

Bigfork Fire District Trustee Meeting

January 29th, 2019

Trustees: Anderson, Elwell, Borges, Price

Guests: Chief-Mark Thiry, Jeremy Patton, Mike York, Tom Pauley

Opened at 17:42

1. **General Public Comment:** None

2. **Closed Session..... Pursuant to MCA 2-3-203:** The Board entered closed session at 17:43 and returned to open session at 17:56

3. **Review/Approval of meeting minutes December 27th, 2018:** A motion was made to approve the December 27th, 2018 meeting minutes with a correction on New Business item B, last sentence, employee should be changed to employer.

Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

4. **Review/Approval of Purchase Orders:** A purchase order for vacuum splints was presented to the board. A motion was made to approve the purchase order, Elwell (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

5. **Review Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid:** Anderson asked about a check that was made out to Cindy Norred. Thiry explained that it was a reimbursement check for Costco.

A motion was made to approve Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid: Elwell (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

6. **Fire Chief Report:** See attached.

7. **Apparatus Committee Report:** Elwell stated that the district has received the title and the money from Central Valley for the ladder truck. The status on purchasing a new ambulance is that nothing will be ordered or received until next year.

8. Old Business

- A. **Department Wages Status and Projection:** Tom Pauley was asked to attend the meeting to explain his opinion to the Board about volunteer status vs. paid. He stated that he would prefer to be paid to make it fair for trainings and calls. There was further discussion by the Board about the pros and cons of paying an hourly wage vs. paying a stipend. The Board decided to table the discussion until the next meeting. They asked that Pauley come to the next meeting with some suggestions.

Chief Thiry also provided information to the Board that they had requested from the previous meeting concerning wages and the district's budget projection. The Board decided that the current budget could support a \$1.00/hour increase in wages for all employees.

A motion was made to approve a \$1.00/hour wage increase for all employees effective this coming payroll. Price (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

9. New Business

- A. **LB resignation:** A motion was made to approve resignation for LB, Price (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.
- B. **Credit Card-New Card, Limits:** Thiry requested permission from the Board to switch credit cards for the department as well as increase the credit limits. It would be more beneficial to the Department to earn cash back to be applied to the bill. The credit limit increase was requested because more supplies are being purchased online and there have been extended trips made out of state for mutual aid on fires.

A motion was made to approve changing the credit card company as well as increasing the credit limit to \$10,000/card and cancelling the current credit card. Elwell (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

- C. **Upgrade Computers and Server for Bigfork Hall:** Patton presented cost estimates to the Board for upgrading the computers and server for the Bigfork Hall. \$10,000 had already been set aside in the capital outlay for this fiscal year. The Board was advised that Glacier IT stated that they would provide installation of the equipment at no charge and Bigfork Fire would purchase the equipment for the upgrade.

A motion was made to approve up to \$10,000 for upgrading the computers and server at the Bigfork Hall and set up annual IT support from Glacier IT.

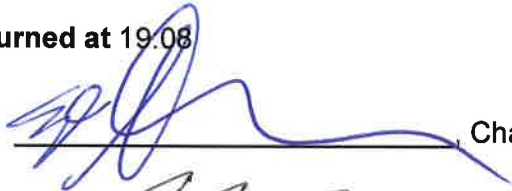
Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

10. **General Public Comment:** Price asked Thiry if the Department had received payment from California yet for the trip that was made in November to assist with the wildland fires. Thiry stated that Montana has not submitted the paperwork to California yet.


11. **Motion to Adjourn:** Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 19:08

Minutes Approved:



Chairman -Zack Anderson



Recorder- Jeremy Patton