

# **Fort Ellis Fire Service Area**

## **Public Meeting**

### **Fort Ellis Fire Service Area Board of Trustees**

Date: Thursday, December 21, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Fort Ellis Fire Department

### **Officers Present:**

Vice President Norbert Hackl

### **Trustees Present**

Dan LaFrance (via Zoom), Graham Goff

### **Chief Present**

Chief Frank Boynton, Deputy Chief Buck Taylor

### **Guests/Public**

No public or guests attended,

### **Public**

No public comments.

### **Call to Order 7:11**

### **Consent Agenda**

#### ***Secretary Report***

The minutes from the November Board meeting were issued via email and each Board member acknowledged receipt. Graham made a motion to approve the minutes. No public comment. Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### ***Financial Report***

The November 2023 YTD financial report was issued via email and presented at the meeting. The Board decided to table the approval of the financial report until the January meeting when they have a chance to review with Nikki. No public Comment.

Discussion on the funds in the Building Reserve.

Discussion on moving funds from the Operating account to the Building Reserve account.

Discussion on the balance in the Operating account. Norbert will meet with Nikki and try to figure it out.

Discussion on the Vehicle Reserve account balance.

Discussion on finishing the building and getting ready to build a plan to replace Engine 1-2.

Discussion on tax notices going out late this year.

## Regular Agenda

### *Review Annual Events Calendar*

Equipment inventory is ongoing.

Discussion on the Firefighter Banquet. The Social Chair will discuss, and dates will be determined.

### **Chief's Report**

#### *Update on Capitol Campaign- Frank*

#### *Grants*

Elks around \$10,000 to ask for four laptops.

DNRC- need to get a list together for the next one.

FEMA AFG grants for E1-2 replacement. It will take around 36 months.

Discussion on the Ford Expedition and Suburban replacement strategy.

Discussion on the donor wall and Brick Campaign. Will extend that until the end of the year. 32 bricks have been sold so far with installation this spring.

### **Chief Updates:**

Discussion on the FCC license and reinstatement.

Discussion on the EMS license renewal. Check to be signed tonight and mailed out.

Discussion on new construction fire sprinkler inspections and process. Norbert will contact the Planning Director tomorrow to form a plan and find a couple of consultants to recommend. The Chief will use the report from the engineering firm as a basis for approval.

Discussion on our data reporting system. Will transition to First Due.

We're fully moved into the new station and operational.

Discussion on punch list items. Water running from the roof and down the chains is splattering and freezing on the sidewalk. Frank purchased a sand spreader and has informed Bill at R&R Taylor.

Discussion on the need for a downspout or more possible options. Hennebery Eddy has been asked for a solution that works for this issue.

Discussion on the old station. We're out of the old building and would like to turn it over to the Academy on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Copies of the License Agreement for the training building and Notice to Vacate will be printed tonight for Norbert to sign and be sent to the Academy.

All radios on hand are in our trucks. The programming is okay for now with a round of tweaking. Eighteen more handhelds were ordered, shipped and are in transit. The Montana State grant contract was signed today. The total grant is \$68,270 with our responsibility being \$6,827.20.

Discussion on a Montana DNRC grant awarded for wildland PPE for \$4,000. Frank approved the order, and the invoice will be sent in for payment and the DNRC will reimburse us.

E1-2 had some minor mechanical and electrical issues due to corrosion. It's an estimated \$4,000 for repair. It will be returned to the station for calls between repairs.

Insurance and registration cards have been updated in all apparatus.

Line tape is working well in the bays.

The Fort Ellis sign was installed today. The light to illuminate the sign isn't up yet.

The air system has arrived and will begin installation on December 26<sup>th</sup>. We have volunteers to move trucks around.

Discussion on getting a new quote for accident and injury insurance to increase coverage for the firefighters.

Our Emergency Medical program was inspected by the state.

Frank met with a donor who is going to fund a competition for MSU students to design a mural in the entry area of our station.

Discussion on the auxiliary group and insurance coverage.

Buck and Frank will talk with and establish some possible contacts for resources to help people in the community.

Discussion on the Firefighter's Fund account setup.

Discussion on Personnel files and Compliance.

Discussion on Cost Recovery for responses on I-90.

Chiefs request discussion to replace two desktop computers.

Mutual Aid letter discussion.

Discussion on Administrative Assistant's yearly review.

Discussion on Agenda changes and format.

### **Call Report for November 2023:**

Total Monthly Calls below last year.

Rescue and emergency 62% of our responses.

**Long Range Planning Committee:**

Nothing to report.

**Training/Members Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Subdivision Activity:**

Nothing to report.

**Public Service Outreach Activities:**

Nothing to report.

**SOG's:**

Nothing to report.

**Gallatin County Fire Council Activities:**

Nothing to report.

**Update on New Recruits:**

The new set of four recruits will start on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. They have already attended some trainings and are excited to get going.

**Outreach Update:**

Nothing new.

**Old Business**

Discussion on an outstanding invoice from October for Hennebery Eddy. Graham sent it to Nikki for processing.

Update on snowplowing.

Discussion on bill.com and the process.

**New Business**

More discussion on the two desktop computers requested by Frank. The total comes to \$1,950 with installation. This expense will come out of the operating account. Norbert, Dan and Graham are okay with this purchase.

Server approved and installed but need computers for compatibility.

Graham made a motion to approve the purchase of the two desktop computers and two monitors for \$1,950. No public comment. Dan seconded. Motion carried.

***Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm***

Next board meeting Thursday, January 18, 2024 @ 7:00 pm at the station with the option to join via zoom. A Zoom link will be added to the website for Public Comments, and all are free to join in person as well.

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_