

Huntington Community First Aid Squad
2024 Board of Directors Meeting
May 23, 2024

2024 Board of Directors:

President Fiona Witkowski (FW)	Present	Director Robert Franz (RF)	Present
Vice President Seth Fischer (SF)	Present	Director Eric Kramer (EK)	Present
Secretary Brian Canty (BC)	Present	Director Lehti Laas (LL)	Present
Treasurer James Mallilo (JM)	Present	Director Betty Wood (BW)	Present
Chief William Connolly (WC)	Present		

Guests: Deputy Chief John Stevens, Michele Franco, Noah Ramos, Roger Winter, Mary Winter, Matt Philip, John Palmieri

Meeting called to order at: hours: 19:00

For disposition of new members see the Secretary's Report.

Motion by Brian Canty and seconded by James Mallilo to approve the minutes of April 18, 2024 **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Proposals-

Renew HCFAS Insurance Policy with VFIS
confer Life Membership on 2 members who have maintained active membership for 25 years
Purchase replacement narcotics safes
Search for Independent Financial Asset Manager
Supplemental Uniform Purchase for Overnight Shift Coverage
Partnering with Nassau County Fire Police EMS Academy
Maternity Uniform for Riding Members
Repair of unit 81 suspension system
Use of the General Meeting Room- Saturday June 22, 2024 – Ferd Neumann Family

Renew HCFAS Insurance Policy with VFIS

Motion by Robert Franz and seconded by Fiona Witkowski to accept the recommendation of the insurance committee chairperson, Robert Franz, and approve the renewal of HCFAS's current insurance coverage for portfolio (commercial multi-peril, management liability, portable equipment and member fidelity), automobile, and umbrella policy as per the attached schedule of insurance (previously distributed) and the quote dated May 9, 2024 from Hubbinette Cowell Associates, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$ 121,750 (\$121,455) for the period 5/2/24 to 5/2/25. Any additions or deletions such as new vehicles delivered after the quote date or policy renewal date or a sale or trade-in of a vehicle etc., will result in an adjustment of the annual cost. The policies will be placed by Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Corporation (VFIS) through National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA which is part of American International Group, Inc. (AIG). Hubbinette Cowell Associates, Inc. is our broker of record for VFIS and VFIS will not quote any other broker for our policies.

HCAD Funds

EMAIL VOTE MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY May 18, 2024

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Motion to confer Life Membership on 2 members who have maintained active membership for 25 years

Motion by President Witkowski and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant a change of Membership classification from 20-Year Exempt Membership to Life Membership for the two members who currently meet the criteria of 25 years of active service to the organization, according to Article III Section 6 of the Bylaws:

Mary Sisinni # 962 & Fernando Rivadeneira #965

No Funds..... MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Purchase replacement and new narcotics safes

Motion by Chief Bill Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to purchase ALS narcotics safes for ALS closet, ambulances and fly cars. This is recommended by Third Deputy John Stevens because the squad's current safes have an end date of 4/1/2024. The current safes' electronics and finger read cannot be repaired, replaced, or serviced if it fails. Safes will be ordered from MedixSafe, 109 Atlantic Ave, Toronto; this company also has offices in Memphis TN and Fort Myers, FL. L.I. Proliner will be installing the equipment on arrival (target date 9/1/24). The cost is not to exceed \$31,000.00 (including shipping) & 5-year bio-connect subscription services and hardware warranty for the initial purchase as itemized in the supplied quote. Payment due when the order is placed.

HCAD Funds

(Complete information was emailed to the board on 5/19/24)

Search for Independent Financial Asset Manager

Motion by Betty Wood and seconded by Vice President Seth Fischer approve the HCFAS Investment Committee to begin a search for an independent Financial Asset Manager to be done via RFI (Request for Information).

