

COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT
Prudential Committee
Regular Meeting

September 26, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Laurie Hadley, at 6:03 PM. Also present were members Rick Barry and Amy Kates, as well as District Clerk Charles Eager, District Treasurer Agnes Murray, and District Moderator Alison Lowe.

After review, a motion to accept the minutes of the August meeting were approved unanimously, as were the minutes of the executive session held following the regular meeting. A motion to release the minutes of the August 22d execution session also passed. Upon motions, the minutes of the September 6th special meeting and September 12th special meeting were also approved unanimously.

The treasurer's report, which had been provided prior to the meeting to all members of the committee, was reviewed. Ms Murray was thanked for providing them ahead of the meeting. Questions were asked by members Barry and Kates and satisfactorily answered. A motion to accept the report passed unanimously.

Public comment was called for. Ms Cynthia Gardner stated she had made a request for public records in May which has not yet been answered. She stated her next step will be to go to the Attorney General.

Ms Jessica Grasseti stated an outdoor light at Freedom Hall does not seem to be operating and no one can find the switch. During discussion, it was pointed out that the exit signs must be lit at all times, according to Mass General Law. The electrician who installed this particular light is to be contacted to remedy this situation.

Returning to the agenda and the district office item, Ms Kates stated she was still unsure as to whether or not we have to go through the RFP process, although a vote had been taken earlier awarding a contract. After lengthy and sometimes heated discussion, no resolution was reached.

Ms Hadley reported on a meeting she had attended concerning the CMED system. The County Sheriff has requested that the hospitals, towns and fire districts reimburse his office for the operation of the system. All present at the meeting were in agreement that the system is an excellent one and is working well. The request for funding was received after all districts had held their annual meeting and set their budgets. Cape Cod Healthcare is conducting an audit of the sheriff's expenses for this service. At the present time the law does not allow this charge to be passed directly to the patients. This law may be amended. The Alliance has requested a meeting with the sheriff and we are to be notified. After discussion, a motion was made to call a special district meeting to request funding to rent space for a district office and to fund a

possible requirement to pay a share of the CMED expenses. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

On the subject of Freedom Hall, Ms Kates expressed the opinion that the contract should not have been awarded on the basis of the three bids received, but should go through the RFP process. Mr Barry felt that the provision for emergency repairs covered the selection process used. He pointed out that the cold weather is almost upon us and if the work is not done immediately, it will have to be put off until spring. Ms Hadley felt if we did not do the work, we should not allow the hall to be used. After further discussion a motion was made and amended that we go ahead with the contract under Section 8 of Chapter 30b, of the Massachusetts General Laws with regard to emergency procurements. The motion passed with two in favor and one opposed. This action will be reported to the Secretary of State as required by law.

Ms Kates raised a question regarding the web site. The Water Department is in compliance with the postings, the Fire Department does not seem to be, nor does the Prudential Committee.

Although not on the agenda, a question was raised concerning the offer by a private citizen to fund an outdoor bulletin board. No action has been taken pending a request to the Fire Commissioners regarding placement on the fire station building.

The meeting was recessed, to go into executive session for the purpose of negotiations with a nonunion employee, not to return to public session.

Respectfully submitted

LAURIE C. HADLEY
Clerk and Chairman