

MINUTES
of
Board of Trustee Meeting
WHITEFISH FIRE SERVICE AREA

May 11, 2016
Whitefish Fire Department South Station

CALL TO ORDER

On May 11, 2016, 7:00 PM, Chairman Bert May called the Meeting to order. Present were, Treasurer Doug Loy, Secretary Bill La Brie and Board Member Mark Carlson. Vice-Chairman Ed Lieser was absent, called to another State Meeting.

Also present at the meeting was Whitefish Fire Chief Joe Page

The Board Meeting Minutes for March 16, 2016 were reviewed. An addition to the minutes was requested by Treasurer Doug Loy. The minutes were unanimously approved. The Board Meeting Minutes for a Special Meeting held on March 31, 2016 were also reviewed. A spelling/typo error was corrected. The minutes were unanimously approved. Both these sets of Minutes will be forwarded to the Flathead Election Administrator for their records.

A second bid was received from Response Equipment Specialists LLC, Estimate # 1013, prepared on February 29, 2016 for \$1,155.40.

When compared, both bids basically covered the same services and repairs.

The bid was awarded to Response Equipment Specialists as it was \$341.19 under the bid from Western States CAT.

There was discussion regarding the request from Robert Auerbach regarding his overpayment of Fees to the WFSA. Correspondence had been received from Flathead County Treasurer Adele Krantz in response to a visit to her office by Bert May and Bill La Brie regarding the request from Auerbach. Ms. Krantz indicated that Mr. Auerbach “had to make application to the Commissioners for a refund. They will put it on their agenda and make a decision from there. If a refund is issued, the law, MCA 15-16-603 does state a limit of 5 years for a refund.” A date for the Commissioners meeting can be obtained from the Secretary of the Commissioners Office.

Treasurer Loy requested that Secretary La Brie contact Adele Krantz and request a notification from her Office with the results of the findings of the Commissioners. Specifically he needs information on how much the settlement will be and when it will be taken from the WFSA Checking Account. He also wanted to make sure that the Treasurer's Office correct Auerbach's Tax Bill to \$144.00 for WFSA Fees.

There was discussion on Annexation procedures started by Whitefish as it pertains to the West Shore of Whitefish Lake. It is proposed that 26 properties will be annexed into the City of Whitefish and thus removed from WFSA Tax Roles. There is also discussion with the City to do the same thing with Lion Mountain. This could result in a significant financial loss to WFSA. A request was made of Fire Chief Joe Page to research out how many properties would in fact be involved in the Lion Mountain annexation.

Mark Carlson and Chief Joe Page both presented comments on their April Training Conference in Great Falls. They informed the Board of the availability of Pilt Money. They are going to research this some more and try and determine if Pilt Money would be available to the WFSA. There was also information on Fire Authority. There is some movement among some Fire Departments and State Legislators to enact State Law allowing Fire Authority. Both thought it would be a long term project, maybe 6 years in the making.

Mark Carlson reported that Dave Cazazza checked the parking lot. He estimated a bid of \$25,555.00 for cement work 6 inches deep X 30 feet around the building. It was decided we need 4 bids which will also include asphalt for the parking lot.

Bert May, Doug Loy and Mark Carlson will set out the perimeters so that all companies submitting bids will have the same measurements.

Mark Carlson is going to recontact Dave Blasdel, 250-7169 regarding replacing the protection abutments by the vehicle doors.

Chief Page & the Department are going to do some repair work in the training tower.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

William J. La Brie, Secretary
Whitefish Fire Service Area