No Funds..... MOTION APPROVED (FW,BC,JM,WC,RF,LL,BW)

..... No Vote – SF, EK

Supplemental Uniform Purchase for Overnight Shift Coverage 3rd Quarter

Motion by Chief Connolly and seconded by Lehti Laas to authorize the purchase of personalized Carhartt quarter zip sweatshirts as a token of recognition to members who serve on 12 overnights in the third quarter of 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$130 per member. This will be an incentive for members to staff more overnight shifts. Members whose regularly scheduled duty tour is overnight will be eligible for this incentive. These sweatshirts shall not be worn on duty

HCFAS Funds..... MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Supplemental Uniform Purchase for Overnight Shift Coverage 4th Quarter

Motion by Chief Connolly and seconded by Lehti Laas to authorize the purchase of personalized Carhartt quarter zip sweatshirts as a token of recognition to members who serve on 12 overnights in the forth quarter of 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$130 per member. This will be an incentive for members to staff more overnight shifts. Members whose regularly scheduled duty tour is overnight will be eligible for this incentive. These sweatshirts shall not be worn on duty

HCFAS Funds..... MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Partnering with Nassau County Fire Police EMS Academy

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Motion by Chief Connolly and seconded by Robert Franz We are looking to partner with Nassau County Fire Police EMS Academy for Clinical Ambulance Rotations for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic students. The rationale for this is to increase membership through either volunteer or paid Paramedics. This motion has the support of our medical director.

No Funds..... MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Maternity Uniform for Riding Members

Motion by Chief Connolly and seconded by Vice President Seth Fischer for the Squad to provide maternity clothing for riding members who require/request it. This motion will cover EMT pants and squad shirts. The rationale for this is the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) went into effect on June 27, 2023. On April 15, 2024 the EEOC issued its final regulation to carry out the law. The final regulation goes into effect June 18, 2024. Maternity uniforms are a reasonable accommodation.

HCFAS Funds MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Repair of unit 81 suspension system

Motion by Chief Connolly and seconded by Robert Franz to pay Ace Auto repair \$3,173.99. This repair was for unit 81 suspension system, sway bar, front brake hoses and front end tie rod. This amount exceeds the allowed Third Deputy amount for repairs.

HCFAS Funds MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Use of the General Meeting Room- Saturday June 22, 2024 – Ferd Neumann Family

Motion by the Board of Directors to permit the family of Ferd Neumann, the use of the General Membership Meeting Room in accordance with the HCFAS General Meeting Room Use Application and Rules to conduct a celebration of life on Saturday June 22, 2024 from 11AM to 1PM. A security deposit of has been waived. Food service will be by the special events committee. There will be no outside vendors, so the certificates of insurance will not be needed.

Treasurer's Report – James Mallilo

Motion by James Mallilo and seconded by Brian Canty to accept the treasurer's report as follows:

April 16, 2024 to May 13, 2024:

HCAD CDJ - 52 Checks & 8 Direct Debits Totaling \$61,142.05

HCFAS CDJ – 1 Check & 0 Direct Debits Totaling \$253.93

Project Account CDJ - 1 Check & 0 Direct Debits Totaling \$20,046.00

Transfers:

From M&T to TOH - \$158,881.76 on 05/10/2024

From TOH to HCAD - \$156,617.50 on 4/22/2024

Financial Statements for the Month of April have been posted in the Binder in the treasurer's office.

NO Funds MOTION APPROVED

..... YES (FW,SF,BC,JM, WC, RF, LL, BW)

..... ABSTAINED (EK)

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Chief Report – William Connolly

Equipment & Vehicles –

16: In quarters.

17: In quarters.

18: In quarters

19: In quarters.

20: In quarters.

21: In quarters.

80: In quarters

81: In quarters.

82: In quarters.

88: In quarters

89: In quarters

All ambulances and fly cars are being audited by operations for BLS and ALS meds and materials.

Paramedic Program

Equipment: In good standing (except safes). With new OSHA regulations, we may have to purchase additional equipment. Director Franz asked if operations or anyone has made comments that were requested regarding the new OSHA regulations.

Events/Projects Multiple Standbys

New Tires in Basement - Treasurer Mallilo asked the Chief if he can utilize the numerous tires that we have in the basement and in the bike storage room the next time we need to replace tires.

Truck Room Door Entry Pads - Discussion regarding the new Key Pad door Entries from the Truck Room to ready room and it was determined that they would go live on June 1, 2024 from midnight to 6am.

Secretary's Report - Brian Canty

New members

Motion by Lehti Laas and seconded by Chief Connolly to accept as a new probationary member EMT Alisha Suhail in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the bylaws. (#1732) Shift – Saturday 1500

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Lehti Laas and seconded by Chief Connolly to accept as a new probationary student member EMT Frank Paccione (#1733) Shift – Tuesday 1100 plus a secondary shift to be approved by the Operational Officers in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws. The two shifts per week will be done during the school summer break and during other school breaks and it is further understood that they will remain on extended probation while attending college and will be eligible to be off probation after four months from their final educational

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leave of absence end date. They also must pass dispatch training within one month after their final educational leave of absence end date. (Soon to be an EMT).

