

Gateway-UnawEEP Fire Department Board Meeting  
Scheduled time: 6:30pm  
February 17, 2015  
Gateway Community Center

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Chairman Fred Bolton

Present: Fred Bolton, Lisa Eakle, John Fuller & Madonna Dormaier, Board Members;  
Dorothy Espe, Secretary;

Absent: Kristina Harms Board Member; James (Bear) Barnett, Fire Chief

Guest: Russ & Jeannie Lewis & Ray Gooch

January minutes were accepted as written.

**Public Input:**

None

Fred summarized the new chain of command for Jeannie, Russ & Ray. The service agreement with HIH has resulted in better staffing & coverage. The money is in a Fire District account. The Fire Department hires & supervises the staff. A Budget Amendment was needed to increase the revenue & the expenses by the amount of the contract with HIH. They are contributing \$42,000/quarter in advance. Money is for staffing only. It is still a volunteer fire department but the entity in charge has changed. Bear Barnett was hired as Fire Chief. Other paid staff is on a contract, 1099 basis.

**Fire Chief Report:**

Bear was absent but Fred presented his report. Bear emailed a report which is attached to these minutes.

The pumper is at Fast & Easy. Alex found the oil leak – it was a pan gasket. Fast & Easy will do general service & valve work. Will then be able to drain pumper & store it outside. 6x6's fuel shut off spring was in wrong place – can't turn engine off. This can be repaired. Bear is working on grants. There is a specific washer for getting chemicals out of volunteer clothing. It costs around \$9,000. This purchase will be included in a grant.

**Treasurer Report:**

Kristina absent but send bank balances

District - \$6,927.05

Department - \$6,648.13

Payroll - \$58,947.66

- no unusual expenses are expected.

### **Chairman's Report:**

Fred has been working with the accountants & bankers on payroll setup – had to open a W2 withholding account. Payroll comes out of a Fire District account so cannot be titled Fire Department. All is now functioning & working as it should.

### **Unfinished Business - Budget:**

Amended budget including service agreement has been adopted as the Supplemental Budget for 2015 – now need resolution to appropriate funds. Larry Beckner prepared the Resolution For Supplemental Budget and Appropriation. The Resolution appropriated \$269,780.70 for the 2015 General Fund with reserves of \$5,306. There was no discussion. Madonna made a motion to appropriate \$269,780.70. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lisa and all were in favor. Fred & Dorothy signed the Resolution. Dorothy will scan it to Larry Beckner

The transition to new Fire Chief was lengthy and caused additional expenses. Fred calculated additional funds needed and it was almost the same amount prorated off the initial payment by HIH. HIH agreed to pay the difference of \$8,800 to the Fire District.

Fred has a rough draft of the letter to the community ready. He will email to Board for input. He encouraged the Board to read hard and 'ink it up' – add anything left out, make corrections & send back to him. Once all is good, it will go out to community – anticipates a couple weeks before sending.

### **Spring Dynamite Shoot**

Fred is looking for ways to advertise – radio option is out. Nickle Want Ads is a good place – haven't used it for several years. Sportsman's Warehouse will put posters up in GJ & other locations.

A person selling commemorative coins for the Armed Services has asked for booth space at Shoot – he will donate a portion of sales to Operation Interdependence. Lisa thought that was a good idea. All Board Members were OK with it.

Ray will be available to work Shoot this year

The Board convened to an Executive Session at 7PM. Kristina had sent input in sealed envelope – Fred excused himself from the Session.

Board was back in regular session at 7:18PM.

Bear did 2 CPR classes at Resort. He is also planning to set up Basic First Aid Classes. There has been lots of training in the last 30 days. Volunteers seem happy. Mandy & Olivier went to a class in Nucla. Bear has let volunteers know that they need to get training to stay on department. Contract people are getting on Mesa County protocol. Bear will be able to sign off on their hours once Dr. Hall approves. Bear is getting his hours in working ALS as probationary under Dr. Hall.

Jeannie Lewis was introduced as interested in taking over Treasurer position for Kristina. Kristina will stay on until Jeannie is transitioned in. Jeannie is register to vote in Mesa County.

There was a motion by John to adjourn. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> Madonna and all were in favor.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:33PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Espe  
Secretary

