

BIGFORK FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE

May 26th, 2020

5:30pm

This meeting was conducted via ZOOM. The public was able to join this meeting at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85767995233>

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

Guests: Chief-Mark Thiry, Jeremy Patton, Tracey Gembala, Rod Schmidt, Eric Schnell, Joseph Bakker

Guests on via Zoom: Cindy Norred

This meeting was recorded.

1. **Call Meeting to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance: 17:30**
2. **General Public Comment: None**
3. **Review/Approval of meeting minutes April 28th, 2020:** No comment
A motion to approve April 28th, 2020 meeting minutes: Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed
4. **Review/Approval of Purchase Orders: Tied into 11 (E)** Elwell stated that we received a second bid and research was done and a \$4,000 approval will cover the cost.
A motion to approve the purchase up to \$4,000.00 from Bigfork Rentals was made: Borges (1st), Wilson (2nd) all in favor, none opposed
5. **Review/Approval of Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid:** No Comment. A motion to approve financial statements and bills paid: Price (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed
6. **Approve to make transfer per FY20 budget for line item CIP\$425,000.00 from FUND#7205 to FUND#7254:** Thiry explained the money is transferred from the general fund to the capital improvement fund. A motion to approve the transfer: Borges (1st), Wilson (2nd) all in favor, none opposed
7. **Reports-update (Board)** Elwell stated that it looks as though there is improvement. Thiry explained that we currently have only 2 full-time medics reviewing calls but will be getting others to review as well. Everything is currently caught up as much as can be.

8. **Fire Chief Report: See attached report**
9. **Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to MCA 2-3-203 (3):** Moved to end of meeting.
Went into closed session at 18:01
10. **Reconvene into Open Session:** Back from closed session, opened session at 19:00
11. **Old Business**
 - A. **Land purchase for new station:** The closing occurred on May 22, 2020. Elwell thanked the Pierces and everyone who was involved to make the purchase happen. Elwell stated that there will be 2 remaining annual payments. The department will be making a gift basket for the Pierces. The next step will be figuring out where the building will be located so that the department can try to obtain approaches.
 - B. **Review Bigfork Fire District Trustees By-Laws 3rd Reading:** The county attorney reviewed and gave his approval. Sliter wanted to acknowledge Section E and the position that it puts the trustees in with personnel. This was something added by Chief Thiry. Thiry explained that this was part of the due process compliment so if charges are brought against someone, they have a right to a hearing. A motion to approve the Trustee By-Laws as presented: Borges (1st), Wilson (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.
 - C. **Budget Discussion-Update from Committee:** Sliter stated that he and Gary had met with Cindy and covered the basics of the budget. They know that the total revenues will exceed the total expenses and the remainder can be applied to the CIP fund. Wage increases will be figured into the budget as well as increase in health insurance benefits. He stated that Cindy did a nice job.
 - D. **Health Insurance Plan:** Patton gathered information that the board requested from the previous meeting and emailed it to the board members. The board gave direction to continue forward with the new health insurance plan. A motion was made to continue forward with the new insurance plan: Borges (1st), Price (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.
 - E. **Department Chainsaw inventory update:** Agenda item was covered in Approval of Purchase Orders.

12. New Business

- A. **Set a date for FY21 Preliminary Budget Hearing Meeting:** Elwell suggested June 30th, 2020 at 17:00. A motion was made to hold the Preliminary Budget Hearing Meeting on June 30th, 2020 at 17:00: Price (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

13. **General Public Comment:** Eric Schnell asked the Board to consider amending the wild land boot policy to increase the monetary allowance and have a replacement schedule similar to the station duty boot schedule of 3 years. Elwell stated that there would be no comment from the board, but it can be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned: 19:01

Minutes Approved:



, Chairman-Dan Elwell



, Recorder-Jeremy Patton