

BOARD of FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
MOUNT HOLLY FIRE DISTRICT No. 1

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 5th, 2025

17 Pine Street

7:00pm

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Saucier called November 5th, 2025, meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Mount Holly Fire District No. 1 to order at 7:06 PM.

Statement of Adequate Notice:

Director Carty read the following statement aloud:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and the right to attend all meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting the public's interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 has caused notice of this meeting to be given by having the date, time, place, and agenda to the extent known thereof posted as follows:

- Published in the Burlington County Times on January 4, 2025.
- Published in the Courier Post on January 4, 2025.
- Forwarded to the Municipal Clerk for posting on December 29, 2024.
- Posted in the Fire District Administration Office.
- Posted at the Good Intent Fire Company
- Posted on the Official Fire District Website.

The Notice set forth that formal action may be taken.

Roll Call: Present: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Absent:

Staff & Professionals: Clerk Brooks, Clerk Mangan

**Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence:** Chairperson Saucier requested that all present stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and remain standing for a moment of silence.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** October 1st, 2025, Board of Fire Commissioners Meetings. Chairwoman Saucier tabled the minutes of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

## **Approval of Vouchers October 2025**

As prepared and presented. Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve the payment of vouchers, as presented. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard

### **Reports from Fire Personnel:**

**Director's Report:** Director Carty presented the report, see attached.

Commissioner Sheppard asked to have the grounds and upkeep of Good Intent be maintained. They also asked if the duty crew members were volunteering as well. Director Carty went into detail on how they do more than expected. They also asked when the AED's will be available, Director Carty stated one is up and operational and more to come.

Commissioner Logue asked about us needing a new appraisal and why we allowed it to expire. Director Carty stated that he was not active Director, so he is not sure why, he received the email and is forwarding that information to the board. Director Carty said he will inquire. Commissioner Sheppard added that with appraisal, permits and things like that, they do have a timeline.

**Chief's Report:** Director Carty presented the report, See attached.

**Fire Official's Report:** Mr. Doggett presented the report, See attached.

Commissioner Logue questioned why we were not being compliant and how long we had a fire official. They also asked if we are charging accordingly. Director Carty stated to what he did know regarding that but not being Director then he was not sure. He does not want to place blame on anyone, and Mr. Doggett went into explanation on how he is rectifying it and moving forward with this.

**Chief Apparatus Officer Report:** Director Carty presented the report, see attached.

**Safety Officers Report:** Director Carty presented the report, see attached.

Commissioner Sheppard stated that when responding to a fire call, all personnel should be wearing a shirt or uniform to identify themselves for safety and easy identification and the pictures they saw of a scene did not show that. Director Carty stated that is a policy. Commissioner Sheppard stated she saw otherwise in the picture. Director Carty stated they may not have been fire police and send him the photo so he can investigate it. Commissioner Logue agreed with Commissioner Sheppard and went into detail of how she believes the scenes can be handled better.

**Westampton Township Report:** Director Carty presented the report, see attached.

Commissioner Sheppard questioned the 9 incidents that Mount Holly did not respond to and asked if we had the duty crew on. Director Carty responded that it was on days when the duty crew was not on staff and since the duty crew program our lack of response to calls has decreased significantly, which is great. Commissioner Sheppard asked for a chart to better explain to the public and Director Carty stated he can do that by the end of the year.

Commissioner Logue offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Saucier provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

**Committee Reports:**

**Building and Grounds:** Director Carty stated the final payment to Ogren has been approved except for certain money that was held back to cover issues we were having.

**Personnel/Policies:** Director Carty stated revision for operating guidelines will happen in 2026

**Apparatus and Equipment:** Director Carty presented a report about the upgrades to our trucks.

Commissioner Logue asked if the new vehicle has been altered, Director Carty stated that Chief decal was taken off the back because it is a command vehicle and not just for the chief.

Commissioner Logue asked why and went into detail about the Resolution that was passed on the creation of the vehicle being for a chief. Debate continued between Director Carty and Commissioner Logue whether Director Carty had permission to do that. Commissioner Logue asked who was using the vehicle and Director Carty stated the personnel using the command vehicle and why. Commissioner Logue asked why Director Carty was using the vehicle and Director Carty stated why he and certain personnel can use the vehicle. Commissioner Logue would like further conversation regarding this.

**Planning and Services:** Director Carty presented the report, see attached.

**Budget/Finance and Insurance:** Budget Meeting TBD

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Resolution 2025-56- Resolution appointing new Volunteer Firefighter**

Commissioner Logue stated she had a standard operating guideline on 11/1/2000 that indicates any volunteer member must live within Mount Holly or within 2 miles. Director Carty stated he does not know about that but welcomes any members and if there are conflicts, we will have to address that. Commissioner Brown asked Director Carty to investigate it as well but believes this is better for our community and to welcome all volunteers.

