



Teton County Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 474
625 N. Airport Road
Driggs, ID 83422

Board of Fire Commissioners

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

September 22, 2015

Attendance District Commissioners: Jason Letham; Scott Golden
Interim Commissioners: Glenn Vitucci
District Legal Counsel: Bart Birch
District Public Relations: Becky Mitchell
Fire Chief: Bret Campbell
Division Chief-Prevention: N/A
Division Chief-Maint.: N/A
Division Chief-Training/EMS: Ed Schauster
Shift Captains: N/A
Driver/Operators: N/A
Firefighters: N/A
Board Secretary: Monica Hoth
Local 4667: Nate Brown
Public: None

Welcome @ 1410 hours

Commissioner Letham welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Glen Vitucci who is here in place of Kent Wagener.

Minutes

Commissioner Letham asked for any questions about the August 11th Minutes sent ahead of the meeting for review. No questions were asked.

Commissioner Golden made a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Interim Commissioner Vitucci seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham called for all in favor. All replied "aye" and the minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

Claims

Commissioner Letham asked if there were any questions or comments on the claims presented for the month of August. No questions were asked.

Commissioner Letham made a motion to accept the claims as presented.

Commissioner Golden seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham called for all in favor. All replied "aye" and the claims were approved unanimously as presented.

Budget Statement

Commissioner Letham asked if there were any questions or comments on the August Budget Statement. No questions were asked.

Interim Commissioner Vitucci made a motion to approve the August Budget Statement.

Commissioner Letham seconded the motion.

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

Aflac

Commissioner Letham asked if Local 4667 was ready to present the request for Aflac coverage. Nate Brown wasn't in the room yet, so Chief Campbell gave his understanding of the coverage as it relates to the presumptive illness legislation and what is already covered by workers compensation. He also told the Board past history with the Idaho State board of Fire Commissioners. Nate was also able to confirm his understanding of the coverage, but a total number of those being covered wasn't for sure, so only an estimate of the total coverage cost was given to the Commissioners. Nate explained they were only interested in having front line Fire Fighters exposed to any risk be the ones covered, and only until the state passes presumptive illness. It was also discussed that the upcoming Annual Idaho Fire Commissioners meeting had an open discussion time with the topic of presumptive illness already scheduled.

Commissioner Golden expressed an interest in postponing a decision, and Commissioner Letham confirmed waiting to make a decision until the next monthly Commissioner meeting in October. This will give them time to consider the cost, possible alternatives, as well as let Commissioner Wagener be present. Commissioner Letham also requested having the Aflac representative be at the next meeting.

Signing CBA with Local 4667

Commissioners confirmed with Nate Brown that this was only to obtain their signatures, and that nothing new had been added or omitted since the motion to accept the CBA was made during the August meeting. Everyone agreed and Board Secretary, Monica Hoth, will get Commissioner Wagener's signature when he returns to the area.

Partnership Agreement with TVHC:

Chief Campbell began by reminding the Commissioners that at the last meeting, September 17th, they asked him to re-read the agreement and ensure all was as they intended before it was submitted. He did so and was stopped at Article 4.4.1 where Mr. Gnagey had made a balloon comment asking why a section had been removed. After conferring with Legal Counsel, Bart Birch, and Commissioner Wagener before he left the valley they decided to put it back in. Chief Campbell reviewed what that language was that was being put back in why it was thought important to include after all.

Commissioners felt comfortable with this and decided to replace page 6 and leave the contract signature page.

Commissioner Golden made a motion to accept the change to Article 4.4.1 of the Partnership Agreement with TVHC.

Commissioner Letham seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham asked for all in favor. All replied “aye”

Alta Fire Station/Jackson Hole Fire Contract:

Chief Campbell updated the Fire Commissioners on a conversation between Chief Wood and the Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Chief Willy Watsabaugh. During the conversation it was discovered that in fact the Alta Fire/EMS building is owned by the Teton County Wyoming School District. They have had a lease with Jackson Hole Fire/EMS to use the building. That lease was not renewed by the Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, for reasons unknown.

Chief Campbell did confirm for the Fire Commissioners that we also have a contract to provide service with the Jackson Hole Fire/EMS that states we have use of that building. Per Chief Campbell, the use of that building to store items and one small parade engine has been in the contract for around 15 years.

It was agreed by Commissioner Golden, Commissioner Letham and Chief Campbell that Teton County Fire District will not press the issue of compensation for the loss of this use to the building and just let the subject go. Chief Wood is in the process of removing our items from the building.

Chief Schauster brought to the Boards attention the ongoing difficulty in the relationship with the Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Chief to provide mutual aid services on Teton Pass. Discussion of that history brought the Commissioners to suggest that Chief Campbell draft a letter to the Teton County Wyoming Commissioners overseeing Jackson Hole Fire/EMS to set a meeting and see if relations could be improved in light of the Alta School building as well as with the ongoing issues with providing mutual aid on the pass. Chief Campbell plans to provide that letter as requested in an effort to communicate as good neighbors.

Idaho State Fire Commissioner Annual Conference:

Commissioner Golden expressed an interest in going. He is going to check with his work schedule and get back to Monica. Commissioner Letham is also considering going, and will check his work schedule. Commissioner Wagener has already confirmed he will not be able to attend.

SCBA Air Fill Station swap:

Chief Campbell explained the offer that came to Chief Wood from our Air Fill Station Vendor. Essentially our unit is in a trailer and portable. The offer is that they would take that unit back and give us a new one. We currently have portable capability from an on engine unit. There was a time a portable unit, such as the one we have, was required. Chief Campbell is having Chief Wood work out the details of what he believes is a good deal. The permanent unit will take up little space. Commissioner Letham is interested to

see the details before it leaves to ensure we get the same if not better specs on the new unit.

Chief's Report

Operations

Chief Campbell reported that the deployments are wrapping up and later this week all units will be home from Wildland deployments.

Maintenance

Many projects have been taken care of when Chief Campbell spoke to Chief Wood earlier in the day. Chief Wood is unable to attend because he is bringing back a vehicle from Rexburg that needed repair.

EMS/Training

Chief Schauster is wrapping up summer and continuing some shift changes and station changes.

Building Permits/Prevention

Chief Giles reported to the Commissioners some school education opportunities that have happened. He also relayed that residential permits have slowed, while commercial permits have not. 5 or 6 more commercial permits have gone thru in the last couple weeks and 2 more just recently came in.

Public Relations

Becky Mitchell

Reported to the Commissioners on the ad for National Preparedness month, followed by a quick PSA. In October she plans to focus on Fire Prevention Week (Oct 4-10th).

Commissioner Letham asked if anyone else had business for the meeting, and no questions or comments remained.

Adjourn

Commissioner Golden made a motion to adjourn

Interim Commissioner Vitucci seconded the motion.

Commissioner Letham adjourned the Board of Fire Commissioners until the next commissioners meeting, scheduled for October 13th @ 1400.