

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

Meeting Minutes

Regular Board Meeting of May 7th, 2018 - 5pm

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Vice Chairman Kyle Nace calls the meeting to order at 5:05 pm. Trustee Adams tells the Board that Chief Williams and Fire Marshal Covington will not be attending the meeting due to a fatal fire call just minutes before the meeting.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

Vice Chairman Kyle Nace  
Secretary Dave Adams  
Trustee Jack Fallon  
Newly elected Trustee Brodie Verworn  
Newly elected Trustee Randy DePaul

**EFD STAFF PRESENT:**

Wayne Evert  
Jack Knuffke  
Tommy Hodges

**RECOGNIZE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

Gene Dziza

**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.*

Gene Dziza states to the Board "I just want you guys to know that the results of the fire levy were not a reflection of what the public thinks of you and what you do in this department. I mean, you guys save lives, you respond to save lives; your job is more important than my job. It's more important than anybody else at this table that isn't in your line of work, you know? I think that a lot of people want to blame Jack Fallon for the levy results and I just really want to encourage you guys to get by that. The biggest problem with the levy is that nobody heard your story. We tried the last week to tell your story (*recorder shuts off and audio is resumed on another recorder*) Gene continues "Moving forward, I'm certain you will get your levy and you know what, Jack Fallon might be your biggest advocate, you know, in another levy attempt, but anyways, everybody appreciates the heck out you. You know, like Brodie's ad said; you guys respond to the worst day of someone's life and my experience as an EMT at 16 years old, I was a park attendant and a girl stepped on a broken perfume bottle and cut her foot and I kept pressure on her foot until the EMT's got there and then I fainted. But, here's the thing, guys...I remember that...I STILL remember that and I'm 59 years old and you guys go through stuff and you guys experience stuff that nobody should have to. I don't know how you do it. I've never seen the stuff that you responders have and I'm just not your guy in that situation. But, I'm glad you guys do it and I know that you do it because you feel good about doing good things for other people and so...we appreciate everything you guys do and don't let turmoil, man, don't you guys let turmoil eat morale. Just move forward; get another levy going and the next time we'll tell your story. You can count on that, alright? That's all I've got. Thanks, Jack."

## FINANCIALS:

### **Discuss and Approve February & March 2018 Financials**

Jack Fallon states that aside from the large \$15,000.00 deposit into the Department account (4212) he saw 2 larger deposits (\$2230 and \$693) going into the account with no record of what it is. He does not want to hold up approval but will email Craig for clarification.

*Jack Fallon makes a motion to approve the February and March financials and associated checks as presented; seconded by Dave Adams; unanimously approved.*

*Trustees remind newly elected trustees Brodie and Randy that they are officially Board Trustees and can second any motions made. Brodie asks if they need to be sworn in and Jack Fallon states that a swearing in ceremony has never been done, unlike school districts who do have a formal swearing in where there is a stepping out and a stepping in. Jack states there is a normal election and an acclamation election. The acclamation election is when they were notified (April 25<sup>th</sup> 2018). The County Commissioners have acknowledged the acclamation. He states that the EFD by-laws state that the first meeting after election is when the Board is to reorganize.*

## PAST ITEMS/UPDATES:

### **1. Approve meeting minutes of Regular Board Meeting of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

*Dave Adams makes a motion to accept the Board meeting minutes of April 2, 2018; seconded by Jack Fallon; unanimously passes.*

### **2. Levy Discussion**

Dave Adams states that he had sent out an email after the levy requesting that the current Board members at the time of ballot have a follow up meeting but could not pinpoint a date/time. Jack Fallon had had hip surgery and Edwards had just gotten back into town and etc. The outcome of the levy had not affected the needs of the department other than delaying some actions that needed to be taken and options needing to be considered. Dave states that the current Board now needs to decide on which direction to take for another levy. Trustee DePaul states "Question then; you guys don't normally canvas your levy election? You don't normally canvas them one way or the other?" Dave Adams states "We've never really had to." DePaul continues "Even if the levy goes through, you don't sit right afterwards and do that? Jack asks Randy to clarify what he means by 'canvas'. Randy states that sitting down and discussing the levy regardless of passing or failing and being better prepared for the next Board meeting on which direction to take. Dave Adams states that is what he had been hoping to accomplish by meeting right after the levy failed. Jack Fallon states that school districts have an official canvassing aspect because school districts are their own election administrators. In the case of EFD, the Election Department is the Administrator and the County Commissioners do the canvassing and send us the results. Jack states that the Board should have received a letter identifying the results of the levy election by now. Canvassing is just proving the outcome of the vote. Dave Adams states that the Election Department had called the night of the election and gave Chief Williams a count of the votes. Trustee Verworn adds to the discussion that the voters did speak with their vote but that it doesn't take away the need and that the sunset levy is going to be gone in 13 months and the Board needs to collectively figure out how to move forward and present a united front to the voters. Vernworn states "Jack, Craig had said to you that he'd given you the information but what would make it right with you and I guess I've kind of jumped on this in 2018, I was part of the Committee Board (Advisory Committee) but we do need to sit down, collectively, and figure out; give, take and concession of what will work for Evergreen's continued growth and the needs of the Department and community. Do we need an email to go back and forth? Or a special session? Or we can put maybe as a line for the next meeting. But, we have 12 months to come up

