

**Evergreen Fire District  
Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting**

Agenda  
Regular Board Meeting of July 31, 2017

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

**RECOGNIZE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*At this time, public may comment on any public matter that is not on the Agenda of the Meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the District.*

**FINANCIALS:**

1. Discuss and Approve June Financials

**PAST ITEMS/UPDATES:**

1. Approve Meeting Minutes of July 3, 2017
2. Survey Update
3. Compressor Update

**NEW ITEMS/UPDATES:**

1. Purchase of apparatus out of 9428 & CIP

**RESOLUTIONS:**

2017-11 Resolution approving the transfer of \$2,500.00 from CIP to Fund 9428 for purchase of apparatus

**PROPOSALS:**

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

1. July Call Volume

Adjourn.

*The President of the Board of Trustees, as presiding officer of any meeting of the Board of Trustees, may close the meeting during the time the discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy; and, then, if, and only if, the presiding officer determines that the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. The right of individual privacy may be waived by the individual about whom the discussion pertains; and, in that event, the meeting must be open.*

**Evergreen Fire District  
Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting**

Meeting Minutes  
Regular Board Meeting of July 31, 2017

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairman Jon Foust calls meeting to order at 4:02 PM

**TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE:** Jon Foust, Dave Adams, Jack Fallon, Kyle Nace

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:** Dave Edwards

**RECOGNIZE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

*(none)*

**EFD STAFF PRESENT:**

Josh Cox  
Colin Christopoulos  
Wayne Evert  
Ben Covington  
Craig Williams

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*At this time, public may comment on any public matter that is not on the Agenda of the Meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the District.*

*(none)*

**FINANCIALS:**

**1. Discuss and Approve June Financials**

Jack Fallon asks about money received for the ambulance and when it was deposited in to account 9428. Ben tells Jack that it would have been shortly after having been received. Jack clarifies that we wrote a check for the ambulance on July 25<sup>th</sup> but does not see a deposit to off-set it. Ben told Jack that he knows for sure that we got it and that it was deposited but that he will check again. Jack asks if the ambulance money was going into 7250 or 9428 and Ben answers 9428 because the ambulance was specifically purchased with monies from 9428. Ben states that there was \$2,500.00 extra that would have been taken out of CIP to cover what was not put into 9428 and states there is a resolution to come during the meeting.

Dave Adams asks about the check for \$5,000.00 to Rosenbauer and says that he assumes that is for the extra stuff that was done to 831 and that is confirmed by Craig.

Jack Fallon states that the \$25,191.00 is the annual EMS levy; the \$10,273.00 is a state distribution called an Entitlement and both are revenue deposits; the \$31,000.00 cash off-set from tax distribution is an accounting entry to balance that has to do with property tax assessments and property tax appeals that are "plus or minus" but has no actual cash related to it to establish what could eventually be our revenue but is not our revenue. Jack further states that Bond repayment 7288 after making the July 1<sup>st</sup> payment is

\$192,000.00 which is below \$200,000.00 and what the target number is according to his spread sheet that he had set up for Tamara at County Finance Office to follow for cash flow.

*Motion made by Jack Fallon to approve June financials as presented; seconded by Dave Adams; approved unanimously.*

#### **PAST ITEMS/UPDATES:**

**1. Approve Meeting Minutes of July 3, 2017**

*Dave Adams makes a motion to approve the July 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes as presented; seconded by Kyle Nace; unanimously approved.*

**2. Survey Update**

Ben states that 225 survey letters were sent out to the demographic areas. Twenty-five surveys were sent out to each demographic area and each one assigned a demographic number. Ben states that approximately 10 surveys were non-deliverable and that addresses from same demographic was used and sent back out. Dave Adams asks if the ones that came back were primarily from the same demographic areas to which Ben said no. Ben states that 43 replies have been received up to this point. He presents a spreadsheet that he has developed that gives an overview of the received survey responses. He states that 8 to 12 responses have been being received but anticipates fewer responses as time passes. Ben tells the Board that he hand delivered 10 additional surveys to a few commercial businesses. The end date to the survey is August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**3. Compressor Update**

Ben tells the Board that the wiring has been done and the compressor will be installed tomorrow (August 1<sup>st</sup>). Jon asked for the total cost and clarified that it could cost 'up to \$25,000.00' as per the resolution. Ben states that it was \$16,000.00 plus a wiring fee and a \$750.00 shipping fee. Jack asks what will happen with the old compressor and Craig asks "Do you want it?" Jack asks Craig if it will just be taken to the landfill and then there is discussion about what will be done with it. Dave Adams states that he is concerned about selling or giving it to another department if it is not working properly. Jon asks if the compressor would work for a department that uses lower pressure but staff is still hesitant due to known and unknown issues with it. Ben suggests selling it with disclaimers and tells that Board that he will talk to the tech who comes to install the new compressor on what to do with the old one as the tech is the same guy who serviced old compressor. Consensus is that the guy just made \$16,000.00 off of a new one he just sold to EFD and if the old compressor can be sold for a small profit then that's what will be done with it; otherwise it will be taken to the landfill or be recycled.

