

OKANOGAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #6
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
January 14, 2019

PRESENT: Commissioner Palm, Commissioner Stokes, Asst Chief Stamps, Secretary Mark Crum, other people attending include:
John Owen, Brian McAuliffe, Jesse Fuller, Keith Comstock, Ann McCreary (MVN), Ron Perrow, Duncan Bronson, Mike Port, Paul Sisson, Emily Sisson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES of the December 10th regular meeting Commissioner Palm made motion to approve minutes from the December meetings Commissioner Stokes seconded, all were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Commissioner's reviewed the treasurer's report from December and approved. The ending balance was \$630,594.30 fund balance December. Commissioner Stokes made a motion that the December treasurer's reports be accepted and Commissioner Palm seconded, all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Paul Sisson reminded us of Backyard Ski Day!!

OLD BUSINESS:

New Station Design: Chief Acord has completed a Draft Needs Assessment. Chief Acord reads through the completed Draft. Draft was completed with input from volunteers, paid staff and architect along with Commissioners when previous engineering was finished.

Commissioner Palm asked Chief Acord if the existing station architectural plan worked with the plan. Chief Acord mentioned that firefighters talked about maybe needing a larger training room. Commissioner Palm spoke about changing the bathrooms to accommodate both male and female, and incorporating a larger training room. Stokes and Palm agreed it was a good point to build from.

Commissioner Stokes asked if the Fire District currently has a communications room, and asked why it was taken out of service. Stokes said it was built with grant funding in 1999 and was fully operational.

The Draft Needs Assessment is not currently on the website.

Duncan Bronson said that most agree that the District needs a new station. Duncan asked Commissioner Palm if he was aware of the legal process named Value Re-Engineering (design building process). This process allows the low bidder within 30 days to meet with architect to re-negotiate items on the estimate to bring costs down. Duncan said it's unfortunate that the District wasn't aware of this legal process.

Mike Port said he agrees with Duncan and asks why wouldn't you do that?

Ron Perrow explains the design building process, and agrees with Jerry that this is a design efficiency measure that should be used after the bid is accepted, and funding is in place.

Paul Sisson urges not to sacrifice utility just to save money. If the building design process can save money and provide the needed quality than there is no issue. But if you sacrifice quality then there is a problem. Sisson comments on Chief Acords draft needs assessment, and states that it was well thought out and seems to be in line with other stations of the same size.

Mike Port questions why the district doesn't work into a building cost based on a defined budget. Commissioner Palm gave Port a ballpark estimate of \$3 million dollars. Port is glad to hear that the district is working towards a budget number of \$3 million dollars, and that it sounds like a feasible number.

Duncan says that the district should perform a financial analysis to determine what the district could afford. Then put the rest of the cost on the tax payers.

Paul Sisson urges the commissioners to not box themselves into a corner by coming up with a number then ending up in the same situation with an in-adequate building.

Commissioner Stokes mentions that district should be sure to leave space for expansion.

Sisson spoke to Lifeline ambulance about their structure, which cost \$3 million dollars. Funding for this building will probably be around \$3million. The Public Utilities building is only part of the new structure in Twisp. When you add the entire size of the facility you are looking at close to \$3million. Sisson stated that Kittitas County learned that you should build all at once instead of phases because it's cheaper. Sisson states that it's obvious that the needs for firefighting are going to continue to increase.

Commissioner Stokes mentions that we could look into building a secondary structure to house lesser used equipment.

District Station Property SEPA:

Road assessment and water storage studies have been completed, and Chief Acord has passed them onto John Hayes. Hayes will try to complete the SEPA soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

Engine 641 (Winthrop Engine) had an injector drop, so it was brought to Cummins. Front cover on motor was cracked and injectors replaced. Cost of repairs is approx. \$5,000. Chief Acord will look at maintenance plan to prepare for other repair costs.

American Tower Lease:

American Tower Lease would like to look into renewing lease. Currently in second 5 year term of lease. Chief Acord is going to look into the financials and what it would cost the District to re-negotiate including a \$4,000 signing bonus.

Commissioner Stokes moved that the commissioners move the discussion to next month's meeting, Commissioner Palm seconded all were in favor.

Chiefs Report:

Monthly Accruals

Chief Acord presented monthly accruals for leave for December.

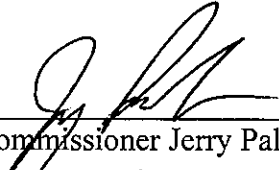
Committees: N/A

Public Comment #2:

Paul Sisson asked about the adjoining property on Horizon Flats and asked if the commissioners have spoken to the current owners about what they'd be willing to part with. Commissioner Brandenburg is planning on speaking to them (Darold is absent from meeting). Sisson said acquiring the extra acre or 3 would help the district for future expansion, additional land in the future would be more limited. He encourages the district to look into it.

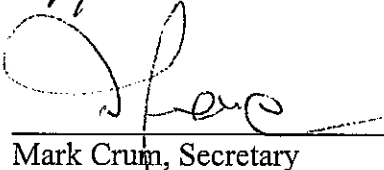
VOUCHER APPROVAL: The vouchers were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Stokes motioned to approve Vouchers #18-553 through 18-563 in the amount of \$27,140.57 for payroll and taxes which were presented for payment on December 26th 2018, Vouchers #19-001 through 19-041 regular bills in the amount \$29,340.90 for a total of \$56,481.47 which were presented for payment on January 13th, 2019. Commissioner Palm seconded. Motion approved with all in favor.

The ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.



Commissioner Jerry Palm

ATTEST:



Mark Crum, Secretary