.00
Motorola	Charger, desk top unit & accessor	\$ 1,224.00
NAPA	Misc Truck Parts	\$ 1,766.00
Robert Fuchs, Esq	Legal	\$ 1,265.00
VIFS Specialty Benefits	LOSAP Payment	\$ 37,977.00
Liz Touchette	Postage FI to Treasurer Winter	\$ 33.00
Island Generator	Connection/Repair	\$ 2,795.00

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER COOK, seconded by COMMISSIONER MCGARITY, and approved by all Commissioners to accept the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER BOSS, seconded by COMMISSIONER MICHEELS, and approved by all Commissioners for Lifetime membership for Chief Cohen.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER BOSS, seconded by COMMISSIONER COOK in the amount of \$375.00 for probationary helmet tags. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY CHAIRPERSON RHODES-TEAGUE, seconded by COMMISSIONER BOSS in the amount of \$2000.00 for lights. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER MICHEELS, seconded by COMMISSIONER RHODES-TEAGUE to accept 3000 feet of storz 5 inch hose, with miscellaneous supplies from East Islip Fire District. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER MICHEELS, seconded by COMMISSIONER BOSS for a work detail to pick up with a designated driver the 3000 feet of hose. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER RHODES-TEAGUE, seconded by Commissioner Micheels, for landscaping services not to exceed \$3,000.00 for the 2026 year. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER BOSS, seconded by COMMISSIONER COOK in the amount of \$1,100.00 to repair the exhaust manifold on 5-28-11. All Commissioners voted in favor.