#### **NEW ITEMS/UPDATES:**

**1. Purchase of apparatus out of 9428 & CIP**

Ben tells the Board that EFD has received \$30,000.00 from the insurance for the old ambulance to purchase the new one. The new ambulance was purchased from New York for \$32,500.00. Ben states that 9428 needs to be reimbursed with CIP money in the amount of \$2,500.00 and that he drafted a Resolution for 'up to \$10,000.00' because he has anticipated cost for decals, lights, radio and other expenditures. Ben states that \$10,000.00 was budgeted for the purpose of this resolution. He also states that resolutions were made for each purchase so that it can be made quickly instead of having to come for resolution every time. Jon agrees that it would be most efficient to do all the

resolution for these purchases and anticipated purchases.

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

2017-11 Resolution approving of expenditures up to \$10,000.00 from CIP to Fund 9428 for purchase of apparatus  
*Dave Adams makes a motion to approve Resolution 2017-11; seconded by Kyle Nace; unanimously approved.*

## **PROPOSALS:**

*(none)*

## **CHIEF'S REPORT:**

### **1. July Call Volume**

Craig tells the Board that the data for this meeting is incomplete for today (July 31), only. Craig clarifies the difference between two sets of numbers on total call volume; one set showing 150 total calls and another set showing 220 total call volume. The difference between the two is that several calls are 'pending' that have not been reviewed by Pintler Billing Services but that EFD has actually had 220 calls through 8 am this morning. Craig states that even though the day has not been too busy there will be more calls that are not being represented in this data. Craig goes over the graphs and tells that Board that EFD has been significantly up on structure fire calls both within our District and mutual aid. He states that EFD "is facing an unprecedented fire season and that severity has been started exactly 4 weeks earlier than anything we've ever done with DNRC." He states that the 2 type II engines are both under severity contract with DNRC and are on for 6 days a week and off 1 day and that EFD has committed to DNRC that EFD will support them through August 31<sup>st</sup> which means really good money for the District. He states that the tender just got demobilized from Sand Springs, Montana off the Lodge Pole Complex but will go back out. Craig tells the Board that he anticipates that he also will be gone on wildland fires soon and that current fire restrictions are Stage II. He states that after Stage II is basically closing the forests and that that discussion is already happening with the Commissioners in Missoula County (Lolo) and once that precedence is made it will 'leapfrog' through the Flathead as well. Craig states that while in Lolo he saw them actually install a gate on the main road into Lolo Corridor but haven't locked it yet. Craig tells the Board that "We're making great money between all the resources that we have. We're still able to continue with our daily stuff. We're still managing our inter-facilities. So we're doing really well." Craig states that he doesn't want to project revenue that will be made throughout the fire season but states it will be 'fairly substantial'. He states that #885 (a 1975 Dodge) is out and operable for local grass fires. Jon asks Craig why are tenders out and asks if we have a mutual aid agreement with another department? Craig tells him that EFD already has that agreement built along with a number of departments that have tenders out also. We are providing 2 type 6's; Big Forks providing a water tender for severity and then a private hand crew and dozer assigned and one helicopter. So they will respond as a task force, altogether. They are currently in Smith Valley supporting DNRC at Smith Lake. Craig anticipates our call volume will go up a little when someone sees smoke or fire in a backyard due to not being able to have a fire at all. He states that this is our issue and not a law enforcement issue. Jack asks what types of structure fires has the department been having and Craig states that it has been a combination. He tells Jack that some have been exterior and have been discarded cigarettes in planters due to people thinking it is mineral soil but 'as firemen know' that it's not mineral soil and it starts exterior but starts going into the