collectively and show a house that's tidy and we'll give confidence to the folks in this District. Jack states "Well, I'm going to go back to what I had proposed in May of last year. I had it all outlined and we can go back and work it. And, I suggested that over a 6 month period of time we meet for an hour and a half once a month and there'd be a group of 20 people; maybe not all of them would be able to meet all of the time but we'd go over a whole bunch of stuff as I had outlined last May. Prior to last May, I went through all of the demographics of the Evergreen community; all of the little census areas that are available to identify age group, income levels, family sizes and had it all on a map. I don't know where the maps gone to but it was all delineated out to try and identify people in each of those areas to bring together and to talk about it and to come up with a plan for the District. It would be an external plan not an internal plan like what was developed but that's what I had proposed last May and everybody said that was too much work." DePaul asks "You really think we're going to get 20 some volunteers to do that, Jack?" Jack answers "Yep." Brodie asks "Are you willing to head that up and get those volunteers and run those hour and a half meetings every month and..." Jack interjects "As long as I know that the staff can get the data together for it, yes." Brodie states "I will offer myself and my time to help you with that. I mean, to get 20 individuals together. Twenty people don't sound like a lot but it is." Jack states "I've already contacted 25 and most of them said they'd be available." Brodie states "I would definitely, if you proposed it, would definitely second it. Could you share with us, if you still have the 2017 proposal. You can email it to me." Kyle Nace states "It's a place to start with what Jack thinks and then we can all discuss and do some back and forth. The other thing, the numbers that I didn't see that I'm curious about are the percentage of returned ballots. You know, like the voter turnout." Dave Adams states "There was 2134, I believe, out of 5094 ballots I believe." Kyle states "So, less than half." Adams concurs "Less than half." Kyle states "Like Gene said, the outcome didn't necessarily tell what the view of the public was because half the people didn't even their opinion at all, you know? So, I think the story's a big part of it but I think that just encouraging the public to mail it. I mean, if you can't even mail something back? I mean..." Adams states "The guys have seen and heard from people 'Oh, sorry about that. I didn't realize your turnout was going to be so low or I would've voted.' We were double tapped and had to have the City come out for a girl who had hurt her ankle or knee on a trampoline and the Dad says 'This is an effect by how I voted for the levy is it? And the guy that was there calmly said 'No, that has nothing to do with customer service. It's just that we're busy and your ambulance is coming from Kalispell today because that's where it has to come from.' I think the guys are handling those conversations on scene. I haven't heard anybody have a bad experience since [the levy failed] on it." Kyle states "I'm sure that both Ben and Craig have a lot of input on this too and it's unfortunate that they're on that [emergency call]. I think that, like Brodie said, would be a good start though is to get Jack's stance on it." Brodie states "I have to review it but it at least sounds like a foot forward template and if each month we take an additional 90 minutes and put it toward our community and the folks that we serve and keep those forward steps going. That's something we have to do. It's one of the reasons I put my name and through my hat in the ring here was that I kept hearing 'stagnant'. I want to be part of the solution and I want to be going forward. I'm not saying I have all of the answers and there's a lot of education that has to happen with me in the coming weeks and months but to borrow one of Jack's terms 'a little fresh blood every now and again is not a bad thing'. Jack states "If you want particulars on the vote; there were 5770 issued, there were 2 walk in; non residential property owners were allowed to vote; not returned was 47%; turnout was 43%; rejected and voided was 1%; undeliverable was 9%." Kyle asks "So, as a commercial property owner, they didn't get them?" Jack states "Only registered voters got the ballots but if you're a non-resident property owner, you can vote but you have to walk in to the Election Department and vote at that point in time. School districts are not allowed that municipality." Brodie states "So, let's say for example; Gene, who has a business in Evergreen, could he still vote as a residential property owner in Big Fork for his fire levy there and as a business owner here, he could walk in?" Kyle

