

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING HELD
March 12, 2015**

The special meeting of the Butler Township Board of Commissioners was held on March 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Butler Township Municipal Building, 290 S. Duffy Road, Butler, PA 16001. The following Commissioners were present: Pres. Joe Hasychak, Vice-Pres. Dave Zarnick, Commis. Joe Wiest, Commis. Sam Zurzolo and Commis. Charles M. Nedz. Pres. Hasychak called the meeting to order followed by a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Also present were Manager Ed Kirkwood, and Fire Marshal Larry Christy

Commis. Hasychak asked for public comment on agenda items. There was none.

Commis. Hasychak opened the discussion on the distribution of General Fund Allocations and Foreign Fire Relief Funding to the Butler Township Volunteer Fire Departments. The board was given information on pre and post fire department merger distributions rates and allocation amounts of the previous four years. The board was also given a document detailing six different distribution scenarios for review.

Commis. Zarnick stated that the meeting was arranged so that the township could hear from each of the departments before a decision on the funding allocations is made.

Commis. Hasychak asked that each department have a representative present their comments on the distribution.

Dave Bestwick, 119 Deer Run Drive, Assistant Chief of Butler Township Volunteer Fire District 3, presented information to the board on the operations of the station and anticipated major asset expenses. They requested the distribution stay at 60%-20%-20%. A discussion followed.

John Lutz, 132 Greenhill Drive, President of Mercer Road Volunteer Fire Department, presented information to the board on the operations of the station and anticipated major asset expenses. They requested a distribution of 50%-25%-25%. A discussion followed.

Kevin Smith, 752 Bullcreek Road, President of South Butler Volunteer Fire Company, presented information to the board on the operations of the station and anticipated major asset expenses. They requested a distribution of 50%-25%-25%. A discussion followed.

Each of the fire departments during their presentations thanked the township for the allocation of funds and the other expenses that the township covers. The township likewise expressed their appreciation of the volunteer fire departments, acknowledging the sacrifices that are made to keep the township residents safe and to assist them in emergency situations.

Steve Huey, 129 Longview Drive, Assistant Chief of Butler Township Volunteer Fire District 3, thanked the commissioners for taking the time to meet with the fire departments to discuss their issues and to get their input. The discussion continued.

Bob Cordray, 172 Ambler Drive, President of Butler Township Volunteer Fire District 3, suggested a distribution of 55%-20%-20% with 5% going into a fund to be used if any of the departments need emergency funding.

A discussion was on different options was held by the commissioners.

Motion by Commis. Zurzolo to authorize the distribution of General Fund Allocations and Foreign Fire Relief funds be set at fifty-six percent to Butler Township Volunteer Fire District 3, twenty-two percent to Mercer Road Volunteer Fire Department and twenty-two percent to South Butler Volunteer Fire Department for 2015, seconded by Commis. Nedz and carried unanimously.

Motion by Commis. Zarnick to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m., seconded by Commis. Nedz and carried unanimously.


