



Teton County Fire Protection District

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

Monday November 19th, 2018

Fire Commissioners in attendance:

Jason Letham
Kent Wagener
Scott Golden

Also in attendance:

Bret Campbell, Fire Chief
Earle Giles III, Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Marshal
Amy Manning, III-A Executive Director
Jared Colson, Battalion Chief of EMS
Tim Ruhrup, Captain
Corey Gittus, Driver/Operator
Charis Schreiber, Local 4667 President
Becca Parkinson, Firefighter
Bart Birch, Legal Counsel
Monica Hoth, Board Secretary
Tate Hoyle, Captain

Meeting began @ 1537 hours

Minutes: Commissioner Letham asked if anyone had question or comments on the prepared minutes from the **October 15th, 2018** meeting.

No questions or comments were made.

Commissioner Letham 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 as presented.

Claims: Commissioner Letham asked for any questions or comments on the claims presented for the period **October 1st to November 19th, 2018**.

No questions or comments were raised.

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

Commissioner Wagener 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 comments or questions on the October 2018 Budget Statement presented.

There was brief discussion about the new ambulance purchase and the wildland fire season monies received. No further details or comments were made.

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

Commissioner Wagener seconded the motion.

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

Selection of Fire District Health Insurance Plans:

Commissioners met Amy Manning, Executive Director from the III-A (Idaho Independent Intergovernmental Authority). Amy gave each Commissioner the III-A proposal for the District to consider adopting for the January 1st plan year start. This would replace, if they so decide, the current grand-mothered plan with Blue Cross of Idaho for medical and vision insurance.

Commissioners asked previously for the Chief to discuss the options with staff. It was decided to use the chain of command to ensure their feedback came back in time for the meeting.

Chief Campbell spoke about those conversations and reported positive feedback about expanding the coverage options and about the cost savings. He reported the cost savings may be smaller initially, but with rate increases and coverage options he believed the savings would grow even more over time. He also spoke about going over the details of the current plan compared to the III-A offer further in a meeting with our current insurance broker, AJ Argyle with American Insurance Services.

III-A is a three year initial contract, and annually after the first three years. The rates and information about whether or not to include the services of the Fire District’s broker, American Insurance were also discussed.

It was decided to hold this topic over to another special meeting to discuss further. They will hold the special meeting on Monday November 26th, 2018 at 4pm.

Battalion Chief Job Description & Classification:

Chief Campbell presented Commissioners a job description for Battalion Chiefs of Training, EMS and Logistics. This was at the request of Commissioner Wagener at an earlier meeting, and will be used to consider whether Battalion Chief’s should be exempt or non-exempt positions as it relates to their inclusion of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Commissioners wanted to review the information and have it placed on the next agenda to consider again at that time.

Recap 2018 Fire Season:

Chief Campbell presented Commissioners with the spreadsheet to recap the deployments and billing for the 2018 Fire Season. All billings for the season are in the hands of the IDL for processing and payment/reimbursement. Around half of the fires have been returned with reimbursement/payment complete and the remaining will come in the next month or two. There were 15 employees deployed but it took 100% participation from the District to backfill the stations and keep everything running smoothly at home. The equipment billed on their spreadsheet shows 230k, which represents the most wildland fire activity by the department to date. This amount is likely to change as the audit systems process the payments. That revenue is beyond the reimbursements and placed into their budget statements as it comes in. There was further discussion on additional revenue received beyond reimbursement and how that is received. Chief Campbell also expressed pride in how our district not only helped our neighbors during this wildland fire season, but also the experience they gained and the revenue they were able to bring back to the district in doing so.

Discuss Surplussing of 04' Ambulance:

Chief Campbell reported to Commissioners that because the new 2019 ambulance has come on line earlier than expected we are able to surplus the 2004 ambulance a bit earlier than planned also, if Commissioners still decide to do so. Chief Campbell further explained it is the 5th ambulance, and there need only be 4. The 1999 ambulance is in much better shape and would remain with the fleet. There has only been mechanical issues with the 04 and it has cost money to keep it in the condition we expect for use as an ambulance. He would use the same method of surplussing this vehicle as they did earlier in the year.

Commissioner Wagener made a motion to surplus the 2004 Ambulance.

Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied "aye", and the motion to surplus the 2004 ambulance was approved as presented.

Update on Water Tender Chassis:

Chief Campbell reported to Fire Commissioners that he was notified that the long awaited truck chassis that have been delayed in being released to us are in fact being put back into service by the government and they are no longer available.

Chief Campbell went on to say this leaves the District in a bind with tenders. Tender 1 is in great shape and not needing further attention as of now. However the two older fords are in rough shape. Not the equipment on them, but rather their chassis. One of the two older ford chassis being in worse shape even then the other and has been out of service for about a year, leaving the district with 2 tenders in service. This is not ideal and Chief Campbell has asked Commissioners to consider what they would like to do with the monies that were allocated to the chassis swap that will not go through now, and maybe using it for another solution. They will address the topic again at the next meeting. In the meantime, Battalion Chief of Logistics, Jon Wisby, will continue researching options for them to consider also.

Holiday Party:

Chief Campbell reported back to Commissioners what the feedback they had asked him to gather from the staff. Discussion began on the thoughts that were shared and also presented the limited options for locations. Teton Springs and the Headwaters Grille has agreed to help us stay on budget and host a wonderful party for staff if Commissioners agree. Details were discussed and Commissioners were in agreement to go with the offer from Headwaters Grille. Chief Campbell will work out the remaining details and will host the holiday party on December 14th at 6pm.

Awards Ceremony:

Chief Campbell expressed what he felt was an overdue need to hold an awards ceremony. He asked Commissioners to consider holding one this coming March 2019. Not like the last one held many years ago, but a low key event at the THS auditorium to hold their brief program and recognize our folks. All three Commissioners were in agreement and Chief Campbell will continue working with the different parties to get that going. Campbell hoped it will be a more annual program going forward.

Chief's Report:

Fire Chief

Chief Campbell briefed Fire Commissioners on the SCBA fill station purchase. Saying they have made a deal to purchase this with the LN Curtis Company for \$48,193, and after an \$8,000 trade in, the total came to \$40,193. Chief reported he felt this was a great unit that will be here long after all of us are retired. He appreciated the Commissioners seeing the need to get our current unit replaced.

Chief Campbell also reported there is a new recruit class that has started. 5 new recruits are currently working with the Battalion Chief of Training, Kevin Bollar to complete their training and certifications to join the Reserve program when completed.

Chief Campbell lastly reported the struggles with the Wyoming EMS licensing board, but they are working through it to be completed in time to keep certifications active. Staff is working hard to comply and there are future plans to make it easier in the future, but just making them aware.

Fire Marshal

Chief Giles reported to Commissioners that we were successful in this year's fire prevention month and visiting with schools.

He also reported that the annual Arson Investigators Conference and class they attended in November. He and Chief Campbell took away a lot of great hands on training.

Recess

Adjourn

Commissioner Golden made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Letham seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied "aye", and the Board of Fire Commissioners was adjourned.