states "He was probably one of the two." Randy asks "Can we step back a minute? I need some clarification, here. I need some help, here, a little bit too. I'm not trying to start an argument or anything but I disagree with the situation of trying to please Jack to get him on board. (a Board member tries to interrupt Randy) Let me finish. What I'm asking is that we, as a Board, have to decide if that's a pursuit we want to go. I have no problem looking at what Jack's proposal is. I'd love to look at Jack's proposal and research that. It's up to us, as a Board, to come together and agree 'hey this is a good proposal and we need to get 20 people together and we need to do...we act on that; as a Board, Okay? If we, as a Board, decide that's not the way we're going to go and I really hope that this Board chooses the right one way or the other, not to go that way then Jack has to suck it up. I'm sorry but one way or the other. I'm not here for a one-man Board so...and I'm not here trying to cause conflict or anything but I want to clarify here that I'm not going to be pushed one way just because of one way; I mean 'this is the way it's gonna be or else'. Does that make sense?" Brodie states "Oh absolutely." Randy continues "I mean, this Board has to look at first. I'm not trying to pick on you Brodie, I'm just asking for clarification too. You're asking to be a part of this." Brodie states "I'm asking to look at it to see because it was kind of along the lines of 'let's look at' and 'is this something that we can go forward with' or 'is it.'" Randy interjects "As a Board." Brodie states "Yeah. WE. Collective, we." Kyle states "Well that's what I was saying about going back and forth. I mean, and you kind of mentioned that too. We definitely all in agreement as far as there's got to be some give and take." Brodie states "Oh no. It's not all, you know, go one sided. It's something...this is something that is ...we all can live with." Randy states "Good. I have to ask another question because this is something ...when I was at the last meeting, you know, I was listening...I'm sitting out there as a bystander, okay? And I was hearing something and I wasn't sure if I heard it right but I want some clarification on this too. Now, this is to you, Jack. Obviously, when we do...it says right here in the minutes...and this is what I thought I heard but I wasn't sure I heard it and I thought well maybe no, it can't be that way but...okay, Craig gave us a thing here it says and it was directed at the trustees and at the very beginning of the minutes 'Attention to the Year to Date run summaries for call volumes and provided to the Board packet and then it says in here...stated...'per Jack Fallon's request; instead of running month to month we want it to run year to date'. I'm just asking now, was that a Board for you to ask for that? You know what I'm trying to say? It's right here in the minutes. I mean..." Jack states "Well, it explains why it's there. It's because of the accuracy of the reports; the month to month report is not accurate because not all of the calls have been audited but as you compare year to date, as each month goes by, more calls get audited. So, it takes about, at the most, probably 45 days to get all of the run reports audited. So, if you're going to compare one month to another month, there'd be more likely to have inconsistencies there than consistency." Randy states "I'm sure that was my understanding but what I'm trying to get to and not I'm not doing this for a reason Jack, except for, I want to understand how...most Boards...they make decisions as a Board and then it goes from there. You can't have one person, and you may not be doing this at all and I'm not accusing you of this, I just want to find out if this is what's going on because, I'm here for a reason too. So, my opinion...obviously, you're looking at month to month is what was going on here and you wanted to change it to 'year to date'. You get what I'm getting at here, Jack?" Jack states "I wanted something that you can have more reliable information. So, Randy you can take this as far as you want. I don't care what you're trying to imply with it but...and whether it sounds like I'm dictating something or suggesting something; it doesn't matter to me at all. That's what was done and you can decide as a group if you want to change it. I don't really care. And, going back to your comment, if you can't follow the outline that I'm going to find here, that I proposed last May, then you can be assured I'll be against it again. You might as well know that right of the bat." Randy states "Oh, I'm sure of that." Jack states "Just as long as you're aware of that." Randy states "I'm just asking ...if things are going to be changed here they have to be changed as a Board, right? I mean, I can't just walk in to the office here and request something to be

changed as a Board member. I don't have the authority to do that, do I?" Jack states "But you can request information." Kyle states "I think what's become a problem in the past is that Jack does ask for those things and then Craig and Ben basically have 2 choices; they can either do it and just keep the peace or they can refuse to do it and basically get into an argument at the next Board meeting. From my view or at least in my opinion, they just tend to kind of do whatever Jack asks because it's not worth the fight. There are a lot of requests made that haven't necessarily been voiced to the Board in any meeting." Randy states "Maybe I'm out of bounds here but see, I'm not worried about...I'm not getting into that because I don't know anything about the Ben and Craig thing. I'm just...when I hear this, I'm just concerned about...I just want to make sure that whatever we're doing here as a Board that we are doing it as a Board decision. Does that make sense? A full Board decision." Kyle states "That's what I was getting at; whether Jack asks for a set of financials that none of the rest of us necessarily cared to see or a spreadsheet built a certain way...you know? That is answering your question. There are and it's pretty frequent, really, that Jack asks for something that I didn't know about or we didn't discuss in any previous meeting. But, it does, quite frankly, concern me because I know the job from the other side, you know? I'm still a firefighter and I know what a Chief and a Fire Marshal are supposed to be doing and their actual job and it seems to me like they end up being accountants more than they end up being a Fire Chief and a Fire Marshal because they are constantly looking at building some spreadsheet for the next meeting as a request of Jack, you know, that I wouldn't have asked them for. I see that as a frustrating point." Brodie asks "Can a motion be made if any one of us request something that all of us should know about it? Be it from a financial or any sort of a documentation request or any sort of information request? I think that unification of the Board not only going forward from a levy thing but in sort of requests or anything like that needs to be unified and so, one requests anyone of us requests then all 5 of us should know about it." Dave Adams states "Just to back up a bit, we did have some trouble in the past and it was brought up and I don't know exactly what date it was but it was stated that any requests need to go before Craig or Ben or Cheri. It would be a request for Ben or Craig to provide the documentation or whatever it is, is supposed to go through the Chairman of the Board; the Board Chairman gives it Craig; Craig gives it back to the Board Chair and the Chair gives it to whoever had asked for it. That way you have the unity or the command where each person answers to one person." Randy asks "So, if I want something I can ask the Chair and he can request." Dave states "Yeah, he gets a hold of Craig and says 'hey, we're looking for this'. That was back, I think Edwards and Foust and Jack and Kyle were on the Board at the time." Randy states "I'm here to learn and figure out how this works. I'm going to be a team player, I guarantee it. But, I do want to see how it works and there's a lot of learning curve here for me, especially when it comes to terminology, okay? Because terminology; you guys with all these abbreviations and stuff are totally different terminology. So, like I said, just have some patience with that and I will try...I will ask a lot of questions and I may ask them specifically from certain ones, certain people because I think that's where the answers are going to come from if I see something in the minutes or whatever. Does that make sense?"