Commissioner Sheppard asked for clarification on what was being voted on, Commissioner Brown stated Resolution 2025-56.

Commissioner Gaskill offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Brown provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

**Resolution 2025-57 Resolution ratifying employment agreement with Fire Director**

Solicitor made a motion to move 2025-57 to after closed session

Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

**Resolution 2025-58, 59, 63– Tabled**

Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

**Resolution 2025-60 – Resolution awarding contract under non-fair and open access to Not the DJ for meeting/training room AV system improvements as part of 2025 capital expenditures.**

Commissioner Sheppard asked what was taken out, Director Carty stated a projector we are trying to get for cheaper and thanked the Director for making it happen.

Commissioner Logue asked why we have a disclosure. Clerk Brooks stated that it is required when doing a bid or RFP and that it is a standard document required by law. Commissioner Logue asked more questions that the solicitor went into detail about why this is required by law.

Commissioner Gaskill offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Sheppard provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain: Commissioner Logue

**Resolution 2025-61- Resolution setting wages for admin personnel (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

Commissioner Sheppard asked for clarity about who the workers are. Director Carty went into detail about their employment and who they work for, and discussion continued between Director Carty and Commissioner Sheppard.

Commissioner Sheppard asked if the board could say yes and abstain from a resolution. The solicitor said yes you can abstain to one piece of a resolution. Commissioner Sheppard stated that in that case, she says yes to everything except #3 because they do not have an SSA yet. Discussion continued between Commissioner Sheppard and the Solicitor on what the proper guidelines for abstaining would be.

Commissioner Logue asked if the Resolution should be separate. Commissioner Brown said he would like to continue with the motion.

Debate continued between the board.

Commissioner Gaskill offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Brown provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay: Commissioner Sheppard,

Abstain: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Brown on township personnel

Motion passes apart from item #3

**Resolution 2025-62- Resolution setting wages for fire prevention personnel**

Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain : Commissioner Logue

Commissioner Logue asked for a phone call from Director Carty so she can get more information regarding this resolution for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**Resolution 2025-64- Resolution codifying the job description of the Fire Director**

Commissioner Sheppard asked to move after the closed session.

Commissioner Logue offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Sheppard provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard,

Nay: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Abstain:

Discussion continued between the Commissioner Logue and Director Carty about the Resolution and what the conflicts were.

Commissioner Sheppard wanted to make it clear to the public and on record that the solicitor has not review the resolution and the chairwoman wants the board to go on with approving it. Director Carty stated that it is a copy and paste from the job description that the board posted for the job description.

**Resolution 2025-64- Resolution codifying the job description of the Fire Director**

Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay : Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard

Abstain :

**Public Comment:**

1. Cameron Mickey (95 Shreve Street)- They passed out a printed petition that was created on Halloween. The petition is not just in support of Mr. Carty; it is in support of the whole department. They read out loud the petition and the positive changes in the department and morale since Director Carty was appointed and went into detail about those positive changes including the training, updated equipment, safety procedures, new enrollment, etc. They asked the board to allow the Director to continue his work without politics and to focus on the residents of Mount Holly and the department. They listed the signatures on the petition. After reading the petition. There was clapping coming from the board and Mr. Mickey asked Commissioner Sheppard if there were a problem and Commissioner Sheppard stated no, she thought it was great. Commissioner Logue thanked Mr. Mickey for taking the time and expressing his thoughts and liked the open communication. They went on to mention that their email is always open for Mr. Mickey to reach out to them with questions, concerns, etc. Commissioner Logue went into detail of how she believes her actions have never been political and is not sure if Mr. Mickey is directing those comments at her and that she encourages them to email her and have an open dialogue and congratulated Mr. Mickey on his achievements.
2. Louis Lopez (Levis Drive)- He mentioned he has better streaming quality and asked if there is any demonstration on how to handle a grease fire. Chairwoman Saucier directed him to speak with Mr. Doggett on that. They asked for clarification on Resolution 2025-59 and Chairwoman Saucier explained that it has been tabled and more information will come soon. Louis thanked the department for helping his mom and for their efforts on Halloween. They also have an old picture of the department they will bring in at the next meeting.
3. Michael Rothmel (33 Union Street)- He felt like Hellen Keller following the agenda and the lack of explanation and packets. The township provides a packet of the agenda and would like the fire department to do that as well. They went into detail what that would entail and what discrepancies the agenda has. Commissioner Sheppard agreed and believed more transparency would be good and getting the agendas earlier.

