



# Teton County Fire Protection District

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

## Board of Fire Commissioners

Scott Golden, District 1  
Jason Letham, Chair-District 2  
Kent Wagener, District 3  
Monica Hoth, Secretary/Clerk

Monday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Attendance** District Commissioners: Jason Letham & Scott Golden  
Interim Commissioners:  
District Legal Counsel: Bart Birch  
District Public Relations:  
Fire Chief: Bret Campbell  
Division Chief-Prevention: Earle Giles  
Division Chief-EMS:  
Division Chief-Training: Jon Wisby  
Shift Captains:  
Driver/Operators:  
Firefighters:  
Board Secretary: Monica Hoth  
Local 4667: A. Fletcher and N. Brown  
Public:

## **Welcome @ 1530 hours**

Commissioner Letham welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commissioner Wagener is out of town and unable to attend.

## **Minutes:**

Commissioner Letham asked if anyone had question or comments on the minutes for the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. No questions were asked.

**Commissioner Golden made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented.**

**Commissioner Letham seconded the motion.**

**Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor, both Golden and Letham replied “aye” and the minutes were approved as presented.**

## **Claims:**

Commissioner Letham asked for any questions or comments for the claims presented for the period **February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 through March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. No questions or comments were raised.

**Commissioner Letham made a motion to approve the claims as presented.**

**Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.**

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

### **Budget Statement:**

Commissioner Letham asked for any comments or questions on the February Budget Statement presented. Commissioner Golden asked about the budget items for Dues, as well as for Fleet Maintenance. Both items were discussed further between the board and Chief Campbell. Commissioner Letham asked about increasing the budget for Fleet Maintenance next year. Chief Campbell is planning to adjust the budget for Fleet Maintenance slightly in the next budget year. Overall he still feels that they are on track to finish under budget for this fiscal year. Discussion continued about the overall budget picture presented. Commissioner Golden commented about budget and wage questions he is fielding from the public. He asked Chief Campbell to identify, in some clear form, budget and more specifically wage comparison info to help clarify the topic for the public. He went on to suggest it might be helpful to have something put into the Letter to the Editor section of the TVN in order to better reach the public with this information. Chief Campbell agreed to create a fact sheet for Commissioners. Chief Campbell also confirmed to Commissioners that the wildland fire season reimbursements and revenue has been received from the Idaho Dept. of Lands. Those will be shown in the March budget statement. Discussion continued, but no further questions or comments were raised.

**Commissioner Letham made a motion to approve the February Budget Statement as presented. Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.**

**Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. Both Golden and Letham replied “aye”, and the Budget Statements were approved as presented.**

### **Wyoming Fire & EMS Update:**

Legal Counsel, Bart Birch communicated to Commissioners that he has spoken with Keith Gingery from Wyoming. One change was made to the agreement, for allowing this to be a 5 year agreement with each year receiving \$200,000 instead of the gradual increase that had been discussed earlier. He anticipated the signing of the agreement sent over to them at the next Wyoming Commissioner meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>. He will let us know when this happens but doesn't anticipate any further issues. Mr. Birch suggested that Fire Commissioners approve the agreement with the changes as it is currently in front of Wyoming. Doing this will allow Fire Commissioners to sign the agreement when it comes back without having to meet in order to finalize the agreement. Chief Campbell also pointed out that with this agreement being 200k/yearly, (instead of 180k with annual increases after year 1) is 30k more than was put in the budget for this fiscal year. That too will help with overall budget goals.

**Commissioner Golden made a motion to approve the Wyoming Fire Protection, Emergency Medical Services, And Ambulance Services Contract as presented today. Copy of this contract is included in the minute's record attached.**

**Commissioner Letham seconded the motion.**

**Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. Both Golden and Letham replied “aye”, and the contract was approved as presented.**

***Health Insurance Update:***

Monica Hoth and Chief Campbell updated the Fire Commissioners on the status of the health coverage through Blue Cross of Idaho. As Commissioners have been updated previously; health insurance with the current Blue Cross of Idaho plan is set to expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. Both Campbell and Hoth are meeting with insurance representatives in the coming weeks to find out exactly what the options are for health insurance beyond December 31<sup>st</sup>. Additionally, there is an opportunity to change which Broker we have represent the Fire District, and Commissioners will be given those options as well in the coming months. This topic will appear for Fire Commissioners to be updated monthly as progress is made.

***Total Eclipse Update:***

Commissioner Letham as well as Div. Chief Giles, attended the weekly Eclipse meeting earlier today. They both discussed the topics and issues from that meeting. Discussion continued about the Fire District plans for August and Chief Campbell expressed his confidence and planning that is happening. Chief Campbell reported that he has crafted models for staffing levels as well as for budgeting in regards to those staffing levels with the scenarios that could arise. He feels confident in the Fire District ability to provide coverage for Fire and EMS. The weekly meetings have had a Fire District representative there from the beginning and this will continue.

***2017 Wildland Fire Season:***

Chief Campbell updated the Commissioners on the monies received from the IDL for the 2016 wildland Fire Season. Discussion about the effect to the budget followed. Commissioner Golden asked for an understanding on what the upcoming 2017 wildland fire season with the addition of the eclipse will have on staff. Chief Campbell explained the measures being taken, like limiting the number of shift personnel going on deployment and sending reserve staff when possible. He further explained this year will be unique because of the shutdown period being placed on wildland deployments due to the eclipse. Discussion continued on the best ways to handle the next fire season, including Commissioner Golden asking the Union representation their opinion. Commissioner Golden expressed interest in finding balance with deployments and staff stress, while at the same time gaining experience and providing the district with additional revenue. Discussion continued on the status of the apparatus used in fire season, as well as giving the Commissioners the ARFF brochure developed to communicate resources available to fire commands. Chief Campbell will work to involve Commissioners more in the deployment process, in hopes to better communicate the process to them and staff.

***Chief's Report:***

**Operations**

Chief Campbell gave the Commissioners the January EMS Patient Revenue summary to date, which are included with the official record of these minutes. He explained the process of collections that will become a part of the patient revenue process. Discussion continued on information provided by Systems Design. Chief Campbell will present more information at our next meeting that will expand on these patient revenue topics and help Commissioners understand more about it.

Chief Campbell also let the Fire Commissioners know that the new Ambulance should arrive around July, on schedule.

**Prevention – Div. Chief Giles**

Div. Chief Giles reported to Commissioners that building permits are picking back up again. He anticipates a lot of building this year, with the majority coming in Victor.

**Training – Div. Chief Wisby**

Div. Chief Wisby reported to Commissioners that Fire I testing is finished. All but one passed the Fire I testing, and that one will be retesting at the end of the month. The 2 part hazmat testing was also completed with 5 passing and 8 failing the ops section. This has been seen before and is most likely due to differences between the curriculum and the test. Those will be retested at the end of the month also. Wildland training will begin with the coming of spring. EMT classes will also begin soon.

***Recess***

***Adjourn***

**Commissioner Golden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1655 hour. Commissioner Letham seconded the motion, and the Board of Fire Commissioners adjourned.**