(Kyle asks if there is any more levy discussion) Jack states "So, this is the outline that I sent out in May of last year. I just emailed it to everybody. This was everything in month 1, so we have to have all of the data together to describe all of that. I'll just say that notebooks can be given to everybody before the meeting so that they can be looking through that. The only thing to add to any of this now might be the Kalispell EMS Study that just came out. Try to decide for them what to do. There might be a lot of things in it that can explain much of this. So that was June. There's July and August. So there's a lot of work that would have to be done by the staff to get all of this ready." Kyle states "That's my only concern...just to blunt is how long it's been ...I mean, they did so much work to try to prepare for this levy that just went through and I've been part 3 much bigger fire department and I've never seen a Chief or a Fire Marshal have to put together the amount of information for Board meetings that they do here. If we're going to

expect them to do this and even when I ask you, Jack, if you'd be willing to get those volunteers and kind of run with this ball your answer is 'as long as the staff will get me everything I need' and it just seems like we're constantly asking so much of those guys that they can't do their regular jobs. They can't be a Fire Chief or Fire Marshal because they're being a spreadsheet creator 80% of their time here." Jack asks "You don't think they're doing that in the other communities that has a Fire Chief and..." Kyle states "I know they're not. I know what my Chief does every day and he does half as much as this and I know my Fire Marshal never makes a spreadsheet and wouldn't have an answer for any one of the questions, financially, that Ben does. I know for a fact he wouldn't because he's out doing fire inspections and hydrant flows and doing walk thrus for constructions and you know...I just...I know that side of the job. You know spreadsheets and financials 100 times better than I do but, I know the other side of it and I know the job that they're actually titled to do they don't do because half of the time they are trying to build all of these spreadsheets and get all of these financials. I don't know if that means we need to explore getting like a part time accountant / Cheri's position? I don't know exactly what the answer is but they, in my mind, literally can't do their titled jobs at this point. I think the only other person on the Board that would know that would know that would be Dave." Dave Adams states "I know that right now, we're on call number 995 for the year. I know that we are running an academy that has 10 to 12 people in it plus doing our regular trainings and they're meeting twice a week for the academy. I know that we're interviewing people because we've lost 3 more this last week; 2 went to jobs with other fire agencies; 1 selected themselves out of the program. We lost 2 of our engine bosses this last month so our wildland revenue is looking pretty bleak because they were hired by the DNRC because we trained them up proper and did a good job and they liked what we produced; so they hire them and gave them pay and benefits. So, we're stretched thin. We're looking at guys that are full on looking at going to other departments, still, that were filling in spots." Kyle states "Filling in spots there again with like right now, with the fact that the Chief and Fire Marshal are on an EMS call is because they are short staffed. So, to add the Chief's administrative type position that he should be looking at the big picture of this department and it's growth forward and the Fire Marshal should be out doing inspections and reviewing plans for building projects in the area and doing Fire Marshal jobs...they're between running EMS calls and getting ready for the next Board meeting. I know Ben's way, way, way behind on inspections and noxbox installations and all the things that are a fire marshal's job, you know." Dave Adams states "And we're getting busier. I mean, right now, we're right now into construction season and there's a 4 building / 4 stories each complex their looking at putting in behind ShopKo and Super 1 that Ben has to go through and review plans for and everything and I don't know how far into that he is yet. We're busy." Jack Knuffke adds "There's 4 stories going too right next to Little Ceasars." Wayne Evert adds "Basically, you got 2 guys that were hired to do a job but don't ever do their job because they've got too much administration to deal with for a lack of a better way of saying it." Kyle states "The fact that it's doubled; it's 2 fold. I mean, one, they have a lot of requests for way more in depth financial record keeping than...and granted, the department that I'm part of has a City Attorney and has a Finance Director and a team of people that work for them so that's a good portion of the reason my Fire Chief doesn't need to do that because they have departments and people to do that but, you know, all of that falling on...I mean, I know that Craig and Ben don't have a finance degree, you know what I mean? But, they're tasked with this, basically, being an accountant for this department. So, you know, so...to put all of this stuff together on top of what they're currently doing and on top of being short staffed and on top of running EMS calls; I just see them being able to compile this to Jack's satisfaction without help. I don't know if that, I mean, like I said...if that means we need to pursue hiring somebody to help collect all of this data and to do all of this running around so they can do their job or what we need to do." Randy asks "But is that available to hire somebody? Do we have the ability to do that?" Kyle states "That's a discussion we need to have." Jack asks "But who would they be asking the information of? It would be asked of Craig and Ben because