4. Jim Logie (322 Washington Street)- They are concerned with the politics in the department as well, specifically pertaining to Director Carty and Chairwoman Saucier's interference with this district and the property for political gain. They mentioned the social media policy and how the department is using the page to promote political candidates. They went into details of the alleged social media posts and would like someone to investigate them to see if they violated the social media policy. Commissioner Logue asked Director Carty if something was funny, the Director stated he was smiling and Commissioner Logue stated that he was laughing. Debate continued between the two on whether the Director was laughing. Mr. Logue pointed out Commissioner Gaskill, Brown and Saucier on how they took a vote without considering public safety they should put the public in front of politics.
5. Kim Burkus (29 Hillside Road)- They questioned why the public comment section on the agenda was pushed below the Resolutions. They checked back in the past, and it has drifted further to the end since the beginning of the year. They believe it is counter intuitive, why have a vote on a resolution and then hear from the public on their opinion. They had questions about the first and second reading Resolutions, but they believe the board has already explained that. They would love to see these things before they arrive at the meetings. They hope they are available to see before the second reading at the next meeting. They asked if we track hours for volunteers and duty crew. They believe that it is great information to have, especially when applying for grants. While researching agendas, they do have the original job description if anyone needs it. Commissioner Sheppard agreed with Mrs. Burkus on the agenda orientation and stated that Commissioner Gaskill allegedly responded with "we can do what we want" and that she has suggested moving the public portion and they continue to keep it exactly where it is. Mrs. Burkus stated that it seems the board is receiving the information an hour before the meeting and Commissioner Sheppard confirmed she received the information around 5pm. Commissioner Logue stated that she did ask that it move back to its historical position, and it was denied.
6. Tara Astor (416 Buttonwood)- they agree with Mr. Rothmel, having the full text available even just on the website would be helpful. They also do not believe it is political to want to understand what is going on as an elected official to question resolutions etc. anything less and you would not be doing your job. They would appreciate if the votes were included in the minutes and they had a hard time following Resolution 2025-61, did Commissioner Brown vote yes? Director Carty ask for clarification from Clerk Mangan, who stated that Commissioner Brown said "Yes" and abstain to section 3 of the resolution. Commissioner Logue stated that Mrs. Astor does not have the full text of the resolution, so they don't see the section the board was talking about. Director Carty went into explanation on what each section entailed. Section 1 is Finance Clerk \$30,000-34,000, Section 2 is Administrative Clerk 12,000-16,000 annually and Section 3 is Desk Clerk 4,000-8,000 annually. Mrs. Astor asked this to be recorded in the minutes, the solicitor agreed. The solicitor had a follow up to Mrs. Astor's statement to make sure every Commissioner vote is recorded, the solicitor stated that he also recommends that. Commissioner Logue stated that Director Carty and the team are working hard on getting the website up to date and everything uploaded and they noticed today that some of the resolutions that are scanned do not have the vote recorded or signatures and asked if that is what Mrs. Astor is talking about.
7. Pierre Ford (117 Branch Street)- They brought up about the uniforms and blocking off personnel and they suggest having vests for protection and morale booster. They stated there should be documentation on everything and what and who is doing things in the building. Commissioner Logue asked for clarification. Mr. Ford went into detail of what he meant by that. He questioned the fire inspector and suggested that we have more volunteers to help the fire inspector. He stated that Mr. Doggett is doing a great job and would love to help him out as much as possible. They stated they are embarrassed by the behavior in the meeting tonight for Mr. Doggett's first meeting. Director Carty stated that for clarification volunteers cannot do fire inspections. Mr. Ford explained that the more training we can give civilians the better off we are. Commissioner Logue asked Director Carty about how the lights

on our equipment were being replaced by the duty crew members, director Carty stated that it was an upgrade on the apparatus, yes. Commissioner Logue wanted Mr. Ford to know that it isn't just someone coming in to replace lightbulbs like a handy man, they are replacing apparatus equipment. Mr. Ford understands but still believes that we need documentation to cover what is done in the building. It' great that someone is volunteering their time to help but it needs to be documented.

