

Marion Fire District

P.O. Box 939, 180 Gopher Lane, Marion, MT 59925

Phone: (406) 854-2828 / Fax: (406) 854-9330

Website: www.marionfd.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – January 28, 2021

The Board met for a regular business meeting at its principal office on January 28, 2021. Greg Mercurio, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30PM with a quorum of the following trustees: Shirley Webster, William Tewksbury, and Dick Ramos. Joyce Ratka, Board Treasurer, was present telephonically and participated by speaker phone. Fire Chief Mast was present for the department.

PLEDGE

Consent to Agenda

M/S/C (Ramos, Tewksbury)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (December 17, 2020)

M/S/C (Ramos, Tewksbury)

Public Comment: Anyone wishing to speak will give their name, address, and will have 3 minutes to speak.

Public present: Betty Heino, Neil Heino, Vargie Williams, Mike Williams, Lily Brower, community members. David Berglund, Fire Captain, Matt Sampley firefighter & EMT, Tasha Townsend, Auxiliary President.

Financial

- A.** Review and Approval of Current Claims for Payment – Discussion tabled to February meeting
- B.** Review and Approval of Treasurer’s Report – Discussion tabled to February meeting
- C.** Discussion of Financial Questions tabled from December 2020 Board Meeting

Tewksbury made a motion to table the financial questions and concerns to the Executive Board Meeting scheduled immediately following the adjournment of the Regular Board Meeting.

Webster opposed the motion stating the questions were relevant to tax payer money, a legal concern, and again cited the By-laws specific to a closed board session and discussion.

Chairman Mercurio acknowledged the objection and allowed discussion as follows:

- Dual Compensation: Chief Mast confirmed personal annual leave was used during her time on the California fire suppression assignment(s). Staff who covered the station during the Chief’s absence need to submit a time sheet for hours worked per Ratka.

- Compliance with federal law (Fair Labor Standards Act): Chairman Mercurio stated MFD is in compliance “as far I know.” No specific procedure was discussed to explain the intermittent transition of volunteer staff to paid staff.

- M/S/C means a motion made by the trustee named in the following parentheses, and then seconded and carried.
- If you wish to listen to an audio recording of this meeting, please submit a written request.
- Advance notice of this meeting was provided to the public via a reader board at the Marion Community Center and publication in the *Daily Inter Lake*, the District’s website www.marionfd.org, and its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MarionFireMT.

Fire Chief's Report & Updates

Total Calls to Date: 24

9 calls up from last year

40 calls since December 17, 2020

- 13 BLS Medical Calls- (11 Marion pt transports, 2 Pt refusals)
- 4 ALS Medical Calls (2 Marion transports, 1 ALERT transport, 1 Pt Refusal)
- 6 Interfacility Transfers
- 1 Misdispatch
- 1 Chimney fire
- 11 Powerline Emergency/Tree down
- 4 Motor Vehicle Accident Non-Injury

Personnel:

Nothing to report

Training:

- 01/05/2021, Fire -SCBA/PPE Refresher
- 01/07/2021, Medical -Refresher, Part 1
- 01/09/2021, Medical -Refresher, Part 2
- 01/12/2021, Fire, Apparatus Maintenance
- 01/19/2021, Fire -Size Ups/SLICERS
- 01/21/2021, Medical, Long Transports/Differential Diagnoses
- 01/26/2021, Fire, Training on 1134

Equipment Maintenance and Updates:

Water tender 1193- Leaking steamer port

Water tender 1192- Nothing to report

Water tender 1191-Nothing to report

Engine 1131- Nothing to report

Engine 1132- Nothing to report

Engine 1133- Updated Graphics

Engine 1134- Engine replacement, is in service now

Engine 1181- Nothing to report.

Command Rig 1161- Nothing to report

Ambulance 1121-Liquid springs are leaking. Parts have been ordered.

Ambulance 1122- Nothing to report

Ambulance 1123- Nothing to report

Upcoming Costs:

- T-Shirt order
- Equipment and hose for 1134

Community Events:

- Nothing to report

Additional Updates and Discussion:

- Auxiliary Grant for new extrication
 - Round Up for Safety Grant
 - Weyerhauser Grant (Captain Dave Berglund received “Volunteer of the Year”)
- Captain Berglund was congratulated for this outstanding recognition. The board members and Chief Mast expressed much appreciation for the grant funds donated to MFD.

Conclusion of Chief’s Report

Action Items:

A. Pintler/Collection Accounts – Mast briefed board members on the details of 4 outstanding accounts and the balance of each. The board discussed and agreed to refer all 4 of these accounts to Pintler for collection.

M/S/C (Ramos, Tewksbury)

Discussion Items:

A. Agreement between the Marion fire District and the Marion Fire Auxiliary
Tasha Townsend, President of the Auxiliary, briefly addressed the current agreement between the two entities. Board Trustee, Tewksbury, requested time to further review and modify the current content of the agreement. Tewksbury will contact Townsend with suggestions concerning changes. Further discussion will be added to the February agenda.

M/S/C (Ramos, Tewksbury)

New Business:

A. Use of Social Media

Webster encouraged caution in the use of social media to post personal information and the potential impact on the public view of standards of professionalism for MFD staff and volunteers.

B. Discussion of ISO Rating Notification

Neil Heino, MFD volunteer, inquired about the new ISO rating and notification to residents in the Ashley Lake area. Mast will work with Heino to draft a letter to insurance companies.

Announcements:

A. The Executive Meeting will begin upon adjournment of this meeting.

B. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: February 25, 2021 at 5:30PM

Meeting Officially Recorded

Adjournment: 6:10PM

Attest: _____
Greg Mercurio, Board Chair Date