

Spokane County Fire District #5
July 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: 7:00p.m.

- **Flag Salute**

- Todd said the board would go into **executive session** to discuss personnel issues and would be out in 5 minutes. regular session ended at 7:02 and executive session began at 7:02p.m. At 7:05p.m. Todd requested an additional 15 minutes until 7:20p.m. and also asked Ron Wood to come back with them. Executive session ended at 7:20pm. and regular session began immediately.
- **The minutes from the June 28, 2010 Regular Meeting were reviewed.** Gary mentioned that Greg had mentioned he had a dog on page 3 which needs to be added, and that on page 5 add that Dan was recording. After the changes had been made the minutes were **approved unanimously as presented.**
- **The treasury report was reviewed.** Carol read the report aloud.
- **The July bills** were reviewed. Gary asked when the last fuel fill was made. Ron said in January. The fuel meter was discussed; it is about 25 gallons off. Larry said we should get someone out to calibrate it if it is not consistently off, but Ron said it was consistently off 25 gallons. Larry said then it should be okay. Gary made a motion to accept the bills as presented; Larry seconded the motion and **the expenses were approved unanimously as presented for \$6,519.33.**
- **Secretary's Report:** Carol handed out a printout of many grants offered, their due dates and other information to each commissioner. Larry has also researched grants and found that many grants are tied to FEMA (Fed. Emer. Management Act). Carol agrees. Bay Door maintenance was discussed. We did not do it last year and it needs to be done. One of the doors at St52 was discussed. Carol will get two quotes regarding both the door replacement and the maintenance of the other doors.
- **Correspondence:** Carol handed each commissioner a copy of a letter from Bob Harding dated 7/26/2010 to the board regarding the light issue and his property line. The commissioner's reviewed the letter silently. Larry would like to see the surveyor's report when it is done regarding Bob's property line. There was a thank you letter from Walt Clouse representing the Springhill Bible Fellowship regarding our emergency response. A thank you letter from Jim Ryan to the firefighters for the flowers in memory of Marjorie Ryan. A thank you letter from Jim Ryan to the board and SCFD5 for the donation to the Reardan FFA in memory of Marjorie Ryan. An email from the Ambulance Service Board regarding the four individuals representing the smaller groups in the contract.
- **Fire Chief's Report:**
 - **Personnel:** N/A
 - **Training:** The 1st training of the month involved setting up the Port-a-tank at the Hite Elevators; we used A52 to draft water from the tank. We put water in the summer tank at Anderson's farm and used both tenders to draft from the tank. The 2nd training was an officer appreciation night with a dinner as well as district familiarization and truck driving.
 - **Stations:** We had theft at St51 and damage at St52: The car from Pull-and-Save was stolen (Cadillac). The light bulb from St52 was found on the ground and broken.
 - **Equipment:** PPE condition report: they are only approved for 10 years use no matter what the condition according to NFPA code. Ours are approximately 7 years old now. None need replacing now but we need to look at grants to replace them in the near future. Carol and Ron will begin to acquire information needed to apply for the AFG Grant in February 2011. Ron showed the board FD9's replacement spreadsheets for an example of how to plan for replacement. Each commissioner wants a copy. Larry also wants an estimate from Mike Flint on how much a pumper/tender would cost.

- **Other:**

Old Business:

1. **Water Tanks at Greg Lucht's:** Larry said they should be gone by now. Ron asked how did they cut them up? The last report was that they were going to be moved. Larry said that AgLink can't even give us a bid because the tires and bearings may be bad; they have no way to put them on a trailer. Ron said we don't get them then. Larry said Greg wanted them gone, Ron said we have no use for them so that seemed the way to go. John Merkel of AgLink said they were sunk so bad in the mud it would take a crane to move them. Carol was told to take them off the agenda. Larry said he got \$1 each for them and gave Carol the envelope with the cash inside.
2. **Recruitment:** Ron said he has nothing new. Gary asked if Bethany Cobb has her EVAP training done. Ron said no. She is clear on her physical and driving trucks in non-code situations, like training, with supervision and is doing well.
3. **Courtney Patterson/Patty Bonner meeting:** Larry said the meeting fell through; Courtney was sick. Larry asked the board if they just want to forget about it. Todd said he would talk to Patty at work.
4. **Station 52 North side light:** Ron handed each commissioner a copy of the WAC codes dealing with employer's responsibility in safety and lighting in work areas WAC 296-800-210 and WAC 296-305-015? (not sure on the last numbers). Ron said that the light was out and broken. Larry said when the survey marks are done he can discuss it further. If we aren't able to drive our trucks through then maybe we will put up a fence. Ron said he did talk with Darel of Silver Star Electric who said the current light fixture won't handle a motion light. There is a light by the other door on the north side that faces west that is not used at this time but has a fixture that would handle a motion light. Bob will let the board know when the survey is done. Gary said we could just put the fence up now; we don't have to wait for the survey. Gary sees no reason why we should be back there. Bob discussed the motion made in a prior meeting and that cannot be messed with. Larry said we have to consider the new information we have just received regarding these WAC codes. Bob went on to describe how he has plowed snow at Station 52 in the past for the last 10 years. Ron and Kjell said, no you have not; since they have been on this department Bob has never plowed snow for the district.

