

LA VETA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
La Veta Fire Station
100 Birch Street

MINUTES

February 9, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Present: Directors Littlefield, Nielsen, Walker and Shrout were in attendance.
Staff: Fire Chief DeTray, EMS Director Schmidt, District Secretary Pezze.
Guests: Asst. Chief Mower, Cheryle Johnston, Kim DeTray and Greg Woods.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order, the Pledge of Allegiance was given and Director Littlefield welcomed all those in attendance.

Minutes

MSA: * Minutes of the January 12, 2017 regular meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comments

Director Nielsen advised that Brian Manning from the World Journal Newspaper is interested in doing articles on women in the emergency services. Sec. Pezze will contact Manning regarding this.

Chief DeTray presented promotional membership materials from the Colorado State Fire Fighters Assoc. (CSFFA) regarding recruitment and retention programs and reduced rates on vision and dental insurance for CSFFA members.

Correspondence

A \$1,000 donation was received from Pinehaven Homeowners Assoc.

Treasurer's Report

MSA: The Treasurer's Report and payments for the February 9, 2017 meeting were presented and approved.

Discussion was held regarding the desire of the Directors to no longer take their \$100.00 per meeting stipend and instead, deposit those funds into a capital reserve account for future capital expenses.

MSA: The Board approved discontinuing the payment of the \$100.00 per meeting Director stipends. Those funds will, instead, be added to a capital reserve account for 1) the eventual purchase of line equipment, 2) eventual grant match funds for line equipment purchase or 3) major repairs of line equipment. Also, 50% of any unrestrictive donations will be added to the capital reserve account for the same purposes.

The Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.P.s) will need to be amended to reflect this decision and the first reading of that S.O.P. revision will occur at the regular March meeting.

Wildfire Mitigation Service (WMS) Report

Michael Warren's Wildfire Mitigation Service report was presented. A copy of that report is attached to these minutes. Director Littlefield expressed his concern for getting back into a position with the County where all the paybacks are resolved on batch 1, 2 and 3 invoices and the County is reimbursing the LVFPD on a regular basis again. Paul Branson, Huerfano County Wildfire Mitigation Program Manager also provided a report which is attached.

EMS Director Report

- 1) 15 EMS runs with 12 patients transported in January, 2017.
- 2) Processed reimbursement request for CO Dept. of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) EMS grant. This grant is for rescue equipment and an air bag lift system.
- 3) Chris Hudson wrote the CREATE grant to fund 50% of the EMT class and that grant has been awarded with the stipulation that students pass their National Registry test within 90 days of completion of the class.
- 4) Chris Hudson is working on the CDPHE 2017 grant for funding 50% of 5 new 800 handheld radios and 6 pagers.
- 5) Sec. Pezze is working on a USDA Community Facilities grant to fund 75% of the 2 new Tough Book laptop computers necessary for the new Patient Care Reporting system. There will be a special Board meeting on February 24th at 4:00 for the public to review the grant request and offer any support or objections.

MSA: The Board approved and signed the Resolution of Governing Body Adopting and Providing for Standards for Procurement, Bidding and Contract Awards required for the USDA grant.

***MSA = Moved, Seconded and Approved (unanimously unless otherwise indicated)**

- 6) Will attend the March RETAC meeting and CDPHE grant hearings on March 16 in Pueblo. EMS Director Schmidt will be a reviewer of grants.
- 7) Paramedic Biggins has been hired by Huerfano County Sheriff's Dept. and will attend police academy training from Feb. 13th to May, 2017.
- 8) Kim DeTray has re-certified her Colorado EMT certificate and Jenny Halstead has re-certified her National Registry certification. Mark Brunner and Chris Hudson are working on their National Registry re-certification.
- 9) Eddie Ray is working on the Colorado Image Trend Patient Care Reporting system. He and one other will attend training in Denver when it becomes available later in the spring after the State does their updating.
- 10) Regarding patient billing for ambulance transports to the hospital, EMS Director Schmidt suggests that the District revert to the standard billing correspondence and not use the "soft billing" method currently being used by the District's ambulance billing service, Enhanced Management Services.
- 11) Will meet with Marilyn Russell to discuss the La Veta Trails bike helmet safety program.
- 12) Will meet with County Commissioner Max Vezzani on February 13th to discuss LVFPD receiving its fair allocation of the \$15,000 Huerfano County RETAC funds.

Director Nielsen informed the Board that the Huerfano Ambulance Service will be assumed by the Huerfano County Hospital District effective April 15, 2017. Previously Huerfano Ambulance Service was operated by Huerfano County government. Director Nielsen also presented his thoughts on combining the current 3 fire districts in Huerfano County into one fire district. He will review his thoughts with the County Commissioners to get their input. The Board will hold a strategic planning session on April 21 at 3:00 PM to discuss long range plans and goals of the District.

Fire Chief Report

- 1) 4 Fire calls in January: 1 call to check on a permitted slash pile burn, 2 mutual aid calls to HCFPD for structure fires and 1 mutual aid call to HCFPD for a grass fire.
- 2) 2 Fire Trainings in January: Jan. 1 with 12 Firefighters and 1 Jr. Firefighter in attendance, Jan. 21 with 16 Firefighters and 1 Jr. Firefighter in attendance. February 18th training will be on the new airbag system for lifting and stabilization.
- 3) Moving forward on plan to renovate the 1987 Ford brush truck into an extrication/rescue unit.
- 4) Working with Paul Branson, County Mitigation Manager, on the CPAW Project and ground assessments. This program will help provide mapping and tactical wildfire information.
- 5) Presented the Wildfire Mitigation Service (WMS) Handbook and evaluation form for the Board's review and approval.
- 6) Would like to purchase 38 sets of Ergodyne Trex adjustable ice traction devices for firefighter bunker boots to increase safety when walking on ice and reduce possible Workmen Comp. claims. Total cost is \$731.50 + S&H.
- 7) Have found a used extrication spreader that will fit the District's extrication power unit for \$600.00. Cost new is \$1,800.00.
- 8) Need to purchase new emergency warning light system for 6612, the renovated 1987 Ford rescue unit. Cost is \$424.96. The new lights will have traffic directional capability for moving traffic to the right or left as needed.
- 9) Discussed having the driver's license motor vehicle record guidelines referred to in the Standard Operations Procedures (S.O.P.s).

