

BIGFORK FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE

April 28th, 2020

5:30pm

This meeting was conducted via ZOOM. The public joined this meeting at the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/706920636>

Trustees: Dan Elwell, Robert Borges, Gary Wilson, Seth Price, Andrew Sliter

Guests: Chief-Mark Thiry, Jeremy Patton, Cindy Norred, Tracey Gembala, Jackson Corne, Fletcher Anderson

Guests on via Zoom:

Meeting was recorded.

1. **Call Meeting to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:** 17:32
2. **General Public Comment:** No public comment
3. **Review/Approval of meeting minutes March 31st, 2020:** A motion to approve March 31st, 2020 meeting minutes. Wilson(1st), Borges(2nd) all in favor, none opposed
4. **Review/Approval of Purchase Orders:** Tabled to action item
5. **Review/Approval of Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid:** Wilson questioned bills for Mahugh Fire, Chief explained that he is only local one for turnouts, fire equipment and Washington is the next closest supplier.
A motion to approve Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid, Borges (1st), Wilson (2nd) all in favor, none opposed
6. **Reports-update:** Report was presented to board (see attached). Chief wished to address in close session with the board. No discussion by the board.
7. **Fire Chief Report:** See Attached Report
8. **Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to MCA 2-3-203 (3):** *Went into close session at 18:44*
9. **Reconvene into Open Session:** Back from close session at 20:07
10. **Old Business**

- A. **Land purchase for new station:** The signed By-Sell was presented. (see attached). Discussion on finalizing. Dan will be getting with Serena for closing. No action was taken.
- B. **Review Bigfork Fire District Trustees By-Laws-Note any changes-2nd Reading:** (See attached copy presented. There are number of significant changes made to the by-laws. The deletions are shown by strike through and the additions are shown in Blue text. Major area is on discipline/termination proceeding to address "Due Process." Discussion on administrative suspension vs punitive suspension, taking money away, Chief really does not punish. Discussion on trustees that are also volunteers not voting when it involves them, abstaining. Board wanted the attorney to review. Chief will send off for a review to the county attorney.
- C. **COVID-19 Situation Report, Leave Act:** The district's legal counsel has issued an opinion regarding the legal interpretation of the Families First Act as it applies to the Fire District. Chief explained the district received the CAREs Act stimulus check that was a Medicare kick back to be used for COVID-19 expenses. People have been sent home for being sick. A motion to table to executive session depending what the vote will be on that, Sliter (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed. Back from closed session and no action taken.
- D. **Budget Discussion-Update from Committee:** Committee did not get to meet. Will be getting together this coming month.

11. New Business

- A. **Health Insurance Plan:** The district received renewals from Pacific Source with increase rates and a raised deductible again. Compared some plans on the marketplace. A Health Insurance Broker was consulted on a better plan for the district by Jeremy. They came up with a Cigna 2800 deductible plan at comparable rates for the Pacific Source 4500 deductible plan and it only will be an increase cost for one employee out of pocket, but the district could offer the another option with the Cigna 4500 which is comparable to the renewal rates. With the 2800 plan could offer to continue with the matching and a month contribution. Discussion on questions on cap increases, increases next year, availability, broaden of network need to investigate it more.

A motion to approve transition from Pacific Source to Trustmark, pending the department's investigations on rate caps and reference tracks. Sliter(1st), Price(2nd) all in favor, none opposed. Including availability, broaden network to investigate.

B. Department Chainsaw inventory update: Discussion on replacing 6 chainsaws and having them all the same manufacturer. A quote was presented. Discussion on the trade ins and the replacement. Board wanted one more quote. A motion to get a second bid and table till next meeting. Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

C. COVID-19 90 Day Moratorium on Policy 110.05 License & Certification:

There are several personnel that will have certification expiring shortly, currently there are no training classes being conducted anywhere, for people to be able to get these certifications renewed. A moratorium is being requested by the Chief on enforcing this policy until the classes are again being offered. This will be evaluated on a case by case basis, and the type of certification will weigh heavily on whether to enforce or not. AHA information was presented. (See Attached) A motion to ACLS or other certifications reliant on AHA recertifications as per the guidance provided by the AHA COVID-19 related for instructor provider or expired cards beginning March 2020 will be extending for 120 days, if recertification becomes available prior to required expiration that we operate expeditiously to recertify those individuals. Sliter (1st), Wilson (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

D. Resignation of JL from full-time employment: Paramedic JL wishes to change status to PRN due to personal commitments. A motion to accept JL's resignation. Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed

E. Medical Leave for Full-time person:

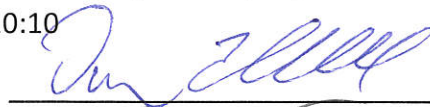
One of district full-time personnel will be going out on medical leave. Discussion on this was done in close session. Back from close session, no action taken.

12. **General Public Comment:** None

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

Meeting adjourned: 20:10

Minutes Approved:



, Chairman-Dan Elwell



, Recorder-Cindy Norred