

GATEWAY - UNAWEEP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



"Volunteers Serving Our Neighbors"

43700 Hwy 141

PO Box 126

Gateway, CO 81522

www.gufd.org

Board Meeting Minutes March 22, 2016

Board Meeting called to order at 6:32pm.

Members Present: Fred Bolton, Jeannie Lewis, John Fuller, Lisa Eakle, Chief Barnett

Public Present: Ray, James

Minutes from 2/23/16 Meeting approved as submitted.

No bills and/or appropriations.

No Hearings

Fire Chief's Report

February: 3 incidents.

Station: compressor at pawn shop sold \$450; have approximately 20 fire extinguishers we can trade in for credit if someone is going to Montrose; Fred said he is going and can take; have old rotary light bars to recycle

Housing: would like to move staff to trailer on Foy as soon as possible; Fred said as soon as funds come in we can address

Equipment:

- Introduced weekly inspections; Ray will get price for annual inspections
- Ambulance 121: working good
- Ambulance 122: inspected and sold for \$80,000; Fred will sign title once check clears
- Old engine 121: received personal check for \$3,500; searching for title; if cannot find would be easy to replace as we purchased from Lands End
- Brush 121: will be out of service for transmission work; will check/might have brake issue as well
- Tender 121: has significant safety issues, can take only to close incidents
- Tender 122: can draw water but not pump, also limited use
- District Fire danger at moderate level

Finance:

- Insurance carrier made error, will have refund; requested quote from alternative carrier to check rates

Events & Training:

- HazMat Ops training – all passed
- Reminder of Personnel Dinner 5:45pm March 30th

Meetings:

- Chief was assisting individual in need and missed Grant hearing so was not present to defend
- Mesa County Chief – no definitive changes
- Communications – GUFd reimbursement on agenda for April 14 meeting

Fred Bolton, Board Chairman 931-2257 / James "Bear" Barnett, Fire Chief 303-653-2936

Madonna Dormaier 931-2869 / Lisa Eakle 931-2234

Jeannie Lewis 210-5412 / John Fuller 433-1732

Lisa asked for number of volunteers – currently 5; Chief waiting for Services Agreement prior to adding volunteers

Firefighters Association meeting – March 30th 5:00pm meeting; 5:45 dinner, Family night

Chairman's Report

Vehicle titles – mailed title to the International to Kentucky; upon receipt will send title to Kodiak

Treasurer's Report

Department account - \$0.70

District account - \$5,838.11

Payroll - \$5,877.81

Payroll account lower than should be; Jeannie will check in to

Unfinished Business

Services Agreement

Will try to meet with Rudy this week

Spring Dynamite Shoot

We are ready to go – have no expenses; items were purchased last year

Need volunteers for Friday, April 30

New Business

Election of Officers

Cancellation of election; none in attendance to run

Lisa, Jeannie and Fred agree to renew terms; will now expire in 2020

Mill Levy

Data researched/gathered from State site and provided by Fred; after comparing like kind areas the data supports the Board's thoughts to double the levy

Fred contacted other districts with 5, 6 or 7 mill levy for feedback; they are also considering raising as they are having issues maintaining expenses.

Chief Barnett confirmed by asking to double levy department would still fall short of funds needed

Next step is to draft letter to send to community; Fred will draft and send to Board for review/edit and approval; will then send to community to notify for Fall election

Lisa suggested that we are prepared with actual numbers needed as it will go farther with community support; Fred and Chief will meet to gather actual figures. Fred asked Board what if number supports asking for increase to 12. Lisa commented that we then ask for 12. Board can't come back in a couple of years to ask for another increase, so we need to make sure we ask for what we need. There has never been an increase in mill levy; this is the original levy implemented in 2005.

Chief asked if it should also consider adding a substation that's needed; Fred suggested a bond would be a better plan of action.

Need to show that for the first time the Department is planning/preparing for proper maintenance, certification and inspections of equipment that was not done before.

John suggested another bullet point is what we are asking for is half of what is needed and the other half will be pursued by Grants.

Additionally all money will go to equipment.

Chevy Ambulance Status

As mentioned earlier – ambulance is sold

Chief Auto Insurance Coverage

This coverage is to supplement insurance on Chief's personal vehicle used for department business, which his carrier says is an additional cost. Chief will get actual quote and then submit to Board.

Motion by Jeannie for Board to make decision via email once actual cost has been received

Lisa Second

All in favor / no oppose

Motion carried

Chief Barnett would like to use the \$3500 funds from sale and allocate towards improvement of current equipment. Lisa would like to wait, Jeannie agrees to hold on spending for now. Fred suggested that Board should hold on to \$80,000 and wait until mill levy, adding that its really a timing issue.

Public Input

Ray asked for explanation on trailer – new housing option more conducive to department and comfortable environment.

Regarding mill levy – Ray added with more calls coming there is more wear and tear on equipment.

Ray also asked if there was a way to charge individuals that have repeated calls; Fred replied in the past Board went to Mesa County Sheriff and it did seem to be effective. We can look at Burn Permit, although Chief Barnett says the county is having issues and is currently not pursuing

Ray asked what the difference is between charging for ambulance service and fire service; possible to get into legal issues. Seems to be from the state perspective there is difference between medical need and fire. James added that a couple of years ago the County started process to issue Citations.

Motion by Lisa to Adjourn

John Second

All in favor / no oppose

Motion carried

Adjourned at 7:54pm