

BIG MOUNTAIN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

November 10, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: 8:05 AM

ROLL CALL: Steve Snellen, Paul Silverman, Jay Johnston, Glenn Nye. Not present: Paul Okerberg

GUEST: Chief Ben Devall, Myra Appel (CPA)

APPROVAL OF MUNUTES: A motion was made to approve the October 4, 2016 minutes by Steve Snellen. Motion was seconded by Paul Silverman and was passed.

FIREFIGHTER'S REPORT: Ben Devall

- The Argo arrived. After some training, there was a steering issue. Replacement parts were supplied by the seller and it is now fixed.



- Still working to close out the AFG Grant. We have made a decision on turnouts and are in the process of getting fitted so the order can be placed. The AFG is open but since we have an open grant, BMFD is very unlikely to be a recipient.

- The BMFA is receiving donations from our fund raising letter.

- Cameron participated in the county Paramedic refresher.
- Brodie is still out on sick leave – might return December 17th.
- Chief Devall was contacted regarding an interesting home scheduled for construction in the Upper Subdivision. It will be constructed 83 feet high on a cliff with an 8 person gondola for access. Chief Devall has expressed BMFD concerns to the builder and provided some input that will make our job easier if we have to respond to the residence. I also talked with Fire Marshall Kennelly about what if anything we can do as a district to guarantee the items needed for our safe response, so they are included in the plans.
- All recent patient information has been sent to Jolene for billing.
- Chief Devall attended the monthly Chief's meeting. There is going to be some good wildfire training happening this winter provided by DNRC and the County.
- Chief Devall talked with Rhona Mesilik (BMFA) regarding the property owner address list and are beginning the process to update it. We plan to have a newsletter ready to mail by the end of the month.
- Chief Devall has been in contact with Janet Tretheway regarding the Lucas 2 device for the District and it sounds like BMFD will be getting one after some persistence and effort. Her supervisor agreed we should have gotten one from the state grant. They are figuring out how to get it to us and how to provide the needed training to our firefighters. I am not sure when it is going to happen.
- Steve Snellen and Chief Devall are making progress on the Chief's contract. Glenn Nye is also involved and providing input.

TREASURER'S REPORT: CPA Myra Appel provided a report on BMFD finances.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Further progress and discussion is being made on the contract with the Chief.

Paul Silverman gave a status update on the Big Mountain HOA Firewise project. Thinning of two HOA common areas is nearing completion. Treatment of the tract below the intersection of Ridge Run and Ridgetop Drives has been finished. Work in the common area above the intersection of Big Mountain Road and Ridge Run Drive (behind the Sunrise Ridge entrance sign) likely will be completed on Sunday Nov 13th. The selected Fire Wise contractor is Whitefish Tree Service, headed by Chris Leever. The cost-sharing grant is administered by the Flathead Economic Policy Center (FEPC) on behalf of Montana DNRC and the U.S. Forest Service. FEPC's

project manager is Steve Penner, tel: 406-249-8312. The overall project cost is \$4,500.00, with FEPC covering \$1,800.00 of that amount. The activity has three related components: removal of trees and brush less than 6 inches in diameter; removal of dead standing and fallen trees of any size; and removal of ladder fuel to a height of 8 feet in remaining healthy trees. Dead fall and dead standing larger than 12 inches in diameter are being trucked off site. Smaller cut trees and slash are being chipped, with some of the product being trucked away and some spread in the forest to a depth of no more than 2 inches. The parcels thinned were previously designated by FEPC foresters as containing the greatest volume of hazardous fuel within Sunrise Ridge common areas. The two tracts, totaling approximately 2.5 acres in size, will be ineligible for additional Fire Wise funding for the next 10 years.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Jay Johnston to approve the FURS required resolution. Paul Silverman seconded the motion and it was passed. Steve Snellen signed the resolution, to go into effect on January 1, 2017.

A proposal to purchase a water tank and hose for the new Argo response vehicle will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Update on getting snow tracks for Argo response vehicle.

NEXT MEETING: Scheduled for December 7, 2016 at 8:00 AM.

ADJOURNED: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 9:23 AM. Meeting was adjourned.