New Business:

1. **Supply Request Ron: Roger McDonald would like a garbage can** to help him haul our aluminum cans to the recycling center. Gary will give him one and deliver it to him. Ron said we are down to 2 pagers. Our pagers will not be affected by the new radio communication system. We have 11 bad pagers that he would like to take in. The most we would pay for them is \$50 each. Gary said to take 5 in and maybe another 5 later. Larry asked how many Ron would like to have on hand. Ron said a lot. **The board said it would be okay to take 5 in now.** Pager and radio systems are completely separate. Mike Pankonin explained how the data works in each. **The fitting for the Christensen Rd. tank** estimates at \$200 from General Fire Apparatus. Ron would also like to have the plug at \$102. Gary asked can't we draft out of that now? Ron said no. Kjell explained drafting and what is on the engine as well as the explanation of the homeowner's group who purchased the tank. Discussion followed on upkeep of the tank, the weeds around the area as well as the lack of any response we have gotten from the owner despite two past letters we have sent regarding the maintenance agreement for this tank. Ron will check the level of water in the tank. **The welding of the ladder brackets on E52** needs to be completed. Larry said to see George at Landt's; Kjell said he did and was told the aluminum is too thick. General Fire will do it for \$80/hr plus materials. The weld that broke holds the ladder. Larry said check with Carlson Metal on Fancher; if it's within \$20 difference have General Fire do it. The board decided after more discussion to just take it to General Fire as that is what they do. **Fuel gage on E51** was discussed as it does not work. Ron got two quotes; one was \$70/hr, one was \$80/hr (Gen. Fire). Larry asked if they gave him any idea what it would take to fix it. Ron said no, but he likes the J&J Lube guy who seemed familiar with the problem and is very honest. Larry said if he could just give us a ballpark figure than we could make a decision. Todd said to go with who you are comfortable with. **B513 oil change** needs to be done; Larry said get it in and do it as it has not been changed in 5 years.

2. **Supply Request Carol:** She needs to buy a roll of stamps. The board approved the purchase.
3. **Gary concern about the truck at Greg's home:** Is the dog or dogs a problem for other firefighters? Are we providing a truck just for one firefighter? Bonnie Cobb and Kjell Anderson explained that Greg only wanted to be alerted if strangers were coming regarding the tanks, that the dog is behind a fence but is controlled. Kjell and Ron explained that the truck on Greg's property serves the entire community; it decreases response time to emergencies to a lot of residents south of our stations.
4. **Gary and the recording of our meetings:** Gary mentioned that Dan recorded our last meeting. He would like to use the district's recorder for future meetings. Carol will check into the recorder operation.
5. **Gary and the stance of Automatic Mutual Aid:** Ron said we have to be very careful with this. Gary said he hears Fire Chiefs say that commissioners are complaining we don't offer aid. Ron said canceling it would be a very bad idea. Kjell said we had no mutual aid with FD9 or FD10. Gary said we have always had mutual aid. Kjell said, you didn't let me finish; mutual aid is a very broad term. Unless you set up run cards and Automatic aid, as well as network and train with those fire districts you are not utilizing it to best serve your firefighters and community, which is essential. The station that aids us from FD9 is Station 97 which is all-volunteer. Gary said that Bob Anderson called him and said his commissioners were concerned we couldn't handle our calls. Kjell discussed mutual aid again and how it is built up and reciprocated. What we have now is essential and it goes both ways; we have responded with aid to their districts as well. He is dead against cutting off aid as a firefighter and a resident. Larry said we don't want to lose the relationship at FD9; it is a concern of the order of what is toned out and in what order. Kjell explained how minutes matter and it is imperative to get the units rolling as they can always be cancelled. We need to make sure dispatch knows what we have for resources; they know now but did not in the past before the run cards were set up properly. We have shown them we are up to speed. The other fire districts were concerned in the past on our ability to fight structure fires. We have worked hard at becoming trained in that area both with personnel and equipment. Larry said we don't want to take FD9 or FD10 out of the picture. If you feel the two districts need to be paged at the same time and the commissioners at FD9 have no problem with it, then that is great. Kjell said that if Bob Anderson has problems or says his commissioners have problems then maybe they need to state them in writing to this board.
6. **Carol discussed the Northern Energy spreadsheet:** She made a spreadsheet illustrating the past costs of propane at both stations as well as when the fills took place. She reported that there was an option to change out our two 500gal tanks for 1,000gal tanks at no charge allowing us to fill maybe just once a year when prices were the lowest.

***9:00p.m.: Carol had to leave and had the Chairman's permission due to childcare.

Public Concerns:

There was no other business. No other minutes were turned into Carol.
 The next regular meeting will be August 23, 2010 at 7:00p.m.
 The regular meeting adjourned at 9:05p.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 Secretary