

OKANOGAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #6
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
March 12, 2018

PRESENT: Commissioner Les Stokes, Commissioner Jerry Palm, Commissioner Darold Brandenburg, Chief Cody Acord, Secretary Mark Crum, other people attending include: Jesse Fuller, Rusty Stamps, Emily Sisson, Paul Sisson, John Owen, Jim Cahill, Jim Schulz, Derek Poindexter, Rick Nordby, Brian McAuliffe.
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES of the February 12th & 26th, 2018 regular meeting minutes, Commissioner Stokes made motion to approve minutes from the February 12th & 26th meetings, Commissioner Palm, seconded, all were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Commissioner's reviewed the treasurer's report from January and approved. The ending balance was \$179,473.95 fund balance January. Commissioner Stokes made a motion that the February treasurer's reports be accepted and Commissioner Palm seconded, all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

OLD BUSINESS:

Rescue / Support Vehicle

Chief Acord called Hughes, Cascade Fire, General Fire, North Star, US Fire Equipment requesting bid, but the Fire District only received one from General Fire. General Fire was for \$194,957.00.

Chief Acord did receive an email from True North stating that they would not be submitting a bid.

Chief Acord is going to look into pricing discounts from Ford.

Discussion from commissioners about recent Aero Methow ambulance purchases for \$200,000. District still has money available from LOCAL loan to purchase truck (by March 2018).

Paul Sisson had discussion with Wayne Walker from Lifeline Ambulance, and Walker said a barebones ambulance cost \$150,000. Sisson followed up with Ken Doran's recommendation for an air trailer, which would cost \$40,000. Sisson's opinion is that the bid for \$194,000 from General Fire isn't out of line.

Commissioner Palm asked Mr. McAuliffe his thoughts, McAuliffe replied he would recommend the purchase stating a purpose built vehicle is the best way to go.

Commissioner Brandenburg made a motion to purchase the Rescue/Support vehicle from General Fire for \$194,957, Commissioner Stokes seconded, all were in favor.

Property Station Location:

Commissioner Palm mentioned a piece of property on Radar Rd that was offered for free to the Fire District. The property is on the flood plain, and the commissioners aren't willing to build on that. The other stipulation was that the property goes back to the owner if the district ever needs to change location of the station.

Mr. McAuliffe advises that the Fire District and Little Star board talk to discuss challenges of Westernization.

John Owen asked for clarification on ownership of Radar Rd property, Commissioners clarified that the Fire District would own the property but return the property to the current owner if the property no longer used by Fire District.

Chief Acord recommends to the commissioners to clarify message that the district is not looking to purchase another piece of property, but is considering other alternatives for a property in Winthrop.

John Owen recommends that the Fire district do some outreach to the community, stating that the fire district has a piece of property, but is considering all options at this point. The article in the Methow Valley News by Don Nelson states that the White Ave property is the preferred property, which is not the case.

Sisson states that it is his opinion that the Methow Valley news took liberties when interpreting the results of the committees report, saying that the White Ave. property is preferred.

Commissioner Brandenburg asked Sisson to describe the downside of the Horizon Flats property. Lists that it's ½ a mile from the ideal location which is intersection of bridge and White Ave, trees on the property that could be habitat for western gray squirrel, debris on roof from nearby trees.

Commissioner Palm asked Mr. McAuliffe about which road would be preferred from Horizon Flats or existing location. Mr. McAuliffe lists issues with all access routes to existing location on Englar, and wouldn't choose any of those over Horizon Flats location.

Sisson recommends pricing out the cost of building on the White Ave property, so the District can provide figures and numbers when potentially rejecting the White Ave Property.

Cahill states that it seems that Westernization can change their mind even after the fact, and that's scary and hard to put a price tag on.

Discussion from Commissioners about having a meeting with Westernization board. Talking about issues such as the Littlestar School, training props, and Westernization challenges.

John Owen urges the board to focus on training and safety at the property on White Ave.

Chief Acord asks if the board can assemble some questions at the April board meeting, for him to ask at the Station Building workshop.

Chief Acord and Commissioner Brandenburg are going to meet with a member of the Westernization board to discuss building challenges. Commissioner Palm is going to do some calculating to get a rough cost on adding fill at the Varney site.

Assistant Chief Position:

21 years of age, high school grad, good physical and mental health, 5 yr minimum at a Chief Officer Position, English speaking, active with a fire department for the last 5 years, clean driving record, first aid cpr, etc. \$56k - \$60k per year. Ad will be advertised in Methow Valley News, and Wenatchee world. End of May 1st of June try to hire.

Commissioner Stokes said that he agrees with the advertising area, because it needs to be somebody from the Inland Northwest.

NEW BUSINESS:

Required Public Records and Retention Training needs to be done every four years. Chief Acord, Commissioner Palm, and Commissioner Brandenburg are needing to re-take the class which has to be done by end of June 2018.

Noxious Weeds:

Count found Class B weeds on Fire District property. The Weed board will come out and spray for the District. Discussion about who can spray for the weeds. Chief Acord is going to look into other options. Commissioners suggested for John Lindsey to give an estimate. Need to determine where the weeds are and what it would cost.

Chiefs Report:

Monthly Accruals

Int. Chief Acord presented accrual reports for February.

Committees: n/a

Public Comment #2:

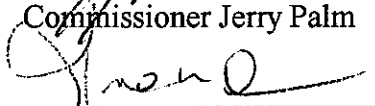
John Owen urged to focus on the functionality of new building when looking at the new fire station.

VOUCHER APPROVAL: The vouchers were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Stokes motioned to approve Vouchers #18-036 through 18-048 in the amount of \$20,081.72 for payroll and taxes which were presented for payment on 12, 2018, Vouchers #18-081 through 18-106 regular bills in the amount of \$15,187.37, for a total of \$35,469.09 which were presented for payment on February 12, 2018. Commissioner Brandenburg seconded. Motion approved with all in favor.

The ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.



Commissioner Jerry Palm

ATTEST: 

Mark Crum, Secretary