

A regular meeting of the Creston Fire District was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 10:00 am, at the Main Station. The meeting was called to order by Robert Kun, Chairman.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert Kun, Tom Arnone, Allen Zimmerman, Myron Mast, Chief Gary Mahugh, Louise Tidwell, District Clerk

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Greg Phillips, Assistant Chief Bill Tidwell

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Tom made a motion to approve the agenda. Allen seconded. The meeting agenda was approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MINUTES:** Last month's meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the Trustees.

**FACILITIES:**

Snowplowing is going ok. Everything else at stations is ok.

**APPARATUS UPDATE:**

The cold weather is hard on engines even though we circulate water whenever they're taken out of the station. So far, the engines are ok.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:**

The water system at Weaver Acres has been out of use for about 1 year. Now there is a new owner of that property. The water system is located in the corner of his property. Gary has been working with the home owner to get that water system functional again.

Gary received a proposal from the County regarding property on El Rancho road. They want to put in a facility to be used for weddings on that property.

There is a MT Mutual Aid meeting this weekend. We will have 3 people attending that training. Don Abbott from Phoenix Fire will be the main speaker.

Gloria has asked Gary if the East Side Grange could use the Creston Station for their pancake breakfast on March 15, 5-8pm. After discussion, Trustees agreed that it would be OK to have that pancake breakfast held at the main Creston Station.

In January, we had 14 calls, 0 of which were fire calls and 14 were medical calls. Gary discussed some of the calls with the Trustees.

Currently, there were no new applications. We continue to recruit for new members.

The MT Legislature is currently looking at a bill regarding fireworks that would allow for bottle rockets, etc. The presumptive health bill is still being considered. That bill would cover fire department

members who are presumed to have cancer as a result of being exposed to a fire. There is a companion bill to that health bill that would require firefighters to not use tobacco products.

Evergreen Fire is going back to the voters for a \$631,000 mill levy that will sunset after 10 years. Last Fall Evergreen's mill levy request failed. Since that levy failed, they have gone through several focus group and community meetings regarding this levy. They have another old levy that will sunset in June of this year. If this new levy fails, there will be an impact to Creston Fire regarding transport of patients from Creston's district. Ballots have gone out and are due back March 12.

Trustees discussed the value of Evergreen's Ambulance responding to calls in Creston's District. Trustees gave Gary approval to continue discussion with Evergreen FD about reimbursing Evergreen Ambulance perhaps \$100 per response into Creston's District.

**ASSOCIATION:** Association members are working on Auction 2019. The 53<sup>rd</sup> auction will be April 5-7, 2019. Gary will be in the IC role this year. Dan Nielsen is the Planning Chief for this year's auction. Snow may be an issue for this year's auction. We need some warm weather to melt snow. We will be catering a dinner for our members Sunday evening of auction weekend. Myron said that he has a loader he could use to help move snow if needed.

The Association at their last business meeting voted to purchase an extractor and dryer for Mountain Brook station. Also, the Association voted to purchase more logo gear. There is a committee set up to bring back ideas to the Association.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Association has identified a "new building" committee: Schuster, Harron, Hayes, Wilson, River, Bill, and Gary. We will put up a sign at the "future home" of our new station before auction.

The Ag Center still has potential interest in the Creston station building. They recently toured the building. They have sent pictures and station information to MSU in Bozeman.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**FINANCIALS and CLAIMS:** County financial reports were available for January and have been reconciled with QuickBooks. Invoices were submitted in the amount of \$4,730.68. After review, Bob made a motion to pay these invoices as submitted and Tom seconded. Being no further discussion, Trustees unanimously voted to have bills paid and checks written. Checks #9030-9036 were issued and signed to pay the approved bills. The January, 2019 Maintenance & Operations #7206 fund account balance after payment of January and February invoices to date is \$236,623.22. The January, 2019 Capital Improvement/Truck Fund #7237 account balance is \$30,184.37.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Open burning starts on March 1 up to May 1 without a permit.

The March Trustee's meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 20 at the Main Creston Hall Fire Station.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

-----  
Robert Kun, Chairman

-----  
Louise Tidwell, Clerk