

Spokane County Fire District #5
July 17, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jim Ryan, Sheri Rhoads and Todd Lehman

District Administrator: Carol Harrington

Time Meeting Began: 7:01p.m.

- **Flag Salute**
- **Financial Workshop/Discuss EMS and/or Levy options**
 - ▶ Carol read Kjell's explanatory paragraph explaining the stats he provided based on SCFD9's replacement cost spreadsheet. Commissioners reviewed Rod Hiembigner's information on runs and EMS costs. Carol had prepared and handed out financial stats from 2002-2007.
 - ▶ Board discussed insurance costs in different years. Why was there such a difference? Carol will check with Jody from the insurance company. Carol will also try to research not just the cost of fuel for last 6 years but the price per gallon and how many gallons we used.
 - ▶ Jim discussed not only fuel rise but the rise in many items that that will affect such as shipping etc. that we do not see reflected but probably will in the near future.
 - ▶ Sheri said we can see where we are halfway through this year and give a best guess on where we will be at the end of the year.
 - ▶ Fuel was discussed further.
 - ▶ Jim wants Carol to find out how many O2 cylinders we have had refilled each year and what the price has been on that. Carol will try to find out.
 - ▶ Todd asked if we could find out how the CCC figures our charges each quarter and year. Carol said she was pretty sure it was based on projections of our calls from previous years. She got out the CCC file, pulled and copied the year end projections the CCC had sent them for most of the past years.
 - ▶ Discussed gear/equipment increase in 2003 from grant that Brenda had written in 2002 for structure gear.
 - ▶ Discussed Kjell's sheets re: replacement costs and annual allocation for covering those costs. \$28,505 per year would allow us to keep up with the replacement per Kjell's schedule. Carol reminded the board that Kjell's schedule only reflects EMS replacement costs, not replacement for all vehicles/equipment.
 - ▶ Jim: This is the beginning of the sound financial planning we need to do.
 - ▶ Sheri: What else is out there as far as information that we need to look into? Where do we want to be 5 years from now? Where do we want this district to be in 5 years?
 - ▶ The propane bill was discussed.
 - ▶ Jim: Discussed lid lifts and EMS levies.
 - ▶ Todd: Asked why Kjell's sheet listed quantity of 20 sets of gear if the sheet is only supposed to reflect EMS gear for EMT's. Jim said that according to regulations and policy that no volunteer can approach an MVA without the gear. Carol stated that Kjell explained it in this way; EMT's have to be kept safe during an MVA and their main goal is to treat the victim/patient in the car, not treat the car.
 - ▶ Jim: Do we want to name a figure or an amount?
 - ▶ Sheri: If we run an EMS Levy at 50 cents per year for six years, how much money would we have?
 - ▶ Jim: That's hard to figure out as 747 will erode it every year.
 - ▶ Sheri: If we lift the lid back up wouldn't that give us more money than an EMS Levy?
 - ▶ Jim: They both erode because of 747.
 - ▶ Sheri: I think the Lid Lift may be the way to go, back to where it was in the beginning. If we did this, we need to make sure that our volunteers have what they need, second, we need to take care of the maintenance and operations of what we do have, then I'd like to see the water over at Station 53's site put in to the point where we can pull from it year round and use it asap. That is the only major capitol expense I foresee in the near future for this district.
 - ▶ Jim: Discussed 747 some more. We need to keep it simple and put one issue on the ballot.
 - ▶ Todd: We should probably go for a Lid Lift.
 - ▶ Sheri: Asked what the audience (Debi Davis, Dani Davis, Gary Pietz, and Ed Lynch) thinks.
 - ▶ Ed: How are we cutting costs now?
 - ▶ Jim: We have discussed the repairs on our trucks going down quite a bit due to preventative maintenance from our volunteers doing regular truck checks. In the past, we had to pay someone else to do that. He also explained that even though we have many more volunteers, we have stayed on a point system which has kept personnel costs down.

- ▶Gary: I have not heard a plan of what you're going to do. There is no process of how you are going to spend the money.
- ▶Jim: We have discussed replacement costs.
- ▶Gary: I see no plan. I see no support for an increase in expenses.
- ▶Todd: In a way, Gary is right. We need a plan. The projection of replacement costs on this sheet is actually a good plan and a good start.
- ▶Jim: Discussed budgeting fuel included in the plan.
- ▶Sheri: We can discuss this further in our regular meeting.
- ▶Jim: Carol can find out what the dates are regarding when resolutions are due for the ballot.

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 9:44p.m.

Spokane County Fire District 5 Chairman

Spokane County Fire District 5 Commissioner

Spokane County Fire District 5 Commissioner

Attest: Spokane County Fire District 5 District Administrator