

FIRE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JAN. 10, 2023

MEETING WAS HELD AT SHEPHRED FIRE STATION #2

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 7:02 PM

1. Introductions - Were made around the room

2. Approval of Minutes – Phil Ehlers mentioned that his remarks about the county ambulance service using the 911 system fees for funding wasn't correct, he had just meant to say the ambulance service using of the recreational marijuana sales for funding. Motion was made to approve the minutes, there was a second, minutes were approved from the Nov. 8 meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report – In Larry Carpenter absent Travis Jones gave the report. We have a total of \$5211.11 in our checking account, from that amount \$4240.69 is what we have from calendar sales. Larry has sent out the annual Fire Council dues, which remain at \$25. Larry would like the Council to discuss putting a new second name on the checking account. At this time, the only names on the account are Larry Carpenter and Bill Rash. Phil Ehlers recommends that the sitting board members be on the account. A motion was made to have the sitting board members be added to the checking account with changes being made yearly as needed, there was a second made, all votes for Yes on the motion. Larry has also got all the 12 signatures on the amended by-laws for the 501c3 designation from the IRS.

4. Fire Warden/DES Report – KC Williams was out of town and unable to attend

OLD BUSINESS:

5. Ambulance Service/District Updates – John Staley was unable to attend, Karim Eshbaugh reported that Chief Staley had a meeting with the Commissioners - it went really well. More meetings are in the works with Billings and Laurel. Phil Ehlers asked the members of the council to start thinking and talking with the people in their areas. We are going to have to have the public behind us to get it to pass at the time of voting.

6. Calendar Sales Updates – Brent Peters was unable to attend.

7. County Fire Truck Numbering Revisions – Phil Ehlers talked with Derek Yeager. The 911 dispatch does the dispatching of county calls as a courtesy to us. They don't track county

units though the CAD system. At this time the numbering will remain the same. Travis mentioned if departments are on Mutual Aid calls with neighboring counties with the same numbers, a department name should be used in front of the numbers. This spring Phil would like to put together a tabletop exercise, to try and work out the bugs before the station staffing starts.

8. Resource Book – Travis is having computer issues, will be sending out the book to people for their updates. If you have updates now you can start sending them into Travis.

9. Fire Form Health Issues - Paul Totton spoke on Class B Foams, if your department is using Class B Foam, they are coming out with a new style of foam. The new foam is going to be down sized in the PFOA and the PFOS which will make it less effective than the old foam. They don't know yet what the new foam will be. The specs are coming out on January 31. Chief Totton handed out a PowerPoint on context of foam. The Class B Foam now can't be mixed, the new mil spec foam can be mixed and be purchased from different sources. October 23 the old foam will be off the market. The new style of foam will most likely be sky high in price for everyone will be getting it at the same time. Chief Totton also has built a fuel spill calculator, if anyone wants to use it get with him. (On a side note, from Travis the minute keeper I feel like I missed a lot of what Chief Totton spoke about. I'm attaching the PowerPoint to the minutes. SORRY)

10. LEPC Attendance – Chief Totton wanted to let everyone know that anyone can attend the LEPC meetings. There are a lot of sub-committees that a person can be apart of. He recommended that you come to a couple meetings at first and then decide what committee you would like to be a part of. The LEPC is very important to the city and county. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Chief Totton.

11. Extra new business – Safe Kids Yellowstone county has rented Rimrock Mall on May 6th from 1100-1300 and is inviting area first responders to join them. Fire side folks are being asked if we want to set up and be available to provide info on fire safety, smoke detectors, escape routes, etc. May is also Wildfire Awareness Month. Contact info: Kori Bloom at 406-661-4203 or her safe kids email: safekidsyellowstoneco@gmail.com or korenbloom94@gmail.com Monthly Safe Kids meetings next on is Tuesday Feb 7 5.30-6.30 PM at AMR 1701 Montana Ave.

12. Nominations and Elections – Nominations for board members were announced, Phil Ehlers – President, Travis Jones and Brent Peters – Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer – Larry Carpenter. Ballots were handed out to the voted members. Dustin Sciacca with the DNRC counted the votes, Phil Ehlers President, Larry Carpenter Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President was a tie. There was a revote for Vice President, Travis Jones won the revote. Motion was made to destroy the ballots, there was a second, all voted yes.
13. Agency Reports – Billings – Getting new 107-foot straight ladder truck, 11 new recruits have started, March 7 open back up to new recruits. Billings Airport – May is FFA full scale exercise will put out info, Airshow is coming back to Billings in August. Laurel – nothing new. Blue Creek – business as usual. Molt – Not much, had a good chili feed fundraiser, burn barrel fire call in Homewood Park. Fuego – nothing new, there is a new dry hydrant off Molt Road on Shorey Road 35,000 gallons this is in Molt's area. Broadview – one heavy brush truck is ready to go, another heavy brush truck head into the shop in the next couple weeks. Lockwood – nothing new. Haley bench – unable to attend. Shepherd – A Lockwood recycling business is building a tire shredding plant at Highway 87 and Shepherd Acton Road. It will mostly be a one employee operation. They are putting in a self-filling dry hydrant in, there will also be ponds built for brush trucks to be drafted out of. Had a structure fire in the -20 degree weather, Phil let the group to know don't hesitate to call if you need anything. Worden – not able to attend. Custer – 4000 gallons tender truck, needs a little plumbing work, want to get with Shepherd and Worden to make sure they have the connections need to hook up to their trucks. AMR – nothing new. 911 dispatch – unable to attend. DNRC – Starting to get into the training season, get nomination forms sent directly to the coordinator of the class. Email Dustin if you didn't receive the training calendar. EFF packets will be electronic again should be out in February. Going to be tighter on payments this year, will need to get timecards, reimbursement items in within 30 days of the event. Wildland reports do them all year not just during wildland season, these reports help with all the funds that goes towards wildland fires. BLM – unable to attend. Sheriff – unable to attend. FSTS – Had to share one burn trailer across the whole state. Working on being able to use a different one to how two of them to use again. S-290 class in Miles City March 10-12. Newest newsletter was just send out, if you want trainings done get the scheduled fast running out of days, there is 9 FF1 trainings in the state this year which are 2 week classes. Has redone the two-lane road TIMS class this class is very highly recommended to get your department signed up for. County Fire Chief – Thanks for all you guys do.

NEXT FIRE COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 14TH AT LAUREL