

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

MINUTES

March 9, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Present: Directors Nielsen, Heikes, Walker and Shroul were in attendance.
Staff: EMS Director Schmidt, District Secretary Pezze.
Guests: Asst. Chief Mower and Jim Berg.

Call to Order

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

Minutes

MSA: * Minutes of the February 9, 2017 regular meeting were approved as presented.

MSA: Minutes of the February 24, 2017 special meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comments

None.

Membership into the Colorado Fire Fighters Association was briefly discussed and members will be polled to ascertain if enough individuals are interested in the dental and vision insurance plans to make it worth the estimated \$400.00 annual premium.

Correspondence

A short letter from Keating and Vicki Poteet of K.V. Holdings Corp., LLC was received advising the District that they now own the land on which the Cuchara Station is situated. Sec. Pezze will send them a reply and a copy of the current land lease for that parcel of land. The receipt showing payment of the property taxes paid by the LVFPD, per the lease, will also be forwarded to K.V. Holdings Corp., LLC.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report and payments for the March 9, 2017 meeting were presented. Director Shroul asked to have the \$6,000.00 payment to Dave Mower for his work on the new fire station researched. He has a concern for it not being noted in the minutes. Discussion was held stating that, as a part of the construction process, not every construction expenditure had a supporting motion passed by the Board but that the payment had been discussed and approval given to pay Dave Mower.

MSA: The Board approved that any expenditure of \$1,000.00 or over, with the exception of DOLA grant construction expenses, must be approved by Board motion and recorded in the meeting minutes.

The Board concurred that Dave Mower will receive his second half payment of \$3,000 less applicable withholdings.

MSA: The Board approved the Treasurer's Report with 3 "yes" votes and Director Shroul casting a "no" vote.

Wildfire Mitigation Service (WMS) Report

Michael Warren's Wildfire Mitigation Service report was presented. A copy of that report is attached to these minutes. Sec. Pezze advised that an extreme amount of work has gone into developing spreadsheets, researching and copying invoices and proof of payments to provide to the County for their reimbursement request from Homeland Security for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Project (HMGP). The final resolution of overpayment on LVFPD invoice batches 1, 2 and 3, due to revision of truck rates, has been calculated and \$8,421.88 needs to be reimbursed. The breakdown is \$4,210.94 to Huerfano County and \$4,210.94 to 23 individual homeowners who had contracts. Batch 4 invoices have been submitted to the County and that total is \$16,480.54. The County also has been invoiced and owes LVFPD \$2,000.00 for December 2016 through March 2017 office rent and \$1,391.12 for final resolution of project supervisor wage discrepancies between what the County paid LVFPD and actual supervisor wages. There are also outstanding general Wildfire Mitigation Service (WMS) invoices for two large contracts that the crew is currently working on through the winter until HMGP grant work starts up again. Director Shroul expressed his concern for being sure that the WMS program remains a self-supporting project.

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

EMS Director Report

- 1) 4 EMS runs with 1 patient transported in February, 2017.
- 2) Chris Hudson has submitted the 2017 CDPHE grant application requesting funding for 5 new 800 handheld radios and 6 new pagers. The initial hearing for this grant will be in Pueblo on March 16, after the monthly RETAC meeting, and Dave Mower will help make the presentation. The grant has a 50% match.
- 3) The CREATE grant to fund 50% of the EMT class will finalize upon the students attaining their National Registry certification.
- 4) Sec. Pezze continues to work with Tineel Baroz, Community Programs Specialist on the USDA Community Facilities grant to fund 75% of the 2 new Tough Book laptop computers necessary for the new Image Trend patient care reporting system.
- 5) EMS Director Schmidt explained the reimbursement process for the \$15,000 RETAC funds that Huerfano County receives and disburses to the 2 ambulance services in the County. LVFPD requested that the County Commissioners pay LVFPD 40% of those funds and the County only approved 15%.

Director Nielsen suggested that future conversations on this topic could possibly be had with Huerfano Hospital District C.E.O. after they assume the Huerfano Ambulance Service from the County.

- 6) EMT classes are going well.
- 7) Chris Hudson has completed his National Registry recertification.
- 8) Rescue 2 (1999 Ford Amb.) broke down at a motor vehicle accident (MVA) scene on La Veta Pass and had to be towed to La Veta Oil. Alternators are ordered and will be replaced.
- 9) Attended Office of Emergency Management (OEM) applicant interview on March 2.
- 10) Mark Brunner has requested monetary help with a Wilderness EMT recertification class that he will attend in Durango. Cost is \$295.00 registration, 3 nights lodging, meals and fuel.

