



Teton County Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 474

911 N. Hwy 33

Thursday, July 9, 2026- Driggs Fire Station, as well as Teleconferenced via Zoom

In Attendance:

Jason Letham, Fire Commissioner- absent

Bob Foster, Fire Commissioner

Erin Borbet, Fire Commissioner

Mike Maltaverne-Fire Chief

Mariana O'Neill -CFO

Meeting began @ 1107 hours

Commissioner Foster called the meeting to order.

The meeting focused on reviewing the fiscal year 2027 budget for the fire district, with Mariana presenting detailed financial projections and operational changes. The budget shows a 6% overall increase due to both the 3% statutory limit and new construction numbers, with total revenues projected at \$6.1 million. Key budget changes included a 12.5% increase in health insurance premiums, addition of a wildland coordinator position, implementation of Lexipol for policy manual updates, and transition to Paycom for payroll and HR functions starting October 1st. Mariana highlighted concerns about the growing benefits costs representing over \$1.5 million (25% of the budget) and potential future challenges with balancing benefits packages against wage increases. Mariana also discussed operational changes including the renewal of the Wyoming contract at \$580,000 and modifications to reserve firefighter pay structure, moving from paid blocks to hourly rates with a 72-hour monthly cap. Mariana reported that liability insurance costs increased by only \$1,000 compared to previous years, and discussed budget increases for training and meals/lodging.

Chief Maltaverne outlined plans to potentially staff a new station in Tetonia based on a proposed 400-acre development, suggesting a mill levy increase in May to fund 3-4 positions in Victor and a few in Tetonia, including a training officer. He noted significant community support for the fire department, with Facebook followers growing from 2,000 to over 3,000, and expressed confidence in moving forward with a mill levy campaign if no significant events occur between now and spring. Chief also Mariana reported progress on securing permission to conduct a 911

center study after addressing concerns with county officials, and discussed potential improvements to the service agreement including greater control over the \$150,000 funding allocation.

Mariana presented a replacement schedule showing when equipment needs to be replaced, noting that many items purchased in 2006 and 2002 are coming due in 2027. She explained that while replacements are budgeted, they will use some reserve funds to replace the Medic 2 vehicle due next year, especially since they are hiring 4 new people. The conversation ended with discussion of an upcoming budget approval meeting on the 28th, where final budget numbers will be reviewed before publication in the newspaper.

Commissioner Foster made a motion to adjourn at 1153 hours.

Commissioner Borbet seconded the motion.

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

