

**OLNEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 12, 2022 AT OLNEY FIRE HALL**

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Trustees present: Chair Gary Hill, Secretary Paul Jeremiassen, and Trustees Norma McBroom and John Streaan. There is one Board vacancy.

Department Members: Chief Jordon Carr

Community Members: None

Approval of Minutes: As there were no changes proposed for the minutes of the December meeting presented by Jeremiassen, Hill moved to approve the December meeting minutes as presented; seconded by McBroom; carried unanimously.

Correspondence: Jeremiassen passed around a e-mail received from the County inviting local board appointees to a local board training to be held on February 2nd.

Reports: None.

Unfinished Business:

Fire Hall painting - this project is still not finished. The painter will need to secure a lift to do the ceiling areas whenever he decides to complete the project.

New Business:

2020 Trustee elections – Jeremiassen informed the Board of the trustee election schedule for 2022 (see attached notice). We will have 3 of our seats up for election, 1 current vacancy expiring in 2024 and 2 for the expiring terms of Jeremiassen and Hill. Applications to be a candidate are due at the County election office by February 7th, with the election to be held on May 3rd. If the number of candidates does not exceed 3, the County Board of Commissioners will appoint candidates to fill seats, in lieu of a mail ballot to the District voters.

Presentation of Claims and Bills: Jeremiassen presented the January bills for payment, as per the attached transaction list. The new Glacier Bank VISA business credit card was used for a number of previously approved items and for catching up on Fire Hall supplies. Carr is our authorized cardholder. It was emphasized that he must provide invoices or other documentation to support the line items on the credit card bill, which only shows the vendor. Streaan moved to approve the payment of bills as presented; seconded by Hill; carried unanimously.

Department Report:

December call-outs – there were 3 call-outs during December; 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 chimney fire (no response), and 1 tree removal from highway.

Vehicles and Equipment

The Department has adopted an Active 911 system, which will provide alerts from the County 911 Center on each volunteer's smart phone. Carr said that the system has worked very well so far, and greatly improves our response communications. The cost is approximately \$15 per user per year, and will be on the next credit card bill.

The DNRC may provide a \$10,000 grant towards the funding of an attachment to the Water Tender to provide in-cab control of water flow from a nozzle on the front of the truck. The estimate for installing this system by RES is \$20,000. Our share could be funded out of our capital improvement fund, but we are able to fund it from our operating fund this year. Hill made a motion to approve the purchase of

the system subject to the receipt of the DNRC grant and a total cost limited to \$20,000; seconded by Jeremiassen; approved unanimously.

Carr requested that we purchase 6 walkie-talkies for \$298 to use for communication between volunteers while on call-outs. Hill moved to approve the purchase; seconded by McBroom; approved unanimously.

Volunteers – Tim House, who was recently added back to roster, was then removed again for lack of participation, making a current total of 6 Department volunteers.

As no further items were presented for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Paul Jeremiassen, Secretary

Attachments:

2022 Election notice

January payment of bills

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 9th

NOTICE OF ELECTION OLNEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

The Olney Rural Fire District is in great need of candidates to fill 3 seats (out of a total of 5) on the Board of Trustees that will be up for election on May 3rd. If no more than 3 candidates apply, the County Board of Supervisors will appoint those applicants in lieu of a District election.

The position of Trustee does not require a large commitment of time, mainly to attend meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. However, a volunteer Trustee performs an indispensable community service. Olney Fire and Rescue simply cannot operate without a functioning Board of Trustees, meaning that members of the community must fill this important role.

To qualify as a Trustee, you must be a resident of the Olney Rural Fire District and/or be a property owner within the District. If you are unsure if your property is within the District, or have any other questions about being a Trustee, please contact Paul Jeremiassen, Trustee Secretary, at 881-2523.

Applications to become a Trustee must be filed with the County by February 7th. Copies of the application form are located in a folder inside the Post Office or can be obtained online at:

<https://flathead.mt.gov/election/documents/2017Declaration-for-Nomination-Oath-of-Candidacy.pdf>

**OLNEY FIRE DISTRICT
TRANSACTION REGISTER
FY 2022**

CLRD	CHECK #	DATE	PAID TO/RECEIVED FROM	CHK TOT	DEBIT	CREDIT	A/C CODE	CASH BAL	DESCRIPTION
X	RECEIPT	12/14/21	Flathead County			14.69	40	65,101.37	Interest on deposits
X	RECEIPT	12/21/21	State of Montana			2,146.27	20	67,247.64	Quarterly entitlement payment
	5387	12/28/21	Montana State Fund		92.19		1200	67,155.45	W/C Policy Annual Prem 2nd installment of 3
X	RECEIPT	12/30/21	Flathead County			3,759.90	60	70,915.35	Collected property taxes
	5388	1/12/22	CityServiceValcon		1,077.84		1300	69,837.51	Propane - 449.10 gals @ \$2.40
	5389	1/12/22	VFIS		1,572.00		600	68,265.51	Quarterly premium - property/liability insurance
	5390	1/12/22	CenturyLink		134.44		200	68,131.07	Prior month telephone/internet
	5391	1/12/22	Response Equip Specialists		1,185.99		2000	66,945.08	Wildland truck - replace muffler; service pump engine and hose
	5392	1/12/22	Rocky Gress		340.00		300	66,605.08	4 plowings @ \$60; Bobcat \$100 for snow removal from roof
	5393	1/12/22	Lincoln Electric Cooperative		128.71		800	66,476.37	Prior month electricity
	5394	1/12/22	VISA	1,267.47	637.12		1000	65,839.25	Water, printer ink, cleaning supplies, batteries, pens, T-shirts
	5394	1/12/22	VISA		23.20		1100	65,816.05	Stamps
	5394	1/12/22	VISA		129.69		1900	65,686.36	Winter gloves
	5394	1/12/22	VISA		477.46		400	65,208.90	2 traffic signs, 6 helmet lights