Craig and Ben are the ones that know all of that stuff; combination of that and then the current bookkeeper so that person would be talking to Craig, Ben and the current bookkeeper.” Kyle states “Talking to them and saying ‘do this, this and this’ and delegating that responsibility and go over here and make 800 copies of this and put these folders together while I go run this call is different than actually physically being the guy standing at the copy center for 2 hours. You hear what I’m saying? Like it’s just...” Jack states “I understand what you’re saying but I’m just saying for this to be done and this is the procedure that needs to take place and it’s not too much work. We could have been on that original schedule and we would have had a vote on March 31<sup>st</sup> as opposed to April 10<sup>th</sup> if we would have followed that original schedule but everybody said it was too much work.” Kyle states “I still think it’s too much work.” Dave Adams states “I don’t know that it was said that it was too much work. I know that there were other people on the Board that said ‘hey if we can get a smaller committee together and see what they think then let’s take it to vote’ is what I remember Dave Edwards specifically saying; that if we have a smaller committee that comes up with the same idea that ‘yeah, this is needed’ then we should go forward with it. I mean, it’s all semantics at this point. It’s done. We’ve got to figure out what’s going to happen next and historically, the Board has talked about a lot of things and sometimes things don’t get done because we spend a lot of time talking about it and not acting on things and I know that as a fact as a fireman and as a Board member. Sometimes there’s a lot of foot dragging that happens and no action being taken and I’m hoping that we can start driving forward as the group that we’re supposed to be.” Brodie “Gentlemen, some thoughts on some things I heard coming in here and we talked about this needing to be done. Currently, it sounds to me like Craig and Ben do not have up to date 2018 job descriptions of what their jobs are supposed to be and maybe that is something that we need to take a look at sooner than later to have them what they feel that their jobs are; write your job description. We as a Board, it is up to us to give them the tools to do their jobs; what their job definition is. I think that from a 2018 standpoint is something I feel that we need to do. So, when they do or don’t do something...‘hey this is part of your job description’ or maybe we do actually need to find some funding to ask someone to do this portion...and I’m just using this arbitrarily.” Jack states “For that June meeting? All of that stuff already exists. So, it isn’t a lot of work to get involved with this. I think that everybody’s just looking at all the line items and seeing that there are 11 line items and that’s too many. All of that data already exists. July, most of that data exists, you know, so pulling it together is not that time consuming. Talking about August; all of that is easily available. Brodie states “Looking at that, I think, this is a lot that was pulled together for the rally of this levy, here, and I’m seeing most...a lot of that was explained right there in the website or newsletter. It’s just a matter of repackaging...” Jack interjects “But not individual line entities for discussion purposes. They’re all summarized.” Brodie states “Okay.” Jack continues “And, I’m looking at September; it’s just talking about all of the different options that can exist and all of the pros and cons of each of the options. October; talk about staffing models, cost structures...so, all of the data exists. It’s not that difficult to pull it together.” Kyle states “Without those guys being here, I don’t know what Cheri’s workload is as far as, you know, you talk, Jack, about making packets for each of these so that each member is...I mean, you talk about making 30 packets each meeting or whatever it is.” Jack states “I’ll say about 30 notebooks and each month there’d be an insert for the notebook. Whether we put them all in there right up front or we put them in there as each month comes along.” Kyle states “I mean, I don’t even know what the printing costs ....what that would be every month and then whether or not Cheri would have the time to put that month’s...you know...” Brodie states “ I think, as those questions are answered too, it doesn’t take much; technology has really made things simple. But, I think it should be placed on the website and in its own little special FaceBook page as well. That is something...it’s copy and paste is all that is. But, I think rather than sit and stack paper, I think that we also need to take advantage of our technology but at the same time too, it’s for the non-technologically advanced folks that we have it printed for them. It’s educating our voter base.” Jack states “Well, to me, whatever website

you use it would be the same information, in my mind, designed for the general public to look at.” Kyle states “Absolutely because then nobody can say they didn’t have access to a packet or whatever. We can say, it’s online and you can go look at it right now.” Brodie says “Yep.” Dave Adams asks “Do you have a revised timeline for that, Jack?” Jack states “Well, that was going to start in June and that means it would have been done in October and would have made a decision in December and that we were going to do something and finalize it January and off and running and it wouldn’t be too far off of that schedule right there. It might be a 30 day difference at the most; one way or the other, maybe.” Brodie suggests starting the campaign process again in July instead of June with the reasoning that the sunset levy ends July 1, 2019 (Jack states it is June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.) He then asks if he should wait to make a motion until Craig and Ben have time to review the purposed timeline and Kyle Nace agrees they should wait until both Craig and Ben have added their input. Kyle states “We had a levy discussion, I think, at this point unless anybody else has anything. Why don’t we take a chance to review this and talk about it at the next Board meeting and hopefully those guys are here and we can kind of maybe set a date. Does that sound good?” Randy states “I have no problem. I’m not sure about everybody else but even coming in even at an earlier date, after we review this, to come in earlier to talk about this only. I have no problem with that either; a special meeting just to talk about this and decide what we’re going to do.” (Kyle asks if there is anything to add) Jack states “The process, to me, is what is important and if you violate the process then there’s all sorts of un-fun consequences.”

