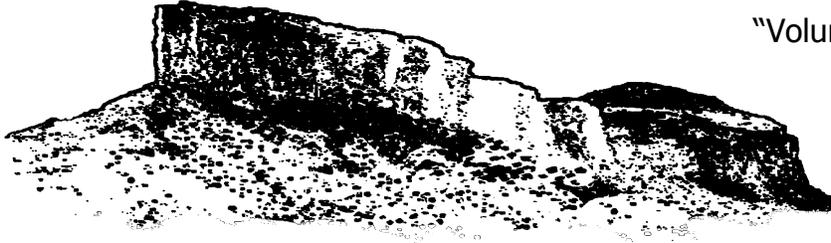


GATEWAY - UNAWEEP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



"Volunteers Serving Our Neighbors"

43700 Hwy 141

PO Box 126

Gateway, CO 81522

www.gufd.org

Board Meeting Minutes November 17, 2015

Board Meeting called to order at 6:31pm.

Members Present: Fred Bolton, Lisa Eakle, Madonna Dormaier, John Fuller, Jeannie Lewis

Public Present: Ray ??, Randy Bremmer, Dave Anderson

Minutes from 10/29/15 Meeting were approved as submitted.

No bills and/or appropriations.

Unfinished Business

Budget

Formal adoption of 2016 Budget will take place at December 8 meeting

Line 53 will be adjusted/set in December 8 meeting

Jeannie said line item 9 in 2015 should move to line item 1 in 2016 since the Wells Fargo money is now available.

Board can approve with modification for certifications if not received by next meeting

Ray asked for clarification on absence of Dynamite Shoot money. Fred responded the need to check with attorney if we can claim future money; may be able to considering the money is predictable. Jeannie added line item 6 in 2016 is the same as spring/fall Dynamite shoot.

Fred mentioned insurance in 2016 is broken out separately to enable better tracking of expense.

Ray also asked about apparatus fuel. Fred said there were no charges this year but County will begin to charge in 2016.

Chief Barnett said he could not agree to budget as is. Fred reiterated that budget and its format can be modified in January. Fred added that each time we modify budget, we must post meeting for public to attend.

Fred & Jeannie will meet before December 8 meeting to plug in actual numbers.

Fred asked for any additional questions. No need for Board approval at this time, but rather review of proposed budget. Approval and appropriates will be done at December 8 meeting.

Equipment

Decision on excess equipment – look at selling Chevy ambulance.

Fred needs to speak with gentleman in Kentucky regarding that apparatus and find what his expectations are. In order to do thorough analysis we need to see in person. Fred suggested David Dormaier and James Wood to go and inspect. If they are happy, then we can make exchange.

Discussed shipping new apparatus both ways, as it is not feasible/advisable to drive.

Money from sale of any equipment will go into account specifically designated for new equipment.

New Business

Future Configurations

Meeting Dates

Consider moving meeting dates from current Tuesday to better accommodate and avoid potential conflicts with other meetings in town. Chief Barnett asked to put on hold due to talks about Grand Junction meetings being moved to different schedule.

Board agreed with Fred making note that schedule needs to be solidified by December meeting as meetings are required to be posted. Further, its beneficial to have set schedule so that community is aware of specific meeting dates. Fred added that if a scheduled meeting needs to be changed, it must be posted 30 days prior.

Randy Bremmer mentioned that the calendar is not being updated on the website.

Personnel

Postpone to December 8 meeting. Fred would like to meet with Chief Barnett within the next two weeks for to solidify personnel/schedule.

Holiday Dinners

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving dinner for volunteers, both past and present, is Thursday November 19 at 6:00pm
Lisa did not realize the date and offered to make calls to volunteers to ensure they are aware of date

Christmas

Fred said in years past the Department piggy-backed on to a scheduled Resort party. He doesn't believe there is any scheduled at this time and asked for suggestions. An email to Fred suggested a potluck; Chief Barnett suggested catering, although catering can be quite costly particularly at this distance from town.

Board decided to stay with Resort and Fred will discuss with Rudy Sharp. John suggested Paradox with fixed menu. Madonna said they had a school function in Paradox upstairs and was nice. Chief Barnett asked Fred to work with David Dormaier to get since he is really spearheading the Holiday party. Chief Barnett will get head count. Once Fred speaks with Rudy, he will email Board for decision.

Reports

Fire Chief

Documents have been moved from Cloud to Google Drive. Cost is \$5/month per person. John explained Google Drive is business account and what it really provides is not only the sharing but large capacity for electronic storage. Board decided for Chief Barnett, Fred and Jeannie to have access.

Jeannie and Chief to meet to ensure sharing capabilities, and for Jeannie to make sure bills are paid in timely manner. After discussion, Chief Barnett suggested it would be easier to stick with paper and then he will digitize.

Volunteer training – Chief will have details on minimum training requirements for volunteers; paid firefighters have more extensive training and requirements than do volunteers.

Fire line/medic course available in Colorado Springs and Chief would like personnel to attend. Cost is \$20/day plus room/meals. Fred asked Chief to bring actual cost and who to attend at December meeting.

Chief Barnett asked to attend ICS 400 course in California; cost to be at their expense. Chief has coverage to attend.

