

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY FIRE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - MAY 9, 2023

1. Introductions made. Jackie provided a cake to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Council. Larry Carpenter, being the remaining founding member still active today, provided a brief history of the Council.
2. Meeting minutes from March were approved.
3. Treasurer's Report: All 2023 dues have been collected. Larry filed for a non-profit 501c3 which required paying a \$275 fee to the IRS. (Since the meeting, we have been approved as a 501c3 which will require that we file a 990-EZ form each year.) We have a total of \$11,333.11 in our account. Of that, \$10,337.69 is in the "calendar sales account" and \$995.42 is in the "council's account."
4. DES/Fire Warden's Report: Both KC and Annemarie were out of town. Levi Hein did bring up the fact that the Custer fire repeater is no longer operable which leaves the far east end of the county without fire communications. This does need to be rectified by the county. In the interim there is some cell phone service.

OLD BUSINESS

5. Ambulance District: Staley was unable to make the meeting. He would like this topic dropped since there seems little interest. There is a new additional ambulance service in operation, and Laurel ambulance is finally working well in covering their calls.
6. Calendar Project: At the March meeting the council agreed to do a calendar for 2024, however at this meeting, there was a change of opinion that a calendar may not be the best way to fund raise. Several people thought doing a barbecue or similar gathering would make more sense. No further plans discussed.
7. Resource Book: Travis was unable to make the meeting. He said that only 5 fire departments have turned in updates, so its hard to believe there aren't more. Travis will print what he has unless more information is turned in shortly.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Dry Hydrants: May is the month the county requests that all dry hydrants be inspected. Forms are available from the county at KC William's office. Inspections also offer a good opportunity to train on dry hydrant drafting.
9. Donation: A request was received from the Montana State Firefighters Memorial in Laurel for a \$500 donation to help with maintenance of the memorial. The Council voted to make the donation. Larry brought up that he did not think the Fire Council had ever received a recognition plaque for a \$500 donation made in 2018.
10. Calendar Funds: Larry asked about plans for distributing moneys collected from calendar donations and sales for PPE purchases as we had promised. The Council will consider this

at the July meeting.

11. Memorial Run: A reminder to sign up for the Firefighters Memorial Run on June 9 at 6 pm in Laurel. Few people have registered so far. Contact Reno Olvera at 406 696-9681.
12. Lockwood RFD: Jeff Crow is their new Deputy Chief to replace Karim Eshbaugh who retired.
13. Agency Reports: Billings Airport - They are having a full-scale disaster drill as required by the FAA on May 18. Working on plans for the airshow in Aug. Laurel - Hosting the Fun Run on June 9 to raise funds for the Firefighters Memorial. Their new brush truck on order has been delayed. Blue Creek - Talked about possible planned Emergency Vehicle Operator training (train the trainer). Fuego - Open house on June 3 starting at 1 pm. Bought a 2009 Ford F-550 refurbished brush truck. Broadview - Working on a truck. Having a fund raising raffle on June 3. Lockwood - Will do an active shooter training this summer. Haley Bench - Did IC training. Obtaining some highway safety signs to help with traffic control on the interstate. Shepherd - Their heavy brush truck is out of service. Custer - Mentioned again about needing a repeater at the east end for communications. AMR - Training for mental health issues. DNRC - EFF packets are in. Talked about certifications and equipment contracts. Keep doing the grass fire reports to DNRC! BLM - Has fire danger signs available. FSTS - The state Vol. Firefighters Convention is booking up fast. Contact Jerry for information.

NEXT FIRE COUNCIL MEETING IS JULY 11 AT WORDEN (or Huntley?) AT 7 PM.

Larry Carpenter, Sec/Treas.
YCFC