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Lehti Laas and seconded by Chief Connolly to accept as a new probationary member EMT Brandon Sala in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the bylaws. (#1734) Shift – Friday 2300 (Dispatch Train Saturday 0700)

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Lehti Laas and seconded by Chief Connolly to accept as a new probationary member Haley Schreiberin accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the bylaws. (#1735) Shift – Wednesday 2300 (Dispatch Train XXXX)

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Secretary Brian Canty and seconded by Chief William Connolly to grant the following Status Change: David Mohr #748 – Active Operational to Administrative, effective 06/01/2024.

2/3 Vote Required **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Brian Canty and seconded by Betty Wood to grant the following Status Change: Kyoko Saito #1545 – Active Operational to Resigned effective 05/21/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Status Change Ferd Neumann #369 – Inactive Life Member to Deceased May 18, 2024

Motion by Secretary Brian Canty and seconded by Chief William Connolly to grant the following Leaves of Absences:

<u>Leave of Absence</u>						
Member #	Last Name	First Name	Day & Shift	LOA Start	LOA End	Type of LOA
1276	Castillo	Kathleen	Friday 1900	4/3/2024	7/3/2024	EMLOA
1462	Como	Ryane	Company 8	4/13/2024	7/13/2024	EXT - OLOA
1006	Dantonio	Thomas	Tuesday 1900	4/16/2024	6/1/2024	MLOA
1576	Hastava	Alexander	Company 8	2/1/2024	5/15/2024	EXT EDLOA
1523	Kelly	James	Friday 1900	4/30/2024	5/5/2024	EMLOA
1601	Lopes	Felipe	Tuesday 1900	5/7/2024	8/7/2024	OLOA
999	Maresco	Karen	Wednesday 1900	4/24/2024	7/24/2024	EMLOA
1679	Naeaetsaari	Veera	Thursday 1900	5/13/2024	8/23/2024	EXT EDLOA
1549	Savaglio	Joseph	Tuesday 1900	5/21/2024	8/21/2024	EDLOA
1609	Werner	Grant	Sunday 0700	5/12/2024	8/12/2024	OLOA

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

<u>Return to Duty</u>						
Member #	Last Name	First Name	Day & Shift	LOA End	Type of LOA	RTD Date
1174	Cortes	Israel	Friday 1900	3/27/2024	OLOA	4/19/2024
1460	Donegan	Kathryn	Wednesday 1900	5/1/2024	OLOA	5/8/2024

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<u>1523</u>	<u>Kelly</u>	<u>James</u>	<u>Friday 1900</u>	<u>5/5/2024</u>	<u>EMLOA</u>	<u>5/12/2024</u>
<u>1701</u>	<u>Lewandowski</u>	<u>Julianna</u>	<u>Monday 1500</u>	<u>5/3/2024</u>	<u>ELOA</u>	<u>5/6/2024</u>
<u>1704</u>	<u>Ryga</u>	<u>Stephen</u>	<u>Monday 1100</u>	<u>5/14/2024</u>	<u>MLOA</u>	<u>4/15/2024</u> <u>Disp Only</u>
<u>485</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Mary</u>	<u>ADMIN</u>		<u>MLOA</u>	

Probation Ending:

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to EMT Heleen Beck, member #1700, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to Paul Carvajal, member #1692, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to Evelyn Hernandez-Feliz, member #1624, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to Kemberlin Hernandez-Feliz, member #1660, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to EMT Jasjeet Kaur, member #1694, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to EMT Angie Mata, member #1696, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Chief William Connolly and seconded by Secretary Brian Canty to grant active membership in accordance with Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws to EMT Suzanne Philip, member #1703, effective 05/23/2024.

..... **MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

President's report

Celebration of Mary Brenner's 100th birthday

Photographs of this event have been posted on our website

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National EMS Awards of Excellence

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I have submitted an application for EMS Volunteer Service of the Year and also Educator of the Year.

Suffolk REMSCO

I have submitted an application to REMSCO for EMS Educator of Excellence and also EMS Agency of the Year.

DASNY Grant

We have received a check for \$31,507.40 from DASNY to reimburse us for the cost of the CO monitors. We hope to have the balance of the money soon and I am working with Louis Dell to follow up on this.

