

CRESTON FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE MEETING Wednesday, October 20, 2017

A regular meeting of the Creston Fire District was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2017 10 am, at the Main Station. The meeting was called to order by Robert Kun, Chairman.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Kun, Allen Zimmerman, Greg Phillips, Chief Gary Mahugh, Louise Tidwell, District Clerk

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Arnone, Myron Mast, Bill Tidwell

GUESTS:

MINUTES: The minutes of September monthly meeting were approved by the Trustees.

FINANCIALS and CLAIMS: The County financial reports for September were available. Thus, those reports have been reconciled with QuickBooks. Specific finance details will be provided as part of New Business.

Facilities Update

The stations are in good shape for fall. There are some issues with door locks at all the stations, and we may need to look at replacing 7 door locks going forward.

Apparatus update

There was some valve issue repair on 2553. On 2551, we had air leak issues. On 2528, we believe that we have come up with a solution for the drive train issues. Tires are good as we go into winter. We are currently doing preventative maintenance.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The 911 center is in the process of initiating a new CAD system. Run cards will be changing for all departments. We are looking at going back to station dispatches by early 2018. Thus, Creston would be dispatched as well as the respective transporting agency. The station dispatch system would eliminate run cards.

The MT State Fire Chief's met in Helena for their annual conference. There were about 80-90 fire officers in attendance. Alan Brunacini, past Fire Chief in Phoenix, passed away this last week.

Gary met with the County a couple weeks ago regarding burning the structure near the Old Steel Bridge. Most likely this burn will occur in December or January. This will be an opportunity to observe fire behavior. Knife River acquired that property and the County has acquired it from Knife River. The gravel pit will be extended into this area. Gary also mentioned another property on Creston Hatchery that the owner might want to have burned.

We are in the midst of our FFI development program and hope to have it completed before Auction, 2018. About 15 members are taking this FFI modularized, tactical-based program. It's nationally certified and is a Fire Service Training Program. Testing will be provided at the end of this program.

We have five new members that have joined Creston Fire. We held a membership orientation meeting for those new members a couple weeks ago.

A few months ago, Trustees asked Gary to give an estimate of what it would cost to staff the fire department 24/7. Gary estimates that for 2 people working 24 hours a day/7 days a week, it would take about 7 people and cost about \$55,000/yr. per person (includes wages and overhead).

In the past Gary has talked about the 24-lot subdivision just south and west of Woody's on Highway 35. Gary just received the subdivision notice and will be commenting back to the County. Water supply in that area is on the Four Seasons Nursery property. Gary asked Trustees for input about his response. Trustees reviewed the preliminary plat of Countryside Estates. Traffic (ingress/egress), safety and water supply in that area are major issues related to this subdivision. Gary suggested a frontage road along the north side of the subdivision that would come into the light at Hwy 35 and Hwy 206.

Regarding the Weaver Acres subdivision, that water supply is inoperative right now. The pump needs to be rebuilt. The HOA has dissolved. The developer is out of the picture. One person owns 5 of the lots (Gregonis) and is claiming that that water belongs to them. Now that person is saying that they want that water system taken out. Gary will be writing a letter to the County Attorney, Commissioners and the Planning Board regarding this water supply. Gary was just contacted by a contractor who was hired by the Gregonis family to remove the water supply at Weaver Acres. Gary told him that that wouldn't be a good idea right now.

Creston Fire was dispatched to 36 calls in September. Of those calls, 5 were fire calls and 31 were EMS calls. Gary reviewed some of the calls with Trustees.

Fire Prevention Week was October 8-14. Due to work schedules, Creston Fire will be coordinating fire prevention activities with schools and providing Fire Prevention education next Friday.

Creston Fire Fighter's Association Update

We had 333 people come to Soup for Supper this last Tuesday. We had 27 soup sponsors at \$100/each. Next year, there needs to be better follow up with past and potential sponsors. We are estimating that the Association grossed about \$10,000 for that event.

Old Business:

At several previous meetings we have discussed building our new fire station. Steve Catlett was the contractor for Bad Rock Fire Department when their new station was built. Steve is now moving to Creston District and has told Gary that he will help with station planning. Gary also has made contact with a contractor who does water supply systems. They have indicated that they will put in our water supply for time and materials. When the new property was recently surveyed, the new survey shows 10' more property to the north. We're continuing the process of looking at what we need at the new station, infrastructures, etc. Plans will have to be approved by State of Montana.

New Business:

County financials for September are available. The Maintenance & Operations #7206 fund account balance after payment of September invoices is \$139,806.69. After review, Greg made a motion to pay these bills as submitted and Allen seconded. Being no further discussion, Trustees unanimously voted to have bills paid and checks written. Checks #8680-8694 were issued and signed to pay the approved bills. The September 2017 Capital Improvement/Truck Fund #7237 account balance is \$88,037.51. There was no other new business to discuss.

Good of the Order: Laurel Mallery is due to have her baby any day, Raney will be having her baby in February and Rachel will be having her baby in March.

The next Trustee's Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 10 am at the Main Creston Hall Fire Station. Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Robert Kun, Chairman

Louise Tidwell, Clerk