## GUPFD Monthly Chief's Report

- I. Overview- February has been a month of fully assessing the status of all equipment,, personnel and the other components of operations. Overall, I have found the station and personnel to be in a poor state of repair, and have begun to prioritize and implement solutions.
- II. Station
  - A. excised numerous room-air tanks and out-of-date oxygen cylinders from station; worked out exchange with Air Gas for cylinders with integrated regulators. This saves us from having to purchase new regulators that were not compatible with the transport ventilator and CPAP machine.
  - B. removing unnecessary items, eliminating trip-and-fall hazards; cleaning floors; etc.
  - C. new desks in office thanks to the resort; law-enforcement desk in office; they are welcome to stop by any time
  - D. SCBA Compressor - has not acquired essential maintenance - not functioning - seeking consult from manufacturer
  - E. upstairs storage heavily cleaned, allowing for much space and reduction of hazards; will build firehose rack to protect fire hose from environment asap
  - F. hose testing - no evidence that hose testing has been performed; will test hose asap to ensure it is safe to use (annual requirement)
- III. District
  - A. have met with BLM, some Mesa County Chiefs and some Montrose County Chiefs and other staff; attempting to rejuvenate working relationships and automatic/mutual aid agreements with surrounding areas - most excited at this prospect; ongoing meetings and dialogue necessary to solidify; will have legal evaluate agreements prior to instituting.
- IV. Training -
  - A. establishing program for minimum level of training; working on getting personnel trained
  - B. vehicle extrication training was a success - now have several volunteers capable of executing or assisting with extrication in safe manner
  - C. duty-crew training is ongoing - will have them (voluntarily) attend a 2-4 hour session with communications center to improve understanding of radio use and etiquette.
  - D. pouring much energy into training - essential to safe and effective operations; no one currently meets standard - very unsafe in realm of fire operations; EMS can be handled by on-duty experienced personnel ; to have BLS clear and be able to handle patients safely will take ongoing, extended effort; would like staff to have part-time involvement in higher call volume area
  - E. I will be attending a National Registry exam and ICS (Incident Command System) training in March, at a minimum.I will work on additional rides with other departments as soon as possible.
- V. Apparatus - I am concerned about increased, early wildland threat and have been dedicating tremendous energy in getting apparatus to operation state.Overall, apparatus have been poorly cared and stocked. Most will not currently fill their intended function. Remedying the situation is taking a tremendous amount of labor.
  - A. Tender 121 (federal/state owned) spent three days removing, testing and adding equipment to allow it to meet minimum standard; still needs lightbar repair or replacement and installation of VHF and 800 mHz radio (VHF ready); will need to use portable 800 until grant is secured for additional mobile 800 radios
  - B. Tender 122 (new maroon truck) - need install of new throttle adjuster and pressure gauges; will then stock and test
  - C. Tender 123 (Volvo) - currently performing inspection, stocking, etc.

## GUPFD Monthly Chief's Report

- D. Brush 121 (Maroon International) - inspections reveal very poor pump performance, pump control panel has many broken components; pump primer disconnected and handle broken; replaced old batteries; needs alignment; This is slated for a March visit to Fast and Easy Services for repairs and maintenance so that it becomes usable.
- E. Brush 122 - truck running well, with a few electrical repairs to perform; turbo gauges need to be relocated to visible spot to prevent overheating turbo; melting of hood liner suggests historical high temperatures occurred; pump is non-functional and requires carb rebuild - Mike Johnson intends to repair 1/23/15; if he is unsuccessful needs immediate repair at small engine facility
- F. Engine 121- currently at Fast and Easy for essential maintenance and repairs; no structure capable apparatus currently in service; any structure fire requires immediate mutual aid; entire unit (1971 build) will need replacing at earliest opportunity (will pursue grant
- G. Ambulance 121 and 122 - acquired necessary repairs and restocking - most equipment was expired and stocked in excess; some equipment was broken; they now meet or exceed standard
- H. Ambulance 123 - operated intermittently- not necessary in fleet unless we would like to station it below the constriction in the canyon; even then duty crew would beat response of volunteers response - would like to excise from inventory, and place funds in savings for future apparatus match
- I. Engine 122 - not usable; removing salvageable items, scrapping engine and using funds to fund maintenance and repairs of other usable vehicles

### VI. Finance

- A. I have begun audit of all incoming financials. Have excised unnecessary extended warranty for driver tracking system that is not utilized on ambulance, and received refund. Audit of insurance coverage reveals several vehicles no longer in our possession are insured, but several others in our possession are not insured; providing updated list to carrier.
- B. have continued to acquire medical disposables from Henry Schein - soon to be completed (in future will tackle BLS medical packs on engines and ALS for direct response of ALS during night hours to resort
- C. Completed two grants: Colorado Firefighter Safety and Disease Prevention Grant applied for wildland personal protective equipment, SCBA cylinders, wildland firefighter training, and washer and dryer. Also completed CO EMS grant for satellite phone, autovent for ambulance 121, two new Toughbooks for ambulances and completion of PowerLOAD stretcher system for Ambulance 121; submitted waiver for 50% match, reducing to 10% match; will attend hearing in March for the latter grant.
- D. most documents of department operations are being moved to digital format as the documents are located and used, or created; I would like all financial statements, etc. to be moved to dropbox. This allows me ongoing access to materials as needed, for grant writing, etc.
- E. EMS Billing - will be requesting additional information from billing contractor; will probably raise prices of billing; want to take care of local at-need population - would like to waive fees in excess of insurance coverage for transports - this ensures appropriate use of 911

### VII. Personnel

- A. removed majority of volunteers from field response until a minimum set of training can be performed, as there was no historical minimum training standard, which is unsafe for

## GUFPD Monthly Chief's Report

- the public and providers - building and working on getting people minimum set of training required
- B. met with Adventure Center; have Mandy's blessing to train her interns and staff on the basics of EMS and backcountry rescue - this will allow them to volunteer in this role for fire department, and allow for increased marketability of their internship program - need to ensure support from resort for this program
  - C. current volunteers have zero to very little time - must work with resort to creatively problem solve in this arena; will initiate dialogue with resort asap