

**Spokane County Fire District #5**  
**April 26, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Todd Lehman, Gary Pietz, and Larry Wendlandt

**District Secretary:** Carol Harrington

**Guests:** see attached sign in sheet

**Time Meeting Began:** 7:01p.m.

- **Flag Salute**
- **Gary Pietz requested an executive session to discuss personnel** for approximately five minutes. Regular session ended at 7:02 and just the board members went into the bay for the executive session at 7:02. Executive session ended at 7:07 and Regular session began.
- **The minutes from the March 22, 2010 Regular Meeting were** discussed regarding Steve Rogers; was his volunteer status terminated in those minutes and has the gear been returned. They all reviewed the minutes and Carol read the letter the board had had her send to Steve Rogers. The letter had been returned unclaimed after 15 days. Ron said Steve told him he never received a notification of certified mail. The letter said his volunteer status had been terminated and his gear needed to be returned. We have yet to receive his gear and Ron has been trying to contact him repeatedly. With no changes to the March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 Regular Meeting minutes, they were **approved as presented. The minutes from the April 8th, 2010 Special Meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.**
- **The treasury report was reviewed.** Carol read the report aloud.
- **The April bills** were reviewed. There was discussion on how to make our outdoor flag last longer as well as the Northern Energy propane bill for Station 51. Larry made motion to accept the bills as presented; Gary seconded the motion and **the expenses were approved unanimously as presented for \$3,613.77.**

**Secretary's Concerns:**

- **Grant possibility for foam:** DNR has a Phase I Grant that works like a shopping cart order system with reduced prices (not really a grant per say).
- **Need to have weeds sprayed at both stations.** After discussing the prices we have paid in the past, Gary said he would spray both station areas if the district bought the spray. Todd and Larry said that would be a good idea.
- **Newsletter:** Does the board want a newsletter to go on our website? If so, how often and what kind of info would they like presented? All members of the board think a quarterly newsletter would be a good idea. Carol said she would ask the commissioners for a column a couple of weeks before she prepares the first draft; the next one will be a summer newsletter.
- **Open House:** Does the board want to have an open house for our residents this year? Ron asked what the draw would be to get people there. Food was discussed with the district's limitations on serving. Larry said maybe the fall would be a better time to consider this after fire season is over.

**Correspondence:**

- Enduris sent a letter dated March 30, 2010 regarding their recent partnership with Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (MRSC). This is a great resource for legal and policy research. I have used it often in the past online. We have full access to a full array of services provided by MRSC at no additional cost. The letter describes the services in greater detail; each commissioner has a copy.
- Enduris also sent separately a Memorandum dated April 12, 2010 regarding an open position for a director.
- Senate Bill Report copy sent to us from WFCR detailing SSB 6846 regarding Enhanced Emergency 911 communication services. Each commissioner has a copy.

- **Fire Chief's Report :**

- **Personnel:** Kjell Anderson is now back as an EMT per the Dept. of Health WA State.

- **Training:** The 1<sup>st</sup> training of the month involved Red Card Refresher. The 2<sup>nd</sup> training was with extrication both classroom and practical with Howard Varner demos on ways to extricate patients using the two wrecked cars we have here at Station 51. Ron also would like to get new tips on the Jaws of Life spreader. OTEP will be on patient triage. Gary questioned why we still had columns on the training report for excused and non-excused attendance when the approved Organization Policy removed that option. Carol will change the forms. Larry asked how it is going as far as volunteers missing training. Ron said only Red Card holders had to show for the last training though all were encouraged to attend. The extrication training was discussed; Ron said he could meet someone here on a Saturday to do a make-up training. Todd asked about Zach Martin. Ron said he knows he lives nearby and he will continue to contact him regarding attendance. Gary said there were two runs in April – 9 members attended total with Ron showing only at one. Ten members still did not show up and that is a problem.

- **Stations:** N/A

- **Equipment:** N/A

- **Other:** Attended Inland Empire Fire Chief Assoc. (IEFCA) meeting. DNR reported that there may be a reduction in resources for this fire season. Emergency Communication Board there are only two bidders on the upgrade project. The next step is to go to the County Commissioners with a recommendation for approval. The EMS Council reported a high failure rate for the National Registry testing for EMT's. Some departments are saying if this becomes too much of a financial hardship it may lead to just basic first aid training.

#### **Old Business:**

1. **Water Tanks at Greg Lucht's:** Larry asked if Ron had done anything on this; Ron said no.
2. **Generator:** Larry said to take generator off the agenda for now.
3. **Recruitment:** No news for recruitment.
4. **Thermostats:** Station thermostats were discussed by Larry and Bob Harding. Ron said the furnace is shut off at Station 52. Larry will see if a guy he knows will donate a couple of digital thermometers and he can install them.
5. **Reader Board:** Gary has the reader board from the other station ready for a plexiglass covering on the front of it. It will be about \$200 for that and a locking device. Gary will mount it so that traffic coming from all sides can see it.

#### **New Business:**

1. **Medic 51 USDA Bond Payoff:** Gary made a motion to payoff the bond from the General Fund; Larry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The amount is approximately \$8,117.62. Carol will check into the process of paying it off.
2. **Supply Request:** Ron says the gas gage on Engine 51 still needs to be fixed. It reads full all the time and the temperature gage reads hot. Larry said he will try to fix both if we buy the parts but to give him about two weeks.

#### **Public Concerns:**

1. **Roger McDonald:** He needs to clean Station 51 and doesn't know how to get in if Carol is not here. The board and Ron said they would let him in, just give them a call. Roger said the aluminum can shed is in need of repair. It needs to be repainted and the sign redone. Cans can be stolen because there is no door to prevent it. Ways to fix this

problem were discussed by the board, Ron and Roger. Trash receptacles inside the shed were discussed as a possible solution.

2. **Todd Lehman** said that Ed Lynch requested he be put on the agenda under New Business for next month's regular business meeting.
3. **Patty Bonner:** She asked the board if anyone has talked to Courtney Patterson. Todd said she did not return his calls. Patty asked if this was acceptable. There needs to be clarification and she has no reason to send Patty a nasty letter. Todd thinks maybe she is embarrassed about the letter. Patty said there needs to be repercussions for her actions. Because the letter was sent through the fire district it involves the board. Todd said this grudge needs to be dealt with. Ron asked why the issue just can't be let go. Patty said no, it can't be let go. Todd said the board should be here when this issue is discussed between Courtney and Patty. Patty said she would have let it go had Courtney called her back. Gary said there may need to be an executive session with the board and Courtney after the next regular meeting. Larry said she is coming to training and calls and he doesn't think it should be a reprimand on the board's part; that the board could assist in setting up a meeting between Patty and Courtney but that it is just between those two. More discussion took place and Larry asked if he could see a copy of the letter Courtney sent Patty. Carol made a copy for Larry from one Patty had. Larry asked Patty if she would write a letter to explain her side to Courtney. Patty said no, she wants a face-to-face; she needs Courtney to know what went on in the meeting so she wouldn't feel the need to take a cheap shot at Patty. Larry said we should put in the Organization Policy that once correspondence comes into this office it becomes fire district business. Ron and Carol said they would make sure the volunteers were clear on this.

There was no other business.

The next regular meeting will be May 24, 2010 at 7:00p.m.

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:30p.m.

---

Spokane County Fire District5 Chairman

---

Spokane County Fire District5 Commissioner

---

Spokane County Fire District5 Commissioner

---

*Attest:* Spokane County Fire District 5 Secretary