Director Littlefield asked Chief DeTray, or his personnel, to give a presentation on the "I Am Responding" paging system at either the March or April meeting.

MSA: The Board approved purchasing the 38 sets of Ergodyne Trex boot traction devices (\$731.50 + S&H), used extrication spreader for \$600.00 and lights for the 1987 Ford Rescue unit (\$424.96).

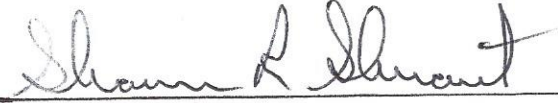
Old Business

The final projects in the La Veta station were discussed. Director Littlefield will contact Director Heikes regarding acquiring firm quotes for flooring in the operations room, offices and restroom, backup generator and possibly complete an additional restroom. Chief DeTray will have Chris Knowles construct an additional gear rack and a work bench. Asst. Chief Mower advised that the flag pole has been ordered. The heating system had a problem with installation of the expansion units and the main controller. The air handler was also drawing in cold air due to a breaker, that operates the louvers, being turned off. These problems have been repaired and next month's propane bill should be lower. Pueblo Electric still needs to run the conduit for the temporary wiring that was installed earlier. American Plumbing still has a small thermostat wiring project to be completed also.

Director Shrout expressed his concerns for purchasing a backup generator and the high cost of ongoing operations and maintenance of the generator. He feels that those funds could be better used. It was decided to have Director Heikes acquire options and quotes to present at the March meeting before making a final decision.

The Board concurred that the final payment to CRP Architects be approved when Brian Risley attends a walk-through of the new station where items of concern can be discussed with him.

MSA: The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.



Shannon R. Shrout, Secretary

LVFPD WMS MONTHLY REPORT

January, 2017

CREW

The crew has mainly been working on the Panadero Beautification project. A total of 8 days for the month of January, both cutting and burning. They have also burned slash piles for Malone and Goldman, which are old contracts that needed to be completed.

Equipment

We got our MS391 chainsaw back from Records Ace, Total repair cost was \$178.94. Our MS461 chainsaw is currently down waiting for parts which I expect to see this week. We would like to get a new MS461 for the crew so we can have 2 good saws ready for the upcoming season and use the 391 as a backup saw.

Current objectives for Supervisor

Paul and I have been working hard toward the Request for Reimbursement for Batches 1-3. It is nearly ready to go. I am starting on Batch #4 Invoicing and Fema paperwork to get ready for a Request for Reimbursement. Paul and I are also in the planning stages for the upcoming season's roll out.

Recruitment

The WMS now has 4 Different ads posted to recruit additional crew members, which we already have 1 interested person who contacted me. Our goal for the upcoming season is to develop a crew of 5-6 people. This will allow for more work to be put on the ground.

New Business

I have worked on adding a couple new policies for the crew to try to minimize the unexpected breakdowns for our equipment. First of which is a Chainsaw Maintenance schedule. Next is a Truck Checklist. And a Station 2 cleaning schedule. There are others I am working on putting in place in the near future.

Huerfano County

Wildfire Mitigation Program Manager

2/9/17

Notes for February Report- LVFPD

Backlogged on several projects for unable to attend.

-Presently working on Request for Reimbursement process for the HMGP grant which includes compiling several hundred documents from LVFPD and Huerfano County. We will submit our request next week. We appreciate the time of all project stakeholders working on this.

-Soon Huerfano County will become a part of MAWPP the Middle Arkansas Wildfire Prevention Partnership which presently includes Fremont, Custer, and Pueblo counties. This greatly expands our network of wildfire practitioners and resources. Stay tuned for more updates as I develop this relationship.

-Collaborations with the USFS have resulted in slash burning work for LVFPD personnel (which also includes task book advancement opportunities). We are now only waiting on weather for proper burning conditions.

-The Red Hill/Bend Creek grant is up to date and will remain 'open'. Ed Skerjanic (BLM) advises that if funding is available, we will look at expanding that project.

-The County is working with USFS San Carlos District to continue the drill down of planning into the operations level, primarily by assessing our large wildfire readiness level and secondarily by compiling WUI level data pre-fire (such as number of people, structures, hydrants, escape routes, safety zones, and dipsites per wui). We are planning a second Interagency Wildfire meeting to continue the discussions of the 'Life First' program. The big questions are: Do all personnel know their WUI areas, the plans available, and how to utilize the information correctly?

-The HMGP grant personnel have begun their roll-out for the 2017 season, the final one of this grant. One issue we are contending with, other than the wonderfully complex FEMA reporting requirements, is having enough FAL capacity to complete the contracts we are able to procure. Specifically, the LVFPD FAL crew already has a full season of work contracted, if they retain the same amount of crew as 2016. I recommend seeking a large crew size of seasonal members this year so that we can get you more work and your revenue will be proportionally higher.