structure. Jack asks if there are electrical fires. Craig and Dave Adams both reply 'yes' to electrical fires. Dave Adams adds 'gas fires'. Craig states that we get a spike in the Fall when people are starting their heating appliances but that EFD is seeing them even now and states we are actually down on grass fires in our own District but up on structure fires. Craig states that people are still lighting fireworks and that that has also been a cause of increased fires. Dave Adams states that between EFD calls and mutual aid calls to Kalispell makes 20% of our call volume and he asks Craig if this is going to continue. Craig tells Dave that Kalispell approved only 8% overtime which took one ambulance away. They had been staffing the third ambulance with overtime hours and City Council didn't approve it. So, for this next fiscal year through the start of the new one, they will be at 2 ambulances and on the days that we know they are down to 1 ambulance; we will get busy with a city of 20,000 plus. Craig states that we subsidizing them but we could ask for an agreement that gives us guaranteed payment on a non-transport but that Smith Valley is ready to go and would love to participate and be 'first call'. Craig also states that we have the agreement that says that our first priority is to Evergreen; 2<sup>nd</sup> priority to Creston and third is Kalispell but that the nature of the business is 'first come first serve' and that until Creston is willing to entertain a guaranteed payment it will be whenever and where ever the pager directs EFD.

Jack Fallon asks if the double overlap is directly related to Kalispell and if there is a way to determine that or if the 44% overlap is due to other districts activities. Craig states that it is others as well. He states that Creston has had an increase and that he cannot account for that just being Kalispell. Craig states that EFD has been in South Kalispell 'a bunch lately'. Wayne Evert tells the Board that there had been 2 wrecks in Creston and another wreck in Evergreen and a GWS in West Valley all within 5 minutes. Ben added that all of those incidents got covered. Jack asked if there was any way to determine if that was a 'summertime anomaly'. Craig states that the only way to really determine that is going through and trying to track everything to a calendar but states that it is a 'seasonal thing' being more predominant in summer. Craig states that EFD is receiving some mutual aid too but not as much as EFD is giving it but it does come when needed even though often times delayed with the understanding that it is usually coming from a volunteer agency. Craig states that we've exceeded the 2003 indices for fire danger, fuel moisture and that we've exceeded it exactly 4 weeks earlier and that the grasses are 6 to 8 inches taller than it normally it is so produces higher flame.

Craig tells the Board that EFD has brought a couple of new people on board to help with inter-facility transports and will be bringing at least a couple more on board soon. He states that during one shift this week there were 15 calls. Dave Adams adds that 15 calls came in from 5:40 am to 6:00 am and that out of those 15 calls 3 people were transported. Wayne Evert acknowledges the revenue that will be brought in from EFD resources out on wildland fires and asks Craig where that money will go. Craig tells Wayne that, in the past, EFD has taken a various percentage (based on revenue the resources generate) to keep augmenting and supplementing the wild land portion of it since that is what is generating the revenue. The other portion needs further examination due to personnel taking vacation off of 9428 for wildland fire fighting. He states that when someone takes a vacation day to be on severity it is coming from one account and then getting paid from 7204 from wildland income coming in. Craig states that is going to be tracked on a spreadsheet but that the excess has generally gone into CIP. Ben adds that he understands what Craig is saying because he knows that it takes months to get paid by DNRC for wildland fire fighting and so EFD personnel will take vacation time on their timesheet to generate a paycheck to pay their bills and etc. Jack states that there's no trade off from the Boards point of view. Jack asks if EFD ever gets any of the money from any of the fires for having to pay the wages for people. Craig states that it depends

on if it is a wet or dry contract. He tells Jack that EFD has tried to stay away from that. He explains that if firefighters go out of the region, which is called GAC, (ex: Wyoming) that we don't have that choice and have to go to that contract where it is 'operated' which means we have to pay them. Jack states that we have money for that and that it may have to be fronted but will get money for it. Craig tells Jack that is correct and that he doesn't foresee that as an issue because firefighters are staying within this region this year. Jack states that the only thing other thing done other than put money into 7250 is put money into the Department account (4212) and states that it is ranged 5% to 10% of whatever is made is supposed to go into 4212 but that it is a discretionary decision made each year. Craig states that it supplements meals and entertainment. He states that we do want to put money back into the wildland funds for extra pp and to keep the program solvent. Wayne asks if we are looking at apparatus; possibly another tender. Craig states that we will wait to see how much money is made from the revenue generated by our resources that went out on wildfires and states that at one point, resources were generating up to \$3,000.00 a day.

Before adjourning, Jack tells the Board that he went to 9428 account online and found the deposit in question from previous discussion about financials. He is confused as to why it was not in the financials submitted by Stahlberg and Associates but could be found online. Ben states that he will check into it.

Adjourn.

*Jon makes a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Dave Adams. Meeting is adjourned at 4:56 PM*

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Submitted by:

  
Dave Adams/Secretary

Signed by:

  
Jonathan Foust/Chairman