Chief would like to integrate GUFD personnel with independent firefighting team (Rubicon).

Treasurer

As of November 16: Department account - \$3,843.07; District - \$12,016.84; Payroll - \$37,199.13

Will need checks for volunteers (\$25/call out per volunteer); typically distribute in November but will deliver in December.

Chairman

Radio tower – Fred spoke with Dean Rickman; originally when tower was put up there was minimal cost for power but when upgraded it significantly increased the cost. Jeannie said currently paying \$350/month. Chief Barnett feels billing is incorrect. Fred has meeting scheduled for tomorrow to evaluate who is using the tower and review split of cost.

Public Input

Randy did not feel Board's response to his letter addressed his comments/concerns and would like to read his letter and address item by item. Fred left to Board to decide whether to proceed.

John asked Randy what he would like to see; Randy would like more of a response, dig deeper, and get better clarification. John said that perhaps there is a misunderstanding that the Board hasn't dealt with items when it some cases it has.

Lisa said she didn't feel there is any more Board could say to clarify further.

Randy wanted to pursue and dig deeper.

New structure vs old structure: his problem isn't the structure but the running of the new structure.

Issue with Chief Barnett being in town: Chief should be here not in town having a drink. Fred reiterated that coverage was here but the person scheduled was not able to come down. Randy would like the name of the individual. Lisa said she didn't feel it was his business to know name of person. Randy felt this should be open and should be told. Lisa asked if we gave name of individual, is his intent to confront individual. Fred didn't feel there is any unwillingness to share but would rather check with attorney to disclose any personnel items. Randy then asked for Board to please check with attorney. John added if such personnel questions came up with any other company it would not be discussed.

Randy stated he simply wants another means to validate; it's not difficult, just give him the name. John reiterated Fred will speak with attorney and will let him know.

Volunteers refuse to work with Chief Barnett: Randy wants specific details in dealing with volunteer. John responded with the shortage volunteers has been an ongoing issue for a long time. He reassured Randy the Board did dig for information.

Randy asked if we have people legally qualified. Dave Anderson said does Board know? John replied did we then? John added that historically it has always been an issue. Every Chief has had same problems.

Dave Anderson stated there are a couple of untruths in Board's response to letter: one being that a volunteer was a condition of Resort employment. Fred said that's not true, but rather the letter says "consensual".

Fred stated there was not intent to paint Dave in bad picture. Dave said when he left there were 19 active volunteers. Lisa stated there was a meeting where Dave said there were none. Fred said the point in the letter was to clarify – not paint in bad light but rather that it is an ongoing issue.

Madonna pointed out an article she read where rural areas are moving away from volunteers and towards paid personnel.

Dave stated he would be happy to point out many issues in the Board's letter.

Training: Randy states letter says there are 2 EMS and 2 fire fighter training sessions per month; he would like to know attendance of training. Chief Barnett fire fighter – a couple of people. EMS – isolated to people on staff.

Dave asked who was training, specifically extraction equipment training requested by the Resort. Chief responded James Wood. Dave said he was asking because he has seen several face book postings showing extraction equipment but with improper PPE, that only David Dormaier appeared in proper equipment. He voiced his concern at the liability placed on the fire department. Chief Barnett said he would follow up on the training that took place.

Randy asked Ray what kind of training he has participated in. Ray responded that he has not attended, mainly because of his age.

Randy said his point in his letter regarding training is that it is haphazard at best. Leaving people out of training stunk of retribution and by the way all of the people left out of training are all gone.

Call-out regarding broken femur: Randy would like to know if looked in to. Fred replied that he is in very close contact with Dr. Hall and Mike Hill not only on this but regularly. Randy asked if Fred spoke with Dr. Hall and Mike Hill specifically about this incident. Fred said he did and there was absolutely no issue.

Resignation of Mike Johnson: Randy asked Madonna if she read email. Madonna said no, Fred read the email to Board. Randy asked did Board try to find out why Mike resigned. Fred said he went to Mike's house to talk with him, but Mike didn't want to discuss. Randy said that's not what he was told; he said Fred said Mike did not like taking orders from a younger guy. Fred stated he would be honest and didn't know why he resigned, which is why he drove to Mike's house to discuss. Fred said conversation was a long, one-sided one. Randy said that wasn't his understanding.

Dave asked for more information about Mike. Fred replied he was going to make it very clear he is not going to discuss what was or was not said.

Chief Barnett: Randy feels Chief Barnett is driving away good competent people. He has big question of leadership ability. Additionally he is concerned with what appears to be the Board's mindful blindness to this. Randy wants this to be looked into deeper. Fred replied as a private citizen he is free to pursue whatever he wants and does not feel any response would satisfy him.

Dave would like to discuss the section of the letter where he was forced out. Fred said cannot discuss private interviews. Fred suggested if any grievances, Dave knows the procedure. Dave said he will have attorney as his next step.

Lisa stated there is nothing hidden and minutes are open and available. Dave asked for minutes and copies of budget for the last two years. Fred confirmed he indeed could see those minutes as they are a matter of public record.

Fred called for an end to meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Lisa
Madonna Second
No opposed. Motion passed
Adjourned at 8:12pm