

**OLNEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 11, 2017 AT OLNEY FIRE HALL**

Call to Order – 6:13 pm

Roll Call

All Trustees present: Paul Jeremiassen, Norma McBroom, Jason Rowles, Laurel Therrien, Keith Kastner
Fire & Ambulance members: Lance Torgerson, Vincent Marks, Veronica Morehead, Kim Gress, Michalle McMillan, Rebecca Cressler, Wayne Rehmert

Community members: 2

Motion to approve meeting agenda made by Keith Kastner; seconded by Jason Rowles; carried unanimously.

Motion made by Jason Rowles to **Approve the Minutes of the November 9th meeting**; seconded by Keith Kastner; carried unanimously. The minutes for each meeting will be posted with the agenda for the next meeting at the Post Office, the Fire Hall and the Olney Store.

Unfinished Business

Bingo Night – Lance Torgerson reported no progress on organizing the event.

New Business

District Meeting Time – in order to make our meetings convenient to Trustees, Members and the public, it was agreed to begin future meetings at 7 pm, rather than 6 pm. This also makes the meeting time consistent with the time of the Department’s meetings during the month. The change will be highlighted in the agenda posted for the next meeting.

Trustee Election – one Board seat will be up for election. The deadline for filing an application for the May 2nd election is February 6th. Keith Kastner, whose term is expiring, has not yet indicated whether he will file for reelection.

Secretary’s Report

Bills presented for payment

Community Leasing \$14,295.10 - annual lease payment for 1998 Rescue Truck (previously approved and released)

Fire Apparatus Repair \$295.10 – repair air leak in ambulance system

CenturyLink \$15.63 – balance after prior period credits; future monthly cost will be about \$120

Lincoln Electric \$111.67 – December bill

CityServiceValcon \$290.00 – delivery of 200 gallons of propane @ \$1.45

Year-to-Date Budget Report – overall, YTD expenses are well within budget. While the County has not provided updated information on revenue for December, we have been told that about \$7,000 was credited to our account, so our cash balance remains positive. Because we don’t expect significant additional revenue until May/June tax collections, we may have a negative cash position in the interim, but we are assured that the County will support us. The point is that we will manage expenses by the budget and not by our cash balance.

Ambulance Billing – a hold has been put on registering with Medicare because of the low volume of ambulance transports being done (estimate of 3 in the last calendar year). The cost to register is about \$550, and if no Medicare transports done within one year, we must re-register. We can still explore billing for private insurance.

Department Report

The two problems reported last month have been addressed: the signal repeater on Werner Peak has been repaired, as well as the ambulance problem (originally described as electrical, but actually due to a system air leak which caused problems with the batteries). The Department is likely to use the services of Sean Garner (Fire Apparatus Repair) for repair and maintenance in the future, but the work needs to be scheduled in advance because Sean is based in Missoula and serves a wide area. Several

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other problems have been identified that will be scheduled for repair – ambulance electrical work and rescue truck suspension and radiator.

Activity report – December: 3 calls (all ambulance) with no nonresponses. Fiscal YTD: 17 calls (12 ambulance and 5 fire) with 2 nonresponses.

Veronica Morehead explained that due to a conflict with her nursing studies, she won't be able to maintain here EMT license after March 31st. She will remain a member of the Department, and hopes to start requalification later this calendar year.

Grants – we will be looking at grant opportunities to meet some of the Department's needs, such as replacing some of our air bottles. Town Pump Foundation is accepting grant applications until March 31st.

As there was no other **Public Discussion**, motion was made to **Adjourn the Meeting** at 7:25 pm by Paul Jeremiassen, seconded by Keith Kastner, and carried unanimously.

Submitted by Paul Jeremiassen, Secretary