## NEW ITEMS/UPDATES:

### 1. Review of Board Bylaws

Dave Adams states “I asked for that to be in there because currently and as far as I can tell we actually have no by-laws. They were voted on but they were never signed. They were supposed to be finalized and signed. They’re about a page and a half and I when I went back and looked at them there are some things on there from, I believe the County Attorney, stating that these seem awfully vague and need to be nailed down a little further. I went back and found the by-laws for 2006; back when it was Linda Graham, Bruce (inaudible), Chuck Warren, Ray Young and Randy Winter. So that’s been quite some time and a couple of those people aren’t even here anymore. There is another set that was provided to me and it’s a much more in depth set that has job descriptions of us and bases authority in attendance of meetings and has the things in there that we need to have, I feel, to eliminate the long list of emails that we had back and forth about ‘who’s in and who’s out’ and whatnot and maybe just try to clean up a little bit so we’re all kind of on the same page. So, that was why I asked for it to be on the agenda; so that we could begin discussions and what I was thinking is that I could fire these different sets off in an email to everybody and that we can start looking through it. I mean, I know it’s a lot on our plates right now because there’s a lot that needs to be cleaned up and has been gone for awhile without being handled appropriately, I think. So, if everybody’s good with a little ‘put-you-to-sleep’ reading, I’ll put those together and email it out to everybody. Jack states “I’m going to suggest that we go back to the December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Board meeting. These are the minutes that were approved at that meeting and that these are the by-laws that govern us right now as a result of what you’re talking about; where the County Attorney reviewed it all and made comments and these are all the changes that came out of that. So, these are the people that should have signed. If you look at the minutes I think you’re going to see that’s what was approved.” Dave states “Okay, in the minutes that I saw, it says that it will be finalized and signed. There’s no signed by-laws anywhere, Jack. These are the December 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 adopted...” Jack interjects “minutes.” Dave states “No, these are not the minutes. These are January 4<sup>th</sup> minutes, right here that says....let me find it. I can’t remember where....” Kyle states “Well, why don’t we simplify this; I guess if they’re signed then they’re already signed. But, if we don’t find them, it’d be real simple for us to all read these, change the names on the bottom of them and make the changes that we need to



make.” Dave states “There’s a lot of things in here that are Montana Code that people don’t...I don’t know what Montana Code is off the top of my head. If there’s a list of things that I can go back to and look at and go ‘Oh, that’s my job’ makes it a lot easier. That’s why.” Jack states “In this particular case, the reason why it says that is that’s the general title and chapter that governs fire districts. So, anything that changes in there automatically...we’re subject that right there, regardless. So, instead of adding 2 or 3 more pages, you just reference it that way. As far as any other sections of it, there isn’t any. So, the only reference to it in this is just right there because that’s normal. In any kind of by-law situation, you identify ....because the chapter has a whole bunch of sections to it.” Dave states “Sure, and I think we should have sections to ours too, though.” Jack states “Oh, absolutely not; because they change those, that means you have to go in and change that each and every time. This way means you don’t have to change anything.” Dave states “No, I mean, we...just because that...that is an old review of what you’re responsible for. But, as a Board, we can decide that we have other responsibilities that are more defined than that.” Brodie states “As long as we meet minimum.” Jack states “I’m agreeing with you but if...well, whatever you want to do. To me, you want to have it general like this because it does not tie your hands. If you have it more specific than this then it ties your hands. Just like it says here ‘The Board shall elect annually from its members by a majority, a chair person and vice chair person’. We don’t specify that it’s done in June. It’s usually typically done the first meeting after an election because then you either have a whole new Board and you just reconstitute yourself. So, you keep it general. You don’t say that it occurs in June of each year or May of each year. You just leave it general like that. Anytime you get more restrictive or specific, you’re tying your hands.” Jack asks “What’s (inaudible) this year...” Dave Adams states “ I haven’t seen it either.” Jack states “So, let’s (inaudible) sent it out in the last email a week ago, this by-laws, here...it was sent out...” Kyle states “I’ll be perfectly honest, after about the 20<sup>th</sup> email I just quit reading them.” Randy states “I’m just getting going here.” Kyle states “I mean, as a dad of 2 kids, a husband, a farmer, a full time firefighter and a business owner, I can’t read an extra 20 emails every...” Jack states “I sent it out on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.” Dave states “Of 2018. Okay, I started on this Board in May of 2015 and I probably should have seen them before that.” Randy asks “When did you say you sent them out?” Jack states “Last Friday. It went to both of Randy’s emails, Ben, Craig, Brodie, Dave Edwards, Kyle Nace, Jonathan Foust, Dave Adams, and Cheri Janetski.” Randy states “Send it to depaulautomotive. I was going to say that in the very beginning of the meeting. DePaul automotive’s the only one I look at.” Jack states “I can resend it.” Randy answers “No, I’ll get Penny to figure out what I did wrong.” Brodie asks “Jack, have you even been told that your email’s strange because yours continually goes to my ‘junk’ folder. I think I’ve gotten one or two. I’d ‘unjunked’ you and then like what you just sent here a minute ago went to my ‘junk’ mail. For me, now, like if I do an entire search, it pulls everything up and there was some more down there.” Jack states “I don’t know if it’s a Century Link issue and it may happen with other people and they just don’t know it yet.” Dave Adams states “It might be because they tired of your emails.” Dave continues “Anyway, I will still...I think we need to look at having more things in there.” Randy states “I would like to have all...I’d appreciate having that sent to me too. I’m not picking on anyone but by-laws are critical; very, very important and you don’t want your hands tied but you want direction and you want to be held accountable to them by-laws, you know? I mean, and the other thing is....anyways, yeah, I would like to have that to look at and even the long-term one just to go through.” Dave states “We just need to tidy it up some.” Randy continues “The thing is about by-laws; I assume this would be easier; um, I was involved in writing by-laws for KYSA 8 years ago and it was such a drawn out, long process. I can’t remember how long I spent on that. It was probably like 8 months or something but we met for hours and hours and hours but I think KYSA, what we were dealing with was, in recalling that, we also had force Board which is a Board underneath the KYSA so you kind of had 2 things going on. We were doing ours but we were doing theirs; kind of back and forth. But, it took a long time; so, I’m assuming with this it

