



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes September 11, 2021

Directors Present: Craig Baloga, Lucy Burby, George Covalle, Steve Gartland, Steve Lawrence, Margaret Marchwinski, David Martin, Melanie Most, Kathy O'Connor, Harold Stieber, Leonard Verlinden, Lois Whipple, Terry Wiggins;

Excused: Deborah Addy, Susan Bryson, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, Jim Laethem, Jane Mount, Dennis Szymanski, Jerry Thiel, Rosemary Wiczorek;

Guests and Members Present: Colleen Berger, Jacob Bryson, Neva Covalle, Brack Ford, Kurt Marchwinski, Cher Neumann, Dan Neumann, George Rose, Linda Schoonover.

Craig Baloga brought the meeting to order at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall at 9:02 am with the Pledge of Allegiance. Immediately following, the group observed a moment of silence for the tragedy that occurred on 9/11/2001 and for all who lost their lives. After the moment of silence, Craig mentioned that it has been a great summer so far, and we are gearing up for the Fall BBQ coming up next weekend. Craig apologized to Susan Bryson for his lack of communication with her about her involvement with the fall party planning.

The August 2021 meeting minutes were presented. **David Martin made the motion to approve the August 2021 meeting minutes, Leonard Verlinden seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer Report: Harold Stieber presented the August 2021 Treasurer's Reports. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for August 31, 2021 was \$38,752.86, with total cash on hand being \$111,709.67. Field Day was the largest revenue for the Month of August, and seems to have been the best Field Day to date. A copy of the Field Day report is available by contacting Harold. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold Stieber at HaroldS@hiscfa.org.

Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the August 2021 treasurer's reports, Lucy Burby seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Margaret Marchwinski reported that we've received 4 new members since the last meeting. Margaret asked the group for any leads on potential new advertisers for next year's edition of The Delta News. The publication is very close to paying for itself as a result of the revenue from advertisers, and if there are additional advertisers that can continue to offset the cost, we would love to get them on board for the coming years. Additionally, this was the last year for Barb Crown and Art Woodford as editors for the publication, so if anyone is able and willing to assist with this endeavor next year and in the coming years, we would love to introduce you to this group and get you up to speed about the help that is needed.

Communications: There were no official communications received this month.



Browne's Field: Dennis Szymanski was unable to join the meeting today since he is getting ready for the charity softball game tomorrow at Browne's Field. There used to be a box spring available to drag around the field to help level the infield, but Dennis found a roll-up mat which was purchased to replace the damaged box spring. The HISCFA received correspondence from DTE Energy about billing for four overhead lights which have never been billed for. The poles were inventoried and matched the lights to the bills. Harold contacted DTE and has since resolved the issue. The HISCFA's golf cart was also used in the Turkey Shoot parade to represent the Association, and it was returned to Browne's Field upon completion of the event.

Government Affairs: Lois Whipple reported that the State of Michigan has a new website where adults are able to acquire their immunization records upon creating an account. The public portal can be located here: <https://mdhhs.mimmsportal.state.mi.us/>. Additionally, Lois discussed outflows from Lake Superior, and read an excerpt from an article to the group that stated Lake Superior water levels have declined and have reached the seasonal long-term average for the first time since April 2014. The full article can be found here: <https://ijc.org/en/labc/update-lake-superior-outflows-and-expected-conditions-september-2021>.

Guest Speaker, Champion Auto Ferry – Jacob Bryson: Beginning on Monday 9/20/2021, Champion Auto Ferry will be down to one boat throughout the weekdays. One of the pilots had a medical emergency recently and there is not a timeframe available when they are expected to return. If anyone has their 50-ton captain's license and are looking to upgrade to a 100-ton license (or if they already have their 100-ton license), please reach out to Champion Auto Ferry for help with the upgrade and for part-time employment as a captain. Please give yourself some extra time to get across during the weekdays. Margaret Marchwinski asked about the captains from now-defunct Marine City Ferry, and whether they could be hired. Jacob explained that they were all Canadian and the ferries were flagged as Canadian vessels. Essentially those pilots would need to start all over again with their U.S. licensing for U.S. vessels.

Guest Speaker, Clay Township Fire Chief George Rose: During the month of August, Chief Rose attended two meetings: the St. Clair County Fire Chief's Association meeting and a meeting with the Coast Guard and other agencies involved with the Raft Off event 2021. Chief Rose thanked everyone for coming out to attend the Pancake Breakfast over Labor Day Weekend, and he apologized for not having scrambled eggs this year (they will return next year).

Engine #2 has been placed in service: all equipment is on the truck and secure except the PPV Fan which will be shipped on September 1, 2021, and an electric chain saw that is still on back order. Engine #1 will be done by the first week of September. Chief Rose would like to thank Captain Huber and Firefighter Sherrard for their hard work in mounting the equipment on our new Fire Engines. They both spent a lot of time doing it right and it looks very professional.

Chief Rose attended the Harsens's Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society Anniversary Celebration for the Fire Station where New Fire Truck and Old Fire Truck was the theme. The new Engine #1 was on static display for the Island residents to view. They have received a lot of compliments on the new truck.

The Clay Township Fire Department (CTFD) responded to 9 medical responses at Raft Off this year, which turned out to be the largest event. Reports of 7,000 to 9,000 boats attended the Raft Off event. Chief Rose would like to thank the men and women of our department for their service on that day and Clay Township Dispatch for their hard work.



Chief Rose would also like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Engle, and Mr. & Mrs. Bryson for their assistance with their property and equipment. It made their job much easier.

The CTFD assisted the Coast Guard in a training excise on the north end of Russell Island and on the Krispin Drain on Harsens Island, with the deployment of booms. They simulated a fuel spill in the river.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Browne's Field Restrooms / Fundraiser:* Craig Baloga stated that there have still not been any strong leads on this project. There has been some more activity from a new contact so hopefully something will come to fruition soon. There are two designs for the restrooms, which would drive a larger or smaller septic system. The smaller the tank, the more often it will need to be pumped out which would be an added cost. There was a lot of discussion over the details of the project, but in the end, costs need to be rolled up accurately in order to apply properly for a grant for this project.
- *Browne's Field Defibrillator:* Fire Chief Rose reported that there are three or four more weeks left in the grant process, so we hope to hear back soon.
- *Fall BBQ & Bonfire:* The final preparations for this event occurring on September 18th this year are underway. The meat has been purchased and the beer trailer has been secured. This event coincides with the final Music in the Park series on the Island with musical act Dude and the Abiders. Some hay bales and fire wood will be acquired for this event as well.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Election Results of Directors with Term Ending 2021:* Directors David Martin and Leonard Verlinden, whose terms expire December 31, 2021, have communicated to the board they were willing to remain on the board. Additionally, there were four write-in spots available. There was one write-in for Linda Schoonover who accepted directorship. **Steve Lawrence made the motion to appoint the above persons David Martin, Linda Schoonover, and Leonard Verlinden as directors to new three-year terms, expiring December 31, 2024. Lucy Burby seconded; all in favor, motion carried.**

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Melanie Most reminded everyone that there will be a second Island Cleanup Days happening at Browne's Field the first weekend in October on the 2nd and 3rd of that month.

Next meeting will be Saturday, October 9, 2021 at **9:00 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

David Martin made the motion to adjourn; Lucy Burby seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.



Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

MelanieM@hiscfa.org



APPENDIX

Fire Department Incident Reports for Harsen's Island (August 2021)



Clay Township Fire & EMS

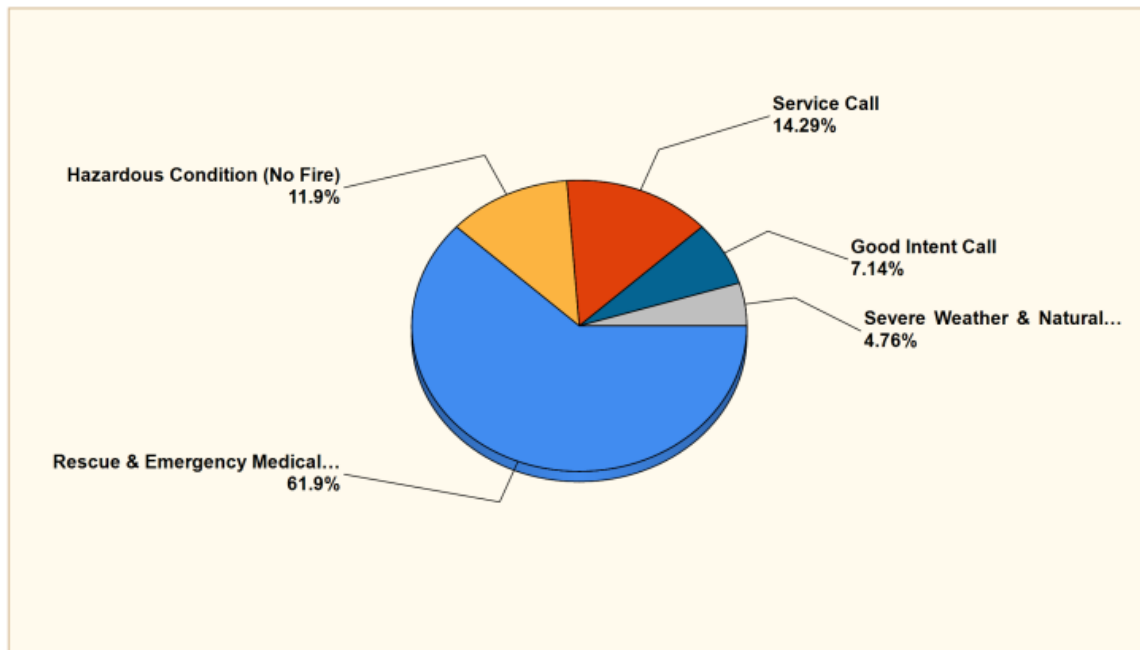
Clay Township, MI

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Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

Zone(s): 3 - HARSENS ISLAND | Start Date: 08/01/2021 | End Date: 08/31/2021



| MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE | # INCIDENTS | % of TOTAL |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Rescue & Emergency Medical Service | 26 | 61.9% |
| Hazardous Condition (No Fire) | 5 | 11.9% |
| Service Call | 6 | 14.29% |
| Good Intent Call | 3 | 7.14% |
| Severe Weather & Natural Disaster | 2 | 4.76% |
| TOTAL | 42 | 100% |

| Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| INCIDENT TYPE | # INCIDENTS | % of TOTAL |
| 311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew | 3 | 7.14% |
| 321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury | 21 | 50% |
| 360 - Water & ice-related rescue, other | 2 | 4.76% |
| 444 - Power line down | 4 | 9.52% |
| 460 - Accident, potential accident, other | 1 | 2.38% |
| 500 - Service Call, other | 2 | 4.76% |
| 531 - Smoke or odor removal | 1 | 2.38% |
| 571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup | 3 | 7.14% |
| 611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route | 1 | 2.38% |
| 631 - Authorized controlled burning | 2 | 4.76% |
| 813 - Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment | 2 | 4.76% |
| TOTAL INCIDENTS: | 42 | 100% |