

## Final Version

### **MINUTES of the Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District Board of Governors Meeting Sunday, January 15, 2012**

Members in attendance: Stephen Long, Pat Wildman, Heather Cady, Joe DeMaio, Cecelia McCulloch, George Prior, Shari Frost, Michele Pallai Reppucci, Bill Heep, Tom Battista, Dick Stabnick, Michael Flynn and Marilyn Rettig. Roy Jacobsen from the Beach and Dunes Committee also attended the meeting.

I. Stephen Long called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes:

**1. A MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting held on October 9, 2011. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

2. The next Board of Governors Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2012.

III. Committee Reports were delivered:

A. Joe DeMaio – Finance & Budget:

Joe DeMaio discussed the 2012 Budget and the Central Beach Fire District Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2011 (see attached Exhibit A). Joe DeMaio reported that the QCBFD budget numbers are running consistently year-to-year. Joe also explained that at the end of 2011, QCBFD will have a \$32,250 budget surplus, which will be used to pay down debt (after obtaining approval by the QCBFD Board of Governors). Approximately \$11,000 of this number is in the form of accounts receivable. Other than this \$11,000, QCBFD would use approximately \$21,000 to pay down existing debt.

**A MOTION was made to use the budget surplus of approximately \$21,000 to pay down the QCBFD water project loan. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Joe DeMaio also discussed that the approved 2011 budget included a transfer of \$14,000 from the Asset Replacement Fund to the Road Fund to cover a portion of the road-resurfacing project. As the final cost of the project came in below budget and there were more Road Impact Fees collected than anticipated, this transfer was unnecessary. Joe explained that QCBFD should now leave these funds in the asset replacement fund.

**A MOTION was made to leave the above-mentioned \$14,000 in the asset replacement fund. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

B. Pat Wildman – Treasurer:

Pat Wildman reported no new business.

C. George Prior – Public Works:

1. A discussion took place regarding the ongoing concern over elevated copper levels in certain homeowners' water. George Prior reported that the copper levels are now below normal levels for all homes previously affected. It is believed that a change in the ph chemistry administered to the QCBFD water system over the 2011 Labor Day weekend had the side benefit of easing the copper problem. The copper levels are now within acceptable limits. George Prior reported that a follow up test would be conducted in a few months.

2. George Prior reported on the ongoing analysis of cleaning up QCBFD's second well. Public Works has decided to clean up the second well rather than replace it with a third well. Asa Hoxie will rehab well #2. QCBFD was unable to auger down deep enough to obtain a proper view of the well, so has instead located the original file from 1946 so that Asa Hoxie can see what is down in the well. Asa Hoxie will pull out the existing casing and screen and rehab them. QCBFD will notify Northeast that it is conducting such a rehab. It is not necessary to notify the State of the well rehab. The casing and screen in well #1 is also deteriorating and will need to be rehabbed in 1-2 years.

3. The Consoli house on West Beach Road has new owners who have been notified of the four-inch water main behind their home. Fenner Septic has detailed drawings of this water main.

D. Cecelia McCulloch – Tennis and Golf:

Cecelia McCulloch reported no new business.

E. Marilyn Rettig –Special Events:

Marilyn Rettig reported that the Community Sales sub-committee will sell merchandise during the summer of 2012 with the color gray as the theme.

Marilyn Rettig also explained that Special Events is planning a dance in July and will hire a D.J. rather than a band in order to keep costs down. Marilyn also discussed the concern of a few residents that holding a dance during the summer months will necessitate a lost day of summer softball for the QCBFD children. It was agreed that these concerns could be met and

that the interests of all parties could be respected.

F. Michele Pallai Reppucci– Police Protection:

Michele Pallai Reppucci reported no new business, other than one theft of scaffolding on Ocean View Avenue. There have been no other reported construction thefts.

G. Shari Frost – Beach and Dunes:

1. A discussion took place regarding the abundance of beach weeds growing in the beach parking lot, dunes area and boardwalk. These beach weeds are called “Asiatic Sand Sedge” and are a real concern to the viability of the beach.

