

Highland Fire District  
Organizational Meeting  
January 12, 2022  
7 pm St 1

Commissioners:	Stephen DiLorenzo	(PRESENT)
	Christian Erichsen	(PRESENT)
	Kevin Rizzo	(PRESENT)
	Alan Barone	(ABSENT)
Secretary/Treasurer	James Passikoff	(PRESENT)
District Clerk	Denise A. Holzberger	(PRESENT)
Chief	Peter Miller	(PRESENT)

Commissioner Steve DiLorenzo called the meeting to order, led the salute to the flag and asked for a moment of silence for our fallen firefighters. Commissioner DiLorenzo welcomed everyone.

**Election of Chairman for 2022-**

Treasurer Passikoff asked for nominations for Chairman for 2022.

Commissioner Chris Erichsen nominated Steve DiLorenzo. Commissioner Kevin Rizzo seconded.

VOTE: 3 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent.

Motion carried unan.

Chairman DiLorenzo thanked everyone for their support. We work as a team and our membership has grown to 52 members

**Notice of Meeting-** publication of this meeting appeared as a legal ad in the Southern Ulster Times on December 30, 2021 and affidavit of publication was received.

**2021 Annual Election Results:**

For the office of Commissioner 5-year term : Alan Barone 173 votes total ballots 205

For the Office of Commissioner 1 year term: Kevin Rizzo 114 votes total ballots 205

SCBA Reserve Proposition Passed with 165 votes total ballots 205

Results were delivered to the Town Clerk at the Town of Lloyd within 72 hours of the Election On December 16, 2021.

Chairman DiLorenzo stated that the purpose of this meeting is the organization of the Highland Fire District for 2022.

**Appointments-** Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion for the following appointments for 2022:

**Deputy Chairman-** Commissioner Kevin Rizzo moves to appoint Commissioner Chris Erichsen Deputy Chairman for 2022, Seconded by Commissioner Steve DiLorenzo.

VOTE: 3 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**Secretary/Treasurer-** Commissioner Kevin Rizzo nominated Jim Passikoff for Secretary Treasurer. Chairman DiLorenzo seconded.

VOTE: 1 Yes 1 No 1 Abstain 1 Absent

Chairman DiLorenzo tabled the appointment of Secretary -Treasurer for later when Commissioner Barone was expected to arrive .

**District Clerk-**Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to appoint Denise A. Holzberger District Clerk, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**Legal Counsel-**Scott Dow of Kornfeld, Rew, Newman and Simeone and the firm Di Stasi, and Murphy Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved designate Scott Dow of Kornfeld, Rew and Simeone and when needed the firm of Di Stasi and Murphy as legal counsel for the Highland Fire District, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**Designation of Official Newspapers-** Southern Ulster Times and the New Paltz Times Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to designate as our official newspapers for use for legal notices The Southern Ulster Times and if needed the New Paltz Times, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**Designation of Official Financial Institutions-** M & T Bank, Key Bank, TrustCo and Chase as the official banks of the Highland Fire District

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to designate M & T Bank, Key Bank, TrustCo and Chase as our official Banks of the Highland Fire District, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Authorization of signatories for checks in the amount of \$3000 or more.

Commissioner Kevin Rizzo moved that the following be authorized to sign checks and be a second signature for checks in the amount of \$3000 or more:

Secretary/Treasurer,  
Chairman, Steve DiLorenzo  
Commissioner Chris Erichsen  
Appointed Commissioner

Seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Approval of membership New York State Association of Fire Districts and regional associations

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve memberships in the AFDSNY and regional associations, seconded by Commissioner Keven Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Official Meeting Schedule for 2022-second Tuesday of the month

Commissioner Kevin Rizzo moved to approve the following meeting schedule for 2022 for the Board of Fire Commissioners:

Feb 8, 2022	March 8, 2022	April 12, 2022
May 10, 2022	June 14, 2022	July 12, 2022
August 9, 2022	September 13, 2022	October 11, 2022
October 18, 2022	(Budget Hearing)	
November 8, 2022	December 13, 2022 (also Annual Election)	

Seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Appointment of Custodians for Station 1 and Station 2-

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to appoint Lori Passante custodian of Station 2 and Corinne Welch custodian of Station 1, seconded by Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Apparatus and Vehicle Repairs Vendors-

Commissioner Kevin Rizzo moved to designate Premier Fire Apparatus, All Automotive, and Erichsen's for Apparatus and Vehicle Repairs, seconded by Commissioner DiLorenzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Review of Investment Policy, Procurement Policy and Service Award Investment Policy

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved that the present Procurement and Investment policies be retained including best value and piggy backing as well as the use of Sourcewell, for 2022, and that the Length of Service Award Investment Policy is retained for 2022, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried.

Surety Bond-

Current limit is \$1.4 million. Chairman DiLorenzo asked Treasurer Passikoff if any changes need to be made for the Surety bond and Treasurer Passikoff stated that it is fine.

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to stay at current limit of \$1.4 million for surety bond, and investigate costs for increasing limit, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried.

Committee Appointments

Chairman DiLorenzo stated that upon appointment of a fifth Commissioner, Committee Appointments would be made. He noted that an IT Committee will be added and that would include two commissioners and the Chief.

Miscellaneous Items-

Chairman DiLorenzo noted the following items for 2022.

1. Agenda- comprise and send out to Commissioners Thursday prior to meeting
2. Minutes – transcribe within 2 weeks of meeting.
3. New Membership-information be sent to Commissioners prior to meeting
4. Financial Report- send to Commissioners Thursday prior to meeting
5. Notify the District clerk if you cannot attend the Bill Review or meeting

Adjournment-

Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to adjourn the Organizational meeting at 7:28 pm, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Rizzo.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried.

**APPROVED BOFC 3/9/2022**

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Holzberger, District Clerk