



Teton County Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 474
911 N. Hwy 33
Driggs, ID 83422

Tuesday September 29th, 2020 - Teleconferenced

In Attendance:

Jason Letham, Fire Commissioner
Scott Golden, Fire Commissioner
Bob Foster, Fire Commissioner
Bret Campbell, Fire Chief
Ed Schauster, Deputy Fire Chief/Administration
Monica Hoth, Board Secretary
Bart Birch, Legal Counsel, via zoom
Aaron Stiny, Firefighter
Rod Teel, Captain
Corey Gittus, Firefighter & Local 4667
Rebecca Parkinson, Firefighter & Local 4667

*During the COVID-19 Crisis, Governor Brad Little has signed a proclamation ([Link to current proclamation](#)) to allow boards to meet electronically **by suspending the requirement that at least one (1) member of the governing board members, directors, or chief administrative officers be present at the posted location.** The suspension of the section applies only to the requirement of allowing the public to attend the meeting in person. All other requirements of the Open Meetings Law remain in place, including providing the public with the ability to attend public meetings by telecommunication devices.*

Meeting began @ 1704 hours

Minutes: Commissioner Letham asked if there were question or comments on the prepared minutes from the August 25th, 2020 meeting.

No questions or comments were made.

Commissioner Foster made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied "aye", and the minutes were approved.

Claims: Commissioner Letham asked for any questions or comments on the claims presented for the period **August 1st, 2020 through September 25th, 2020.**

No questions or comments were made.

Commissioner Golden made a motion to approve the claims as presented.

Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied “aye”, and the claims were approved as presented.

Budget Statement:

Commissioner Letham asked for any questions or comments on the August 2020 Budget Statement presented.

Chief Campbell reviewed each area of the budget statement. Discussion regarding Wildland reimbursement and new tires purchased.

Commissioner Golden made a motion to approve the Budget Statement as presented.

Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied “aye”, and the Budget Statement was approved as presented.

COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Updates:

Chief Campbell recapped the current positive cases in Teton Valley and neighboring Counties. Two recent patient transfers with positive patients and what protocols are in place for this were reviewed. Discussion began on the possible surge and fatigue happening around COVID.

Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) 2020/21 Acceptance and Approval:

Chief Schauster and Firefighter Parkinson have almost completed making the edits requested to the Collective Bargaining Agreement, CBA. Chief Campbell has reviewed them and believe to be correct as well. Since it was not available for signature at the meeting, they will get the official copy signed by Board Chair, Jason Letham in the coming days. They were given the article edits in the meeting for their review prior to the entire document being finished.

Commissioner Foster made a motion to approve; Article 14, Article 16, Article 19, Article 20, Article 23, Article 30, and Article 31 to be incorporated back into the full CBA for signature.

Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied “aye”, and the motion passed.

Capital Improvement Discussion:

Chief Campbell reviewed his conversation with Barbara at Silver Star about Fiber Network buildout schedules and plans. Victors Fire Station 2 is close already to the connection point and may only be around 2-3k to contract being done. The Driggs Fire Station 1 will cost more if we want it now as it is not in the area getting it on this round. There will be future opportunities that will change the cost of that work, in which time the connection point may be brought closer to us.

Commissioner Foster made a motion to allow up to \$3k to bring fiber to Victor Station 2.

Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied “aye”, and the motion passed.

Began discussion on Capital Improvement on Radio Repeaters with Chief Campbell giving a recap of the history, challenges, and potential of adding or moving the repeater currently on Relay Ridge. To cut down or eliminate “dead-zones” that are becoming issues. Chief Campbell feels that Fire Commissioners are best positioned to taking a proposal to the County Board. They will work to begin that discussion in the coming days/weeks.

Discussion continued for the Tender which Fire Commissioners had previously authorized a purchase of for \$110k to Chassis swap. Chief’s believe there is another better solution to getting a quality Tender. Purchasing a used water tender may cost instead, only \$40k – \$60k. They will continue to investigate the change of plans.

Lastly, they discussed buildings. The discussion was around meeting needs but concern that needs will not go away and cost will only go up. Work session proposed, and they will continue to discuss.

Chief’s Report:

Fire Chief

Chief Campbell reported to Fire Commissioners the status of Wildland Fire assignments, noting that he would be surprised if they continued to receive calls for deployment into winter.

Chief Campbell also updated Fire Commissioners of the Fuels Reduction work happening and the Fuels Crew work being done. He informed them the Fuels Crew work is going well, and they have received more and more interest in both grant work areas.

Recess

Adjourn

Commissioner Golden made a motion to adjourn at 1944 hours.

Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied “aye”, and the Board of Fire Commissioners were adjourned.