Roy Jacobsen has met with a biologist who can take QCBFD through the regulatory process, from meeting with the CRMC all the way through the eradication of the Asiatic Sand Sedge. The chemical that would be used to spray the Asiatic Sand Sedge is the same chemical that would be used to eradicate the phragmites in Fresh Pond. The company that Roy Jacobsen met with is Natural Resource Services, Inc. The company that would actually apply the herbicide is called Aquatic Control. The total cost of the spraying to eradicate the Asiatic Sand Sedge would be \$3,500.

It was suggested that Linda Steere, who is currently working with QCBFD on the cleanup of Fresh Pond, should become involved in helping QCBFD navigate the regulatory aspects of the Asiatic Sand Sedge issue. It was also suggested that the Beach and Dunes committee obtain more than one quote for this eradication work, preferably three quotes at a minimum.

H. Tom Battista – Real Estate:

1. Tom Battista reported that the QCBFD survey is complete and permanent markers/monuments will be set lower in the ground. Tom Battista read from a memo from Mike Divney explaining that the granite monuments are being produced in New Hampshire and that they will be set in the ground in the spring, possibly as early as February if the weather continues to be warm and the ground is not frozen solid.

I. Bill Heep—Civic Improvement:

1. Bill Heep reported that he is scheduled to meet with Peter Whitman tomorrow to discuss the lawn mowing that is done by Peter Whitman throughout the QCBFD community over the summer months. It was agreed that QCBFD should establish a plan for a more formalized mowing schedule and mowing budget with Peter Whitman. Bill Heep is now the official point

man for QCBFD for all of Peter Whitman's mowing and landscaping services to QCBFD.

2. Bill Heep reported that he had met with Mike Frank, the Dunn's Corners Fire Chief. The Fire Chief would like all homeowners who have an alarm system to either leave a key with the fire department or arrange to leave a key in a lock box on their property.

3. South County Fence Company has repaired the ballfield fence. The new water fountain at the playground is complete.

4. Bill Heep reported that Ed Palmer has agreed to arrange with homeowners on a private basis for garbage collection (for a fee) in the off-season.

5. Bill Heep reported that the swivel on the flagpole at the ballfield is in need of repair.

J. Michael Flynn—Ballfield:

Michael Flynn reported no new business.

K. Dick Stabnick—Long Term Planning:

Dick Stabnick updated the Board of Governors on the application process with respect to the cleanup of Fresh Pond. Dick reported that the application process is moving along. Dick Stabnick is working with Linda Steere on the project. Linda Steere has explained that all abutting landowners must be notified of any cleanup, but such landowners are not required to agree to the cleanup. Dick Stabnick has spoken to Randy Johnson to obtain the names of the abutting homeowners. Dick Stabnick will send out notification letters by certified mail.

L. Heather Cady—Clerk:

Heather Cady confirmed the remaining meeting dates for the Board of Governors in 2012:

**2012 Board of Governors Meetings:**

**Sunday, April 15, at 10 a.m.**

**Sunday, May 27, at 10 a.m. (Memorial Day weekend)**

**Sunday, July 1, at 9 a.m. (Opening weekend)**

**Saturday, July 21, at 9 a.m.**

**Saturday, August 11, at 9 a.m.**

**Saturday, September 15, at 10 a.m. (QCBFD Annual Meeting at the Grange)**

M. Stephen Long – Moderator:

1. The next Board of Governors meeting will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2012.

2. Steve Long discussed the plan to formalize a communications director position for QCBFD, as well as a website manager. The goal in creating these positions would be to make the QCBFD website more interactive. A communications/website survey was sent out to all QCBFD residents and the committee has received helpful feedback. The communications committee is in discussions to set up a new website for QCBFD that will be more interactive.

3. Steve Long announced that an executive committee meeting would take place immediately following this Board of Governors meeting.

IV. **A MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Dodge Cady, Clerk  
Quonochontaug Central Beach  
Fire District