

POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 11, 2018
6:00pm – Central Station

BOARD MEMBERS:

Vice President Mike Lippsmeyer
Secretary Joe Franko
Director Dennis King

ABSENT:

President Tom Snair
Director Freeman Stutzman

STAFF:

Fire Chief Ben Stange
DC Neal Olson
DC Mike Mayfield
Office Administrator Susan Shepard
Office Assistant Mary Carlson

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice President Lippsmeyer called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Note: Minutes will be recorded and kept for 60 months.

AUDIENCE REQUESTING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Please sign Request List to address the Board.

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Approval of Disbursements for December 1-31, 2017.
- B) Finance report for the month of December 2017.
- C) Approve December 14, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Asked how the Board would like to take the Consent Agenda.

Director King – Stated to take the agenda as a whole.

Secretary Franko – Second.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) **2019-2023 Levy** – **Chief Stange** stated that at the last Board Meeting he presented information regarding a 2019-2023 Levy. He ask if the Board had any questions or wanted to discuss any concerns.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated he has not had any public input regarding a new levy but feels we need to move forward on this. He asked what needs to be done at this point.

Director King – Asked what would be the change to the District with this Levy.

Chief Stange – Stated on the handout last month it shows the information about the Levy and what the impact would be. Chief Stange did not have the handout with him but said the basic reason would be for an additional Paramedic for increase in call volume, adding back a part time Fire Marshal position for community safety, continuing to fund the Equipment Replacement Fund to cover forecasted needs of the District. He suggested that in order to consider a spring ballot, we might want to schedule a workshop or a special Board Meeting. Chief Stange explained that no decision could be made in a workshop meeting. He added that it would be possible to have a special meeting, adjourn to the workshop and return to the

special meeting with a decision. Chief Stange stated if we choose to be on the spring ballot we need to make that decision next month.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated that the Board is in consent agreement; we need to set a date for the workshop or special Board Meeting. He asked when the deadline is to get the Levy on the spring ballot.

Chief Stange – Stated March 1st is the deadline.

Director King – Asked if this meeting would be for the public.

Chief Stange – Stated board meetings are all public meetings. He added he would try to get the word out so the public would have the opportunity to attend.

Director King – Stated President Snair will be back by the end of the month.

Chief Stange – Asked if Thursday, January 25th at 6pm would be a good day for the workshop.

All board members present agreed.

Chief Stange – Reminded board members that back and forth emails constitute a meeting which is not allowed so communication is one-way. If there is a question do not do a group email between members.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated he would like some notification on the Website or Facebook to help get the information out to the public.

Susan Shepard – Stated the website is going live soon and we will get it on there. She added that we need to be careful with social media as a means for a topic of public discussion. You cannot take down something that someone puts up and it might be erroneous information.

Chief Stange – Stated that we will send out meeting notifications the regular way.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Year in Review** – **Chief Stange** presented a handout that coincides with a power point review which covered:
- 2017 Statistics
 - Review of 2017
 - Challenges
 - Opportunities
 - Preview of 2018
 - Challenges
 - Opportunities

Chief Stange – Asked for questions or comments.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated that the presentation showed we have had firefighter/paramedics leave and why that is.

Chief Stange – Answered that it's mainly due to salary and career opportunities.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Asked if it has been discussed to change the pay rate to make it not a reason to leave.

Chief Stange – Stated our long-term firefighters can leave for Salem Fire and are paid more at starting than what they were paid when they left.

- b) **Station 40 Response** – Chief Stange stated he sent a plan to volunteer Charles Prouty in regards to Station 40 responding. Chief Stange added that Tender 41 is now back in service and medical response will be responding within the next month with a support vehicle.
- c) **Re-scheduling February Board Meeting** – Chief Stange stated the February Board Meeting falls on the same day as the SDAO Conference he is attending so he would like to change the Board Meeting date.

The Board checked their calendars and all agreed to move the February Board Meeting up a week to Tuesday February 6th.

Chief Stange – Thanked the Board.

CHIEF'S REPORT

- a) **Conflagration** – **Chief Stange** stated Polk County Fire went on three conflagrations this year. He added the crews are safe and no damage to report.
- b) **Apparatus Update** – **Chief Stange** stated that Chief Mayfield would be going to Washington on Tuesday the 16th to pick up the ambulance.
- c) **Meeting Regarding Administrative Collaboration** – Chief Stange stated he and Vice President Lippsmeyer would be going to Sheridan on Monday to meet with the other Chiefs and Board Representatives to hear what is happening.
- d) **January Training** – **Chief Stange** stated there are several good training events coming up including a driving class and a burn-to-learn on Broad St. in Monmouth.
- e) **Member of the Month** – **Chief Stange** acknowledged Al Lindskog for being selected as Member of the Month. He added Al also heads up the Talmadge Road monthly cleanup.
- f) **Notable Incidents** – **Chief Stange** stated there were 220 calls this last month.

TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Director King – Stated with the eclipse behind us, do we still plan to get rid of the Rehab Trailer.

Chief Stange – Stated yes, we will be selling it.

Secretary Franko – Nothing at this time.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated the last two Board Meetings Chief has presented us with a report with good information to have, especially with coming up to a possible new levy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – (IF NECESSITATED BY BUSINESS)

Not needed at this time.

Vice President Lippsmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:42pm.

Minutes by Mary Carlson