Director Laas Report

Recruitment

- Facebook/Instagram ads are actively going out with our recruitment flyer and open house flyer.
- Christine Tedone added our recruitment flyer and Open House flyer to the following social media pages:
 - 1 - Happenings in Huntington
 - 2 - HCFAS Old Timers
 - 3 - Huntington Matters Community Forum
 - 4 - Hispanos en Huntington Station
 - 5 - Latinos de Huntington Group
 - 6 - NYC Covid-19 EMS Mutual Aid
 - 7 - My Personal Public FB Page (Christine Russo Tedone)
 - 8 - Instagram (Social Media)
 - 9 - Pinterest (Social Media)
 - 10 - Twitter (Now known as X)
 - 11 - Huntington Patch - Classified ADS
 - 12 - Huntington Station Community Forum
 - 13 - Huntington Station Matters
 - 14 - Huntington Matters Volunteer Network
 - 15 - Fire/Rescue/Police/EMS LI 911
- Street Recruitment Signs – Obtaining pricing in the next week.
- Recruitment Video – Seth Fischer spoke to Kat Kalergis, she is on board to assist us.
- Brochure – Working on obtaining new pictures.
- Roster – Joanne Cunningham and I spoke about updating this document.
- I requested the membership committee send over a flowsheet as they have previously done to see how potential new candidates are coming along. When received, I will forward.
- New member applications since recruitment efforts began in the fall of 2023:

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Month	# of new applications received on our website
Oct '23	5
Nov '23	2 (I spoke to 3 people on the phone that were going to apply after Thanksgiving)
Dec '23	6
Jan '24	4
Feb '24	2
March '24	6
April '24	10

We average one new applicant submission every week. This shows our recruitment efforts are very successful. April was an unprecedented month – 10 new applications submitted. More initiatives to come (street signs, lawn signs, brochures and community outreach).

Open House: Michelle Franco ran a successful event, there were nearly 100 attendees. We had print (Newday 2 different days, The Long Islander 2 different weeks, HomeTown Shopper 2 different weeks) and social media advertising (Facebook and Instagram). Kathy Hayes distributed flyers along Main Street and to the Veteran's housing complex across the street from our building.

Educational LOA's – I emailed administrative member, Meg Callinan to see if she could start this project.

Legislative

- I spoke with Louis Dell that Andrea Golinsky and Robert Franz met with elected officials. We will hold off on meeting with them about obtaining more grants.
- Director Franz has more information in his report.

PIO: Andrea Golinsky confirmed that she will remain as our Public Information Officer. A request was made to find an additional person for her to train.

Defensive Driving Class: A motion was made and approved at the April meeting to hold a defensive driving class. The minimum of 20 persons was not met and the class was not held.

Director Bob Franz Report

LOSAP - 2023

- The TOH approved 2023 point listing was posted for the 30-day mandatory posting period ending on Friday 5/17 and was returned on Monday to the Town for further processing with the NYS Comptroller's appointed administrator Penflex, Inc. No changes were reported to President Witkowski or Director Franz.

- The TOH independent CPA firm are in the process of performing their audit on the 2023 point list. Supporting documentation is being compiled for various selected members for the audit.

Governor's Budget 24/25 & Legislation: the approved NYS budget on 4/20/24 was not kind to EMS. Apparently, the legislature would like to see various EMS items become law via the legislative process with stand-alone bills. There are several stand-alone bills pending in May 23, 2024 - 2024 Board of Director Meeting - FINAL

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legislature. Letters were or should be written to our legislators to support these bills. President Witkowski has sent letters on behalf of the HCFAS and letters were also sent by Vice President Fischer, Andrea Golinsky and myself. Other HCFAS members and Suffolk County EMS organizations also sent letters. The NYSVARA legislation committee held a press conference in the State Capitol with various state legislators to bring attention to the various bills and their benefit for EMS in NYS. After an event last Friday morning, Andrea and I were able to corral Assemblyman Steve Stern and Senator Mario Mattera and speak to them about the pending EMS bills and received their assurances to support and sign on as sponsors. Later that day I followed up with their Albany and local office staff on the bills. Chief Gregory Miglino was also able to get his local state representatives and several supervisors behind a bill. A lot of timely work and communication took place between everyone. The NYS legislature will recess on June 6th for the year.

