

Blankenship Volunteer Fire Department

March 2016

Attendance: Dan Diamond, Joy Harrell and Jodie Smith.

Dan called the meeting to order. Neil was absent but a quorum was achieved by Dan having Neil's proxy.

The first order of business was a vote to accept Jodie Smith as a new Board Member.

Treasurer Report: Dan presented the monthly bills. Joy made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Jodie. All voted in favor. We have \$42,042 in account 7219 (Operating Account) and \$24,300 in 7246 ((Capital Account). We will discuss the reallocation of funds at the April Meeting.

Secretary Report: The minutes of February's meeting were read and approved.

Ed' Notes: A copy of the notes was given to all Board Members.

New Business: A discussion ensued regarding the issue of new Board Members and secretary's co-signing checks on the Fire Department checking account. This checking account is at Glacier Bank. Dan Diamond made a motion to the effect that Jodie Smith and Joy Harrell be allowed to co-sign on accounts 7219 and 7246. Joy Harrell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

We will set a date for the annual CLEANING THE NORTHFORK at the April meeting.

The Volunteer Firefighters Insurance Services (VFIS) beneficiary papers are on file here at the station. Ed Burlingame has sent the Montana Public Employee Retirement System (MPERS) papers to Hellena.

Ed arrived and informed us that he had been at a meeting for Round Up for Safety. He had given a presentation to the committee requesting their help with funds for the purchase of a thermal imager.

Old Business: We did receive the grant for the new gas meter from the Flathead 911 Foundation. As agreed the department will be responsible for any balance due on the cost of the meter.

Kathy Hagen has declined the offer to accept the position of Treasurer. Dan Diamond will continue to operate in the capacity of Treasurer

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15

- Peter completed the DNRC NWCG S-212 Sawyer program.
- Peter completed his EMT and CPR recertification.
- Firefighters Dunn, Moss and Wehe will attend the Wildfire Refresher on Thursday evening March 10th at Col Falls Fire. Dettmering will attend the Creston Fire session on March 17th. Boyd, Brooks and Clancy will attend a future session. I will attend the session held for the IMT on March 23rd.

Grants

We have 2 grant applications out.

Round Up for Safety - An application to Round Up for Safety for \$800.00 out of \$1395.00, has been submitted to support the acquisition of a FLIR K2 thermal imaging camera (Infrared camera). I will attend the R.U.S. board meeting on Thursday evening March 10th representing the district.

Flathead 911 Foundation – An application to the Flathead 911 Foundation for \$741.00 out of \$1401.00, has been submitted to support the acquisition of a RAEII 4 gas meter for 1831 to replace the out of service M40 meter. I was contacted on Tuesday March 8th and we have been awarded the funds. The meter has been ordered.

VFA

\$863.00 will be posted to our 7219 account shortly. This is the 2015 reimbursement for our purchases. The VFA (Volunteer Firefighter Assistance – USDA) grant program is for the purchase of wildfire PPE and equipment. I'm putting together a needs list for this year. I anticipate the purchases in May.

EMS

- **Montana Recertification** – I paid \$30.00 (cc) (\$90.00) each for Hunter, Lee and my Montana DOL&I EMR license renewal.
- **AHA CPR** – We need to pay Bob Lee \$140.00 for the CPR recertification class. Dan has the invoice.
- **AED Battery** – I purchased a new 4 year battery for the AED on 1831. Cost is \$245.45



Blankenship Rural Fire District
P.O. Box 2377
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Ed's Notes March 2016

Incidents

Since the last board meeting there has been one incident:

3 – March 5th, EMS – No response due to lack of personnel.

Chief's Activity

- I facilitated the AAR for the Flathead County ECC fire suppression activation event.
- I have been engaged in planning for the 2016 MT IMT Workshop.
- I attended the Montana Mutual Aid Training Conference in Helena.

Apparatus & Equipment Status

1831 – The fuel line on the generator was found to be fuel rotted. A new fuel line was installed.

1891 – No issues

1881 – No issues

Building Status

No issues.

Dan Diamond acquired a used refrigerator in excellent shape. This was put into service to hold ice and drinking water for the firefighters.

Training

District firefighters have completed **346 hours** of training since July 1, 2015.

- Hunter, Lee, Glenn and I attended an AHA Healthcare Provider 4 hour CPR recert class at Columbia Falls Fire on February 25th.
- District firefighters have been training during the last month on communications, fire behavior and incident simulations.
- Ryan Dunn has been completing the NFA On-Line program for S-130/190 Basic Wildland Firefighter.