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won't take that long but time really has to go into these in order to get them right. Now, granted, you can adjust them. You can make changes throughout the year so if something doesn't come up right, or you do something to try and it doesn't work or you say 'hey wait a second, we meant this instead of that' or whatever, we can make changes to that as a Board; so that's the advantage. But I do think by-laws are very important. I also don't know, do we have a mission statement, here?" Kyle asks "Does the fire department?" Randy states "As a Board? I'm talking about as a Board." Dave states "Not that I know of." Randy states "I think that is very important and it's not that I push the issue because I don't have one in my work but the idea is that ...well, you got people together like this as a Board and I'm just venting about how I feel. When it comes down to certain tough decisions, and you may have one where you're trying to figure out which way to go; there's 2 ways to go or 3 ways to go and there's times where you may look back and go 'gosh' and you look back at the mission statement and it may eliminate one of them just by looking at your mission statement and it makes it a little easier just because you can go back to that. Does that make sense? I think that's a very important thing to have. Everyone else can think about that and it would be something I think as a Board can get put together. It takes time and I think that's down the road a little bit. But I think the by-laws are pretty important because it's a governing document. But, anyways...yeah, give me a copy. I'd appreciate that." Dave states "Yep, I will." Randy continues "And I'll go back, Jack, and look at that."  
(Kyle asks is anyone has anything else to add to the discussion and there is none.)

## 2. Introduction of new Board Trustees

*(New trustees who were elected by acclamation on April 25<sup>th</sup> will take their seats at this time as there has been no response from outgoing Trustees on exact term expiration dates and due to the time constraints of posting this agenda. VP Kyle Nace will guide the remainder of the meeting. Annual election of officers will be held at the beginning of the next meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> with the position of President currently open.)*

*(Kyle asks that the new Trustees state that they are present for the record.)*

Brodie states "Brodie Verworn; Evergreen resident 20 years with fire and EMS experience and currently employed by the Big Mountain Fire Department as a career firefighter and is also a full-time educator for Best Practice Medicine out of Bozeman, Montana but based in the Flathead as the Western Division team leader.

Randy states "I'm Randy DePaul; resident and business owner in Evergreen since 1987 and came out of the Canyon. I don't tell many people that. But anyways, I'm just here to be a part of this, basically, and I don't need to say any more than that, I don't think. But I'm just here to be a part of this and hopefully...I've always thought the fire department was always the most important place where ever I've lived. I don't know why but I do. I really respect the firefighters. I mean, I do...everybody, the medical personnel...everybody. What they put themselves through and the things they have to go through. I have several medical people in my family and I also have some law enforcement people in my family and I have quite a few military people in my family...throughout, including kids, in laws and things like that and I respect them all, highly. I really do.

Brodie states "Everybody here is full-time as well and as I say 'thank you' and I mean, I'm here for solutions. I'm here for what's best for all of us; this department and those who make up this core." Jack states "Here is an email that Craig sent out on May 9, 2017. I just forwarded it to all of you." He continues "I wouldn't expect Craig's response to be any different." Dave states "I was going to say that you could probably just change the date on that because that's exactly what we're working on. Kalispell still doesn't have any more than 1 ambulance. We're on unknown determined time. We're starting to work on flooding stuff. I mean, that's the May email he could probably send every year and they have been working on the budget. So..." Kyle states "Well, speaking of budget...preliminary budget discussions."

### 3. Preliminary Budget Discussion

Jack states "Well, I suppose without Craig or Ben here, what's there to discuss?" Dave states "They had it pulled up. I think they were just general numbers. I didn't flip through any of it. I think that it'd probably be something to look at in another meeting."

