

**OLNEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST 12, 2019 AT OLNEY FIRE HALL**

Call to Order: 7 pm

Trustees present: Chair Donna Maddux, Secretary Paul Jeremiassen, and Trustees Norma McBroom and Gary Hill. Trustee Keith Kastner was absent.

Department Members: Wayne Rehmert and Jordon Carr

Invited Guests: Rick Sacca, Flathead County EMS Manager, Steve Apgar, owner of Apgar Ambulance

Community Members: Veronica Gress (former Department EMT)

Secretary's Report

Motion to approve Minutes of the July meeting made by Hill; seconded by McBroom; carried unanimously.

Bills presented for payment - 6 payments per attached schedule. A July activity report for the new WEX fuel card was distributed to show what information is provided. Feedback from Jordon and Levi is that the card process works well.

Motion to approve the payments as presented made by McBroom; seconded by Hill; carried unanimously.

FY 2020 budget update – Jeremiassen has received the budget back from County Finance, but he needs to contact them about some missing information. The final budget will be presented for approval at the September meeting.

Reports and Information

The Department responded to 4 call-outs in July. In early August, the Department supported the DNRC in a wild land fire incident, including use of our water tender over 3 days, for which we will receive about \$3,600 in compensation.

Unfinished Business

Sale of ambulance – At the request of Jeremiassen, Steve Apgar attended the meeting as a proposed broker for the sale of the ambulance. Apgar provided personal background on his extensive experience in the business of building and selling ambulances. He maintains a web-based ambulance marketplace, and is affiliated with Response Equipment Specialists, who does the maintenance on our vehicles.

He described a sealed bid process in about a 30-day timeframe, with a reserve (minimum price) of \$75,000. It is difficult to find comparative sales, given the low mileage (under 5,000 miles) of our ambulance relative to its age (7-8 years). The buyer would likely be a Montana department, although the public notice of the sale would be much broader. He would charge a fee of 2½ % of the selling price. He recommended having the ambulance delivered to the RES shop, where it would be detailed and the graphics removed.

Because the sale would be a major event for the Department and the community, most of the discussion that followed was to air any concerns about the decision. Would the District ever be able to resume EMS response? Because of the sale, it would be unlikely that we could obtain another grant to purchase an ambulance. An alternative would be to work towards becoming a non-transporting unit, which requires no ambulance, but could be done with a much less expensive vehicle. It would also require lower level requirements for licensing. In the meantime, our fire department members can train to handle basic first aid and CPR at an incident before qualified EMS personnel arrive.

After everyone was given the opportunity to comment, Chair Maddux asked for a motion to initiate the sales process. Hill moved that the ambulance be offered for sale, utilizing Steve Apgar to represent the District in the sale process for a fee of 2 ½ % of the selling price, in a public bidding process with a reserve (minimum) price of \$75,000; and that the ambulance be relocated to Apgar's shop while the sale is being conducted. Jeremiassen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

New Business

Maddux proposed that a celebration, honoring the deceased Members recently added to the Perpetual Plaque, be held at the beginning of the October Board meeting.

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A Department meeting on September 30th will be used to develop standard operating procedures for emergency responses. Hill has a set of procedures from Marion Fire to assist in this process. Rick Sacca said that he could provide some material as well. Maddux stated that our younger Members are not too young to be leaders as we go forward.

Other Comments

McBroom continues to work on the upcoming craft show.

Hill is trying to get a District map identifying private property addresses/locations. Rick Sacca offered to help obtain this.

Maddux would like to develop an auxiliary organization for the Fire Department. Many departments have an associated non-profit organization that raises money to support activities that might not be appropriate for a public entity, such as a rural fire district, to fund (such as Member dinners, awards, etc.). Such an organization might be in charge of our Mothers Day breakfast, as an example.

Doing fire prevention handouts at schools at Halloween was discussed again. Rick Sacca said he could order the materials for us

Our Facebook page is inactive. Wayne Rehmert proposes to create a new page, if we are not able to resurrect the old one.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Submitted by Paul Jeremiassen, Secretary

Attachment:

Bills presented for payment

**OLNEY FIRE DISTRICT
TRANSACTION REGISTER
FY 2020**

CHECK #	DATE	PAID TO/RECEIVED FROM	DEBIT	CREDIT	A/C CODE	CASH BAL	DESCRIPTION
5188	8/12/19	US Bank Lockbox CM 9695	7,144.26		2100	35,692.45	Semi-annual Loan pmt on Water Tender
5189	8/12/19	Lincoln Electric	92.59		800	35,599.86	July electricity
5190	8/12/19	CityServiceValcon	270.00		1300	35,329.86	200 gals @ \$1.35
5191	8/12/19	CenturyLink	123.49		200	35,206.37	July telephone/internet
5192	8/12/19	WEX Bank	336.79		500	34,869.58	July fuel card purchases
5193	8/12/19	Paul Jeremiassen	22.00		1100	34,847.58	40 postage stamps