



**Old Fire Farts of York County  
Special Meeting  
March 2, 2024  
Eagle Fire Company, 54 Center Street, Mount Wolf, PA**

**Call to Order**

President Neil Gunnet called the special meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. with 29 members and guests in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a Moment of Silence was held.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes**

As this was a special meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting were not read.

**New Business**

President Gunnet reported that the purpose of the meeting was to handle certain business that has arisen with the passing of our founder, and current treasurer, Robert L. "Bob" Straw.

President Gunnet appointed Charlie Webb to fill Bob's remaining term as treasurer, as he is on the ballot to be elected treasurer at the annual meeting.

President Gunnet reported that he was able to secure the hall at the Eagle Fire Company for use for the reception after Bob's funeral last Saturday. It was asked if our organization and the county association could offer a donation to the fire company for use of the hall.

- **MOTION** by Paul Hoover, seconded by Jeff Stauffer, to approve a donation of \$100 to the Eagle Fire Company of Mount Wolf for the use of the hall. Motion carried.

President Gunnet spoke on the details of Bob's service. Contrary to internet rumors, the requests of the family were honored, including using a single antique apparatus to carry Bob's remains to the cemetery. The family was very happy with the service.

President Gunnet reported that we will continue what Bob had started. He reported that several suggestions were made for honoring Bob:

- The Bob Straw Founders Award at the musters,
- Renaming a scholarship to the Bob Straw Memorial Scholarship,
- Incorporating Bob Straw's name into the name of the organization.

There was discussion on all these points. Currently we award three scholarships, and those are each named for individuals and that is due to the funding streams for those scholarships. It was felt that it was not appropriate to change the names of them. Changing the name of the organization would result in a lot of legal paperwork, including changing the bylaws, changing out corporate paperwork with the state, etc. In addition, the organization is easily recognized and remembered as the Old Fire Farts.

- **MOTION** by Bruce Yealy, seconded by Bobby Smyser, to rename the best in show award at future musters to the "Bob Straw Founder's Award for Best in Show." Motion carried.

President Gunnet reported on the following new members: Aaron Morthland, Robert Morthland, and Dean Saylor, Jr.

President Gunnet reported that he would like to have ID badges for the elected officers of the organization. They would not be personalized, but rather would have the name of the position so they



**Old Fire Farts of York County**  
**Special Meeting**  
**March 2, 2024**  
**Eagle Fire Company, 54 Center Street, Mount Wolf, PA**

could be passed on as officers change, with a cost of about \$75.00. They would be attached to clothing by magnets, and would be similar to a name badge.

- **MOTION** by Jeff Stauffer, seconded by Paul Hoover, to approve up to \$100.00 to purchase officer ID badges. Motion carried.

Patti Webb reported that the cost of insurance on the trailer is \$340 per year. President Gunnet provided a background on the trailer project for those in attendance. Patti advised that liability coverage would fall to the vehicle being used to pull the trailer.

- **MOTION** by Jeff Stauffer, seconded by Mike Beck, to approve the purchase of insurance. Motion carried.

President Gunnet spoke about outfitting the trailer to hold the totes of merchandise, etc. that had been stored in Bob's garage. He reported that we should probably get two tables, chairs, a pop-up tent, extension cord and other items needed for shows.

- **MOTION** by Marty Hoover to approve the purchase of items needed to outfit the trailer.

Bruce Yealy advised that he probably has most of what we need to outfit the trailer, and he would be willing to donate them to the organization. Motion died due to lack of a second.

Jeff Stauffer asked if we were still going to the Mount Airy flea market. President Gunnet reported that he had a list of upcoming events, some of which we are already registered for. He said that although Bob was able to do all these events, we cannot ask one member to do all of them. The following events are upcoming:

- March 24 – Mount Airy
- April 22 – Allentown
- May 3 – Winchester, VA
- May 5 – Delmar muster in Delaware
- May 11 – Schuylkill County convention in Pottsville
- May 17 & 18 – Lancaster County Fire Expo
- June 1 – CAFAA muster in Pleasant Valley

Les Eser reported that the Fire Museum of MD has their Steam Saturday on May 4.

Patti Webb reported that she used the address of the fire school for the physical address for the trailer. She asked if we could get space at the fire school to have a file cabinet for storage, rather than passing old records along to the officers. We will check with the county association to see if we can do so.

Greg Halpin reported that he purchased flowers for the service for our organization, the cost was \$168.59.

- **MOTION** by Paul Hoover, seconded by Dottie Hoover, to approve the purchase of the flowers. Motion carried.

Paul Hoover suggested that we get a crew together to do a complete inventory of the merchandise in the trailer, and to properly sort the items so it is easier to find things. President Gunnet said we can set up a work detail to do that.



**Old Fire Farts of York County  
Special Meeting  
March 2, 2024  
Eagle Fire Company, 54 Center Street, Mount Wolf, PA**

**Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be on Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Hoss's East York. Those arriving for lunch should do so at 12:00 noon, with the meeting starting around 2:00 p.m. A SPAAMFAA Convention Committee meeting will be held after the business meeting.

A SPAAMFAA Convention Committee meeting will be held after this meeting is adjourned.

- **MOTION** by Bob Sells, seconded by Mike Beck, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gregory C. Halpin*  
Secretary