

BIGFORK FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE

May 25th, 2021

5:30pm

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

Absent Trustees: Seth Price

Guests: Interim Chief-Jeremy Patton, Cindy Norred, Michael Hingiss, Sean Reffner, Jackson Corne

*Meeting was recorded

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** at 17:30
2. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT*** There was no public comments.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 27th, 2021
 - C. Approval of Purchase Order for mower
 - D. Approval of Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid as Presented
 - E. Approval of 2021 GIS Audit Results as Presented
 - F. Approval of one-time vacation payout for Patton—Update
 - G. Approval to hire 1 PRN EMT-P
 - H. Approval to hire 2 PRN EMT-B's
 - I. Approval to hire 1 Full-time EMT-P

A motion to approve A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H and remove I, Borges (1st), Wilson(2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

4. **ITEMS FOR REPORT**
 - A. **Fire Chief's Report** * See attached report from Chief Patton, Elwell reported that an engine and number of Bigfork members went to Mindi Passon's Memorial.
 - B. **Appointments for Board of Trustees Members-Dan Elwell & Seth Price:** On May 4th, 2021 Flathead County Board of Commissioners appointed Dan Elwell and Seth Price for Bigfork Rural Fire District for a term of June 1st, 2021 through May 31st, 2024.
5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinish business. Elwell did note that district will need to do something for the 4th of July.
6. **Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to MCA 2-3-203 (3):** Went to close session at 17:41
7. **Reconvene into Open Session:** Back from close session at 18:57

8. **NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. Approval of Recommended Terminations/Resignations of RS, DM, TG, ES:

A motion to table ES, approve terminations/resignations of RS, DM, TG, Sliter(1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

B. Approval of increased health insurance benefit: A motion to approve supervisor staff and administration a 10% increase effective July 1st, 2021. Wilson (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed

C. Approval of wage increase(s): A motion to increase part-time EMTs to \$14.00 per hr., part-time paramedics \$.50 cents per hr., and administration Office Manager 6% wage increase effective July 1st, 2021, Wilson (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

9. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT*** There was no public comments.

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

Meeting adjourned: 19:01

Minutes Approved:

, Trustee

, Recorder

BIGFORK FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE

"GREEN SHEET"

May 25th, 2021

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- C. Approve a purchase up to \$4,000 for a mower for the district.** The Bigfork fire hall has been contracted out for mowing the past several years and equipment must be rented to mow the Echo Lake Fire hall. The annual cost for yard maintenance for both halls is approximately \$1,200-\$1,300 per year. If the Board approves the purchase of a riding mower, the employees will perform this duty.
- E. Approve the 2021 GIS audit results as presented.** 2021 audit results for Bigfork Fire District have been received and verified as presented by Chief Patton and Operations Chief Hingiss. Letter to be signed by the Chairman and sent back to the county.
- F. Approve a one-time vacation payout for Patton updated:** The district received updated information from the County Attorney. Vacation should be paid out at the current rate when it is used for anyone. Patton could take the time off at the current rate, but Patton has agreed to be paid out at his current rate of \$26.68/hr. for 250.50 hrs., to be paid on June 1st, 2021.
- G. Recommendation to hire Kaitlyn Barnhart as a PRN paramedic**
- H. Approval to hire 2 PRN EMT-B's:** Emma Kreider and Michael Martinez are both new EMT's that live in the Bigfork Fire district. I recommend hiring both as PRN EMT's.
- I. Recommendation to hire a Full-time paramedic: Table**

4. ITEMS FOR REPORT

B. Appointments for Board of Trustees Members-Dan Elwell & Seth Price

On May 4th, 2021 Flathead County Board of Commissioners appointed Dan Elwell and Seth Price for Bigfork Rural Fire District for a term of June 1st, 2021 through May 31st, 2024.

8. NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Approval of Recommended Terminations/Resignations of RS, DM, TG, ES

DM and TG have already submitted letters of resignation. ES is requesting to change his status from part-time paid employee to a volunteer employee. Borges will have updated status on RS.

B. Approval of increased health insurance benefit for supervisory employees

Per discussion with Elwell, supervisory employees are requesting a 10% increase in monthly maximum Department contribution for health, dental, and vision insurance. This would increase the monthly maximum contribution from \$983.33 per supervisor to \$1,081.67 per supervisor. This will help offset the substantial 30%-40% premium increase that some employees received.

C. Approval of wage increase(s)

The last wage increases for the Office Manager and EMT-P's were January of 2019. The last wage increase for all EMT's was July 2020. Other supervisors are in a probationary status and will be addressed at the end of the probationary period.

BIGFORK FIRE DEPARTMENT

Originated by District Board

MAY 25 2021

Approved By
Chief JP Date 5/25/21
Trustee DE Date 5/25/21