8. Maureen Taylor Ford (117 Branch Street)- they believe that our fire prevention week was a very low turnout, unsure whether that is because it was in the middle of the week. They said a lot of their neighbors were clueless about the event and believe it was a waste of volunteer time. Following up on her husband's comments, she agrees with him, and we should be investigating people's credentials etc. They stated that the chairwoman read the public comment policy about not yelling etc. and stated then what the hell are y'all doing up there? They also stated that the solicitor is sitting up there and not redirecting them etc. So, the public has restrictions but not the board, they stated if they can not get along then get off the board. They congratulated Mr. Mickey on his achievements and loved the community outreach happening and the firehouse drawings on our walls recently, but what are we doing about our social media policy. They asked what the age limits for volunteers and the training are provided. Director Carty stated that you can be as young as 16 and there is no age restriction for older volunteers. Director Carty went into detail about how someone applies and gets their training, etc. Commissioner Logue asked for clarification on Mr. Hollawell and how he replaced the glass pane and did not do electrical. Director Carty stated all electrical is done by a licensed electrician and Mr. Hollawell just replaced the glass pane.
9. Jeff Eversmeyer (203 Broad Street)- he asked where the chief is and asked why the Director is doing the reports. There was silence and Mr. Eversmeyer stated that he was being ignored and that he is a resident. The solicitor stated that all he can say is that the Chief was not available to provide his report tonight. Mr. Eversmeyer asked if he will be available next month. He also asked how as our attorney can he allow the board to vote on things without him reviewing the documents. The solicitor stated that as an attorney he cannot encourage or prohibit a vote, he can provide answers to questions and recommendations. Mr. Eversmeyer stated that in the future he should make a statement that he has not reviewed it so the public knows. They stated we are on our third attorney and why? They asked what the difference between duty crew and volunteer members are and what the budget is. How many volunteers do we have and how long before they can be duty crew and paid. They also asked if Director Carty was a firefighter because he was driving a firetruck. Commissioner Logue stated that before being elected into her role, she sat with the chief and he had an idea for a duty crew / stipend that he presented and was told it was not in the budget, shortly after the new Director was hired the duty crew program was implemented and she is unsure how much the Chief had to do with that. As for the committees, they are updated with information at the same time as the public. Mr. Eversmeyer asked for respect and people should look at him while he is speaking, Chairwoman Saucier stated that is taking notes. He stated he would like to see his notes.
10. David ? (166 Rancocas Road)- they wanted to correct someone earlier who came in and said this was political, its not political, its personal. As they look around the room they see the division, there is no unity. They are going to OPRA request a lot of things, financials and members who are still here. They stated that as old as the firehouse is and its now in shambles and will be corrected by some wonder boy, they find that hard and it doesn't take one wonder boy to correct that. They continued about being united. Commissioner Logue stated that she believes Director Carty's dedication to fire safety and making sure that the men and women are his number one focus and to not name call during meetings pertaining to boy wonder comment and going forward we treat each other with civility and dignity. Director Carty stated that for the record it was wonder boy, not boy wonder.

Commissioner Gaskill offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Logue provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

**Chairperson's Report:** No Reports

**Solicitors' Report:** Reserve comments for closed session.

**RESOLUTION 2025-65**- RESOLUTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS personnel matters and contract and an Attorney- Client item- FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN (if needed). Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:54pm. Commissioner Brown offered a motion to return from Executive Session, as presented. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion.

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairperson Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

**Resolution 2025-57 Resolution ratifying employment agreement with fire Director**

Commissioner Brown offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Gaskill provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard

Abstain:

Commissioner Logue asked the solicitor if she is allowed to quantify for the public why her no vote reflects with some of the language of the contract not necessarily towards Director Carty or his service. Commissioner Sheppard agreed with Commissioner Logue that Director Carty is doing a good job but the language of the contract needs to be changed.

Matters to be presented by the Board:

Next Meetings: With no additional items being presented, Director Carty announced the next meeting of the Board as follows, as advertised: Meeting: Board of Fire Commissioners Date: Wednesday December 3rd, 2025, Time: 7:00pm Location: 17 Pine Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Adjournment: Lacking additional business or discussion presented for consideration, Commissioner Brown made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Gaskill made a second to the motion. Commissioner Brown told everyone to have a nice evening and walked out. Motion invalidated.

The public started commenting and the solicitor let the public know that the meeting is still on and that we need another motion and second, since the board did not all vote on adjournment.

The public shouted out negative remarks to the solicitor and how he conducted the end of the meeting. Commissioner Logue stated on record she has no ill will towards Solicitor Watson.

The solicitor stated that they need to vote to end the meeting but if someone else leaves we will no longer have the quorum, and the meeting will have to end as invalid law. The solicitor continued to advise the board on how to properly end the meeting, Commissioner Logue asked if it is customary for a board member to leave before adjournment.

Commissioner Logue offered a motion to approve. Commissioner Sheppard provided a second to the motion. At call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Aye: Commissioner Logue, Commissioner Sheppard, Chairwoman Saucier

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Gaskill

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Saucier at 9:59 p.m. respectfully submitted, Commissioner Sheppard