*Brodie makes a motion to postpone the preliminary budget discussion until the next meeting when Craig and Ben will be in attendance; seconded by Dave Adams; unanimously passes.*

### 4. Bank Accounts Signatory Changes

Randy asks "What is this?" Dave Adams states "Down at Glacier Bank, later in the week, Cheri will send an email down to Glacier Bank and you guys will go down there and basically, you show them your ID and you sign this deal so you can sign the paychecks and the bills; is what it comes down to." Jack asks "Last time, did we have to authorize them to be signatories or what?" Dave states "Nope. Just a copy of the minutes is all it takes." Randy asks "So whoever is available at the time can come in and sign..." Dave states "Yes, sign checks." Brodie states "And most are a double signature." Dave states "Yeah." Randy states "Okay, so it's not just left up to the Chair?" Dave states "Right." Dave states "She did say she'd have some checks; Kyle and Jack; if you guys are going to be available tomorrow; just bills. She was hoping to pick those up first thing in the morning." Kyle states "I can run down there." Dave states "She said she'd text but she'd have to send Jack a smoke signal because he won't get a cell phone." Randy asks "You don't have a cell phone, Jack? I mean, seriously...you don't even have a flip phone?" Jack states "I don't need it." Dave states "Cheri included in the packets a sheet that had when people joined; when they were elected and how long it runs and has everybody's email except for Randy's and myself, which I'm obviously getting emails from everyone." Dave continues "So, yeah, she said she'd let you guys know when she knew the bank was ready to have you sign stuff." (Kyle asks if anyone had anything else they'd like to add to the discussion and there is none.)

### RESOLUTIONS:

(none)

### PROPOSALS:

(none)

### CHIEF'S REPORT:

#### April 2018 Call Volume

Dave states "Craig's got the call numbers in the back that everybody asked for. There's a new report that breaks it down a little further for the calls for the month that were the modified crew; if we had to have people come back; if it was referred to another agency. So that's a call we couldn't staff; we handed it off and a secondary crew had to handle it. So it's just another way we can see if we're handling things the way we need to as far as getting to these calls." Randy asks "Ok, can I ask this now? This was from you, right Jack? I mean, I like that but it's some self explanatory but we're back to the numbers. We've got ALS." Dave states "Advance Life Support." Randy "BLS?" Dave states "Basic Life Support. Red means it's urgent; yellow is like 'eh' take your time; it's just how we respond, whether it's lights and sirens or no lights and sirens." Randy states "Right. These are the initials I need to start trying to learn and stuff. This was somewhat, what I understood, when I got the other part over here; this was a little easier for me to look at and go 'oh okay'." Kyle asks "Which one was that?" Jack states "Craig sent out the work document that showed all the departments." Dave states "That came from dispatch." Jack states "I know, but, that's shit from them. They're the ones that need to come up with a better report. That was my...and I don't know if Craig has communicated that to them? That's not something that I would expect Craig to put into that format. It should have come that way from them." Dave "That would be...that is..." Jack states "They're a disaster." Dave states "They're electing County Commissioners. You can run for that spot and tell them to do it that way but..." Jack states "No, I understand it's a disaster over there." Dave states "I mean, it was nice of them to send out that information because, well,

they have it and its public knowledge and they don't have to disperse it. I mean, honestly." Jack states "One other question, and I know not everybody has access to this, but I'm looking at the April Glacier Bank statement for the Ambulance funds and there's \$128,000.00 deposit from the State of Montana? Anybody happen to know what that's about? It was deposited on April 26<sup>th</sup>." Dave states "Oh, you know what, it might have been California money. I don't know for sure when that came in. It was probably fire money; that would be my guess." *(Dave Adams has Kyle Nace sign a copy of the approved meeting minutes and signs the copy as well.)*

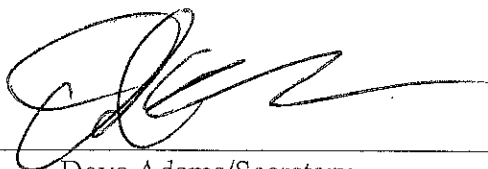
*(Kyle asks if there is any further discussion)* Brodie states "I would like to speak on behalf of Brodie Verworm of Big Fork Fire and would like to thank the Evergreen folks for coming down and participating in Spartan (Race). It was a money maker for this Department. They got to spend 12 and 16 hours down there at \$125.00 per hour for the Department. It's something that I've ran since its inception of getting other EMS agencies down there and I wanted to make sure to get Evergreen in there too and I'm sure that helps out too but I make sure Evergreen is both days of participation."

Adjourn.

Kyle adjourns the meeting at 6:18 pm.

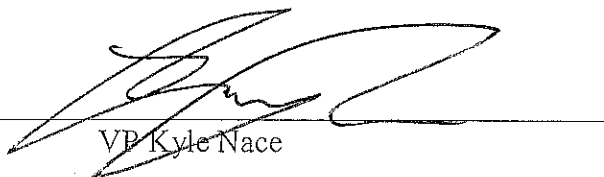
*The President of the Board of Trustees, as presiding officer of any meeting of the Board of Trustees, may close the meeting during the time the discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy; and, then, if, and only if, the presiding officer determines that the demands of individual privacy clearly 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.*

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_



Dave Adams/Secretary

Signed By: \_\_\_\_\_



VP Kyle Nace