Federal Legislation: The recent NYSVARA's legislative committee email was sent to all our members to support various Federal bills via the NEMT easy to use on line legislative service.

EMT-CC: Chief Gregory Miglino of South Country Ambulance and two other members of his squad were in Troy, NY last Tuesday (5/7/24) and Greg spoke against the sunset of EMT-CC at the SEMSCO meeting and answered several related questions. Thank you President Witkowski for sending a letter prior to the meeting opposing the EMT-CC sunset in July 2027.

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.156 Comment Deadline extended to 6/21/24 – Information obtained from various sources have been distributed to the President and Chief to assist them in their review and comment on this document by the deadline date. There are sections that are related to EMS.

NYS DOH EMS Memorial Dedication – Albany, NY -The date has been changed from May 22, 2024 to a date in September or October 2024.-Once a new Flyer is available, it will be Posted. An amended motion for attendees of the event will not be made for the date change unless the board requires or needs it.

SEMSCO / REMSCO 2023 State EMS Awards Program – Nomination Deadline has been extended to Friday May 24, 2024 at 5pm – Flyer previously distributed and posted. Change of deadline was distributed to all the operational officers and board.

Suffolk REMSCO: A revote for REMSCO's delegates to SEMSCO will take place at the July meeting. The prior vote had Paul Marra and Michele Miller as contenders. The NYS DOH Commissioner makes the final decision from the two submitted nominees.

NEMSIS 3.5 - Effective July 1 (agencies are responsible for implementation not their ePCR vendor).

HCFAS 2024 Scholarship: Notification was made in the Pulse and application is posted on the bulletin board.

Suffolk County EMS Week: Chief Andrea Golinsky and Director Bob Franz attended a ceremony at the invitation of Chief Greg Miglino Jr. of South Country Ambulance. Suffolk County Executive Ed Romaine and Legislator Dominick Thorne held a "Bill Signing Ceremony"

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on Monday May 20th at 1100 hrs. at South Country Ambulance. The resolution makes permanent; that the 3rd week of May each year is "EMS Week" in the County of Suffolk. The bill singing also celebrated the 50th Anniversary of EMS Week across the nation. The event was attended by SC legislators, SC Bureau of EMS, SC DOH personnel, State EMS officials and members of various SC EMS agencies.

Suffolk REMSCO and SCACA meetings: I attended these meetings last Tuesday and Wednesday.

TOH Memorial Day Ceremony is Sunday May 26, 2024 at 10am at Huntington Town Hall Veteran's Plaza. Hope to see you there.

TOH Memorial Parade is Monday May 27th at 12 noon. Hope to see you there.

Insurance

Renewal – Portfolio Policy

A motion to renew our portfolio policy with VFIS was approved via a 5/14/24 email vote. Thank you for voting via email. Although premium increases in the past years varied from 2% to 5%, the insurance industry current climate, inflationary factors and our losses etc. have resulted in increased premiums for our insurance coverage. The current premium quote results in an approximate 13.4% increase over prior years or \$14,500. A schedule of insurance was distributed to each board member prior to the last meeting. If any questions, please let me know.

Loss Experience for past 5 years:

50 claims reported totaling \$579,000: Loss Reserve \$124,000, Expense Reserve \$14,000, Paid Losses \$448,000, Paid Expenses 69,000 less Recoveries \$76,000.

Paid Losses include an MVA claim litigation settlement of \$192,500 plus Paid Expenses of \$51,500 totaling \$244,000. Loss reserve includes \$100,000 for a 1/24/23 summons & verified complaint regarding a 6/5/22 MVA

Director Wood Report

SOPs and By-Law Updates

Working with David Mohr to get approved SOP changes and By-Law changes updated on the website.

Mission Statement Plaque

Waiting to get design ideas and pricing from Sign-O-Rama for Ready Room Plaque. Looking at other vendors for similar project.

Motion by Seth Fischer second by Betty Wood to enter into executive session at 20:03.

.....**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Out of Executive Session at 21:23

Old Business:

New Business:

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Ferd Neumann's family would like to have a Celebration of Life for Ferd in June.
Family Picnic is tentatively scheduled for August 3, 2024 at Driftwood Camp.

Motion by Vice President Seth Fischer and seconded by Betty Wood to adjourn the meeting at
21:29 hours.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Canty
Secretary

Draft sent to Board members: June 6, 2024

Amended and approved: June 20, 2024

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY