



Minutes  
Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission  
Meeting Held Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.  
Clover Lane Fire Station

**Present at the meeting:**

- Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission Chairman Tom Allison
- Hanover Borough Councilmen Tim Kress and Matthew Funk
- Penn Township Commissioners Mark Elksnis and Justin Heiland
- Hanover Area Volunteer Fire and Rescue Representatives Jeffrey Spielman and Ray Kinsey
- Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission Chief Anthony Clouser and Secretary April Wetzel
- Also present: Deputy Chief Joseph Wysocki, EMA Coordinator Jeff Waltman, Solicitor Gold, Penn Township Manager Donna Sweeney, Hanover Borough Manager Margaret Lewis

The meeting was called to order by Solicitor Gold at 5:30 p.m. Secretary Wetzel completed roll call; seven (7) voting members were present, there is a quorum.

**Solicitor Gold oversaw the 2026 Board Reorganization:**

Members who were approved in December 2025 by and to represent their respective municipality as a Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission board members:

- Penn Township Representatives: Commissioners Mark Elksnis, Justin Heiland, and Alternate Matthew Baile
- Hanover Borough Representatives: Councilmen Tim Kress, Matthew Funk and Alternate Isaac Riston
- Hanover Area Volunteer Fire and Rescue Representatives: Jeffrey Spielman, Ray Kinsey, and Alternate George Zimmerman
- Member at large: Tom Allison

**Board Appointments:**

- Appointed as Chairman during August 2025 meeting effective January 1, 2026, Tom Allison
- Motion to appoint as Vice-Chairman, Mark Elksnis, made by Mr. Kinsey, seconded by Mr. Spielman. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion to appoint as Secretary, April Wetzel, made by Councilman Kress, seconded by Mr. Kinsey. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion to appoint as Treasurer, Brown Plus, made by Councilman Kress, seconded by Commissioner Elksnis. Motion carried unanimously.

**Committees Membership:**

- Finance & Personnel: Councilman Kress, Commissioner Heiland, Mr. Kinsey
- Facilities & Apparatus: Commissioner Elksnis, Councilman Funk, Mr. Spielman

**Announcement of Executive Session:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Consent Agenda Approval:**

- Councilman Kress moved for the approval of the Meeting Minutes for December 2025. Seconded by Mr. Kinsey. Motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Kinsey moved for the approval of the Fire Report for December 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Elksnis. Motion carried unanimously.
- Councilman Kress moved for the approval of the Journal Entries for December 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Heiland. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurers Report:**

- See report provided by Brown Plus attached with minutes.

**Committee Reports:**

- Finance/Personnel:
  - Motion made by Mr. Kinsey to approve the Chiefs to enter into an agreement with Chief360 to complete the Commission website. Seconded by Councilman Kress. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Motion made by Commissioner Heiland to sell the 2007 GMC Yukon on Municibid. Seconded by Mr. Spielman. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Commissioner Heiland reported that the Finance Committee also discussed updates to workers' compensation and the transition to a new broker. While 2026 cost projections are higher than originally budgeted, we anticipate a decrease in costs around 2027. We also started discussing the Commission's future and the possibility of contracting services to other municipalities and how that growth might be structured.
- Facilities & Apparatus:
  - During yesterday's facilities meeting at Clover Lane, the engine room's water heater failed. It was promptly repaired and returned to service shortly after.
  - Delivery of the new engine is anticipated June 2026.

**Commendation Presentations:** In recognition of their extraordinary actions, Chief Clouser and Deputy Chief Wysocki presented commendations to the following individuals for their bravery and professional dedication.

**The Medal of Merit:**

Captain Bryan Spickler  
 Captain Matt Boyce  
 Firefighter Brett Riser  
 Firefighter Ryan Robeson  
 Firefighter Tim Waltemyer  
 Firefighter Charlie Schriver  
 Firefighter Gabe Cromer

**Letter of Recognition:**

Paramedic James Walker  
 Paramedic Ashli Stroud  
 Paramedic Alan Shaw  
 AEMT Ashli Nichols  
 AEMT Jordan Hohney  
 AEMT Connor Jordan  
 EMT Jurrell Bange  
 EMT Cecil Davis  
 EMT Marna Velard-Wagner  
 EMT Tessa Richardson  
 EMT Brandon Kelley

**Clinical Save Award:**

Captain Kevin Adams  
 Firefighter Charlie Schriver  
 Firefighter Josh Hale  
 Paramedic Jadon Carr  
 Paramedic Ashli Stroud  
 AEMT Jordan Hohney  
 EMT Karen Bouse

**Departmental Commendation:**

Firefighter Brian McDermitt  
 AEMT Sam Lynch  
 Officer Louis Loucks

**FIRE/EMS Chief's Report:**

- As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, we successfully transitioned to the new NERIS fire reporting system. However, since the system does not yet have a built-in fire report generation, I have opened support tickets with both NERIS and ESO and am currently awaiting their response.

**EMA Report:**

- The York County office of Emergency Management will be holding a 2-hour session on February 21<sup>st</sup> for elected officials providing information on emergency management protocols and what your responsibilities are as elected officials. Additional information will be sent via email.

**Hanover Area Volunteer Fire & Rescue Report:**

- See report attached with minutes.
- Hanover Area Volunteer President Jeffrey Spielman presented a check for \$37,703.84 to Chairman Allison and the Commission, representing the 2026 annual interest from the Bowman and Bair Trust Funds.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Public Comment:**

- Hanover Borough resident Robert Holt called for the commission to deepen its discussions and prioritize better informing the community.
- Chief Clousher noted that all meeting minutes from 2017 to the present, including steering committee records from prior years, have been submitted to both municipalities and should be available on their respective websites. Once completed, all minutes will also be available on the Commission website.
- Chairman Allison emphasized the importance of both municipalities working together to better serve our community.

At 6:12 p.m. motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elksnis, second by Councilman Kress. Motion carried unanimously.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on February 19, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at Clover Lane Station.

Respectfully Submitted,

*April Wetzel*  
April Wetzel  
Recording Secretary



## Hanover Area Volunteer Fire and Rescue

P.O. Box 473  
Hanover, PA 17331  
717.637.6671

**Commission Meeting Presentation**  
15 January 2026 Clover Lane Station

**George L. Zimmerman**  
HAVFR Spokesman

### Volunteer Focus for 2026

- Meeting attendance has been trending upward with an average of 35 members at meetings. We hope to see this trend continue involving all of our commitments, especially by supporting the career staff, community activities, and fund raising to name a few.
- The constitution and by-laws committee has been convened and has completed its first session earlier this week. We will be auditing the entire document as well as adding appropriate organizational charting and an ethics code for firefighters and members.
- Fundraising ... yes, it's that time to begin the planning process for the annual BBQs. Dates for the events will be coming soon. Please support this Community favorite!
- This year makes the 4<sup>th</sup> year of participation in the York County Property Tax Refund Program for Volunteers. Our members have always exceeded their required goals. We appreciate and are thankful to the York County Commissioners for this program.
- Our Volunteer Organization maintains custody for (2) trust funds established by (2) families of Penn Township. The Bair and Bowman families were faithful supporters of Penn Township Emergency Services. They established trust funds as follows:

|             |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| Bair Fund   | EMS Equipment Purchases  |
| Bowman Fund | Fire Equipment Purchases |

Each year we gift the Commission with the annual interest from the funds. The 2025 funds yielded the following amounts:

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Bair Fund   | \$9,703.84  |
| Bowman Fund | \$28,000.00 |

Tonight, due to the generosity of the Bair and Bowman families, President Spielman will present a check to the Commission in the amount of \$38,703.84.

- Lastly, and most importantly, we support the Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission. Our communities depend and expect this organization to offer quality, professional, and fiscally responsible public safety services. We must all work together to achieve excellence when it involves our communities and beyond.