The Board concurred with EMS Director Schmidt's reasoning that continuing education credits (C.E.s) are now available to all LVFPD EMTs by attending the EMT classes being held in La Veta every Tuesday and Thursday evenings and some Saturdays. She read an email that she had sent to all LVFPD EMTs earlier regarding this opportunity to acquire C.E.s. The Board concluded that they rely on their EMS Department Director to make decisions and the Board supports whatever decision she makes.

- 7) Met with Town Trustee and Trails Committee member Marilyn Russell and La Veta School personnel regarding Safe Routes to School program and bicycle safety. Several May events are being planned that the LVFPD EMS will be involved in. One being the kickoff "ride your bike to school day" on May 3rd. There will also be an EMS week program at the school reinforcing bicycle safety. Working with the LVFPD Auxiliary to purchase some of the handouts that will be given to the students.

Fire Chief Report

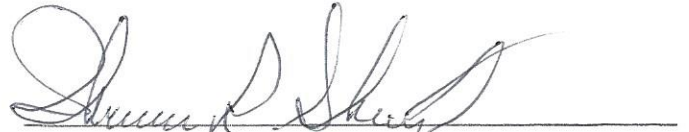
- 1) 5 Fire calls in February: 2 calls stemming from arcing power lines catching trees on fire in high winds. One tree fire caused a shed and contents, a car and a snowmobile to burn. 1 MVA, 1 residential fire alarm activation and 1 porch on fire due to woodstove ashes.
- 2) 2 Fire Trainings in February. February 1 with 15 Firefighters and 1 Jr. Firefighter in attendance, February 18 with 13 Firefighters and 2 EMS Dept. members in attendance.
- 3) March 4th was new station work day and all air and electric reels are installed and complete. Hot water heaters under the ops room and restroom sinks are installed and working.
- 4) Asst. Chf. Mower will meet with Colorado DTR radio system personnel on March 10th regarding 800 radio communication problems at the repeater site on Cordova Pass.
- 5) The bunker gear extractor (washing machine) is installed and functional.
- 6) Command staff communications is greatly improved.
- 7) Chief DeTray continues to work with Paul Branson, County and Federal officials regarding the CPAW project.
- 8) The 6612 brush truck (1987 Ford) has been renovated into an extrication/rescue unit and is now identified as Rescue 4. Awaiting new light bar and working through storage issues. Air bags, extrication equipment and rescue jacks are in place.
- 9) Ordered and received fire extinguisher brackets for Rescue 4, hose fittings for Cuchara engines and a helmet in the correct size for Asst. Chief Mower.
- 10) Worked with John Galush to put a stage 1, County wide, fire ban in place.
- 11) The County has offered the OEM position to an applicant and will wait to see if he accepts the position.

Old Business

The final projects in the La Veta station were discussed. Director Heikes advised that Stephen Ames is working on the locker rooms construction. The laminate vinyl flooring for the ops room, offices, and hallway and ceramic tile in the bathroom will be completed soon. Regarding the backup generator Director Heikes presented estimates of \$18,000 to \$21,000 for diesel or propane generators. The price includes the transfer switches. All agreed that there needs to be some kind of backup heaters in case of power outage or heating system breakdown and Director Shroust will talk to Justin McKay at La Veta Propane about tube heaters or some kind of backup heat.

There was no discussion or action on remaining Old Business items.

MSA: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Shannon R. Shroust, Secretary

LVFPD WMS MONTHLY REPORT

February, 2017

Michael Warren

WMS/FAL Supervisor

CREW

The crew has mainly been working on the Panadero Beautification project. We are looking to restart on FAL work next week. The FAL crew has been assigned a new 27 contracts of the blocks, replacing the 27 we had previously. This is due to Date contract was signed. We got the oldest contracts. We have a total of 28 Contracts lined up for FAL crew. One of which is Cobb which had been started in the fall and got weathered out. The crew is taking this week as a break from work, in order to get ready for our busy season. Paul B. will be out next week.

Equipment

All of our equipment is ready to go on FAL work, with one exception. Both of our MS461 Saws have a recall on them for Fuel lines. I have been working with big r to resolve this. They are trying to get a tech. down from Pueblo to come do both saws at once. That way we don't have to wait weeks to get them back. I am working on securing a chipper through Grand Rental Station for the upcoming season

Current objectives for Supervisor

Paul and I have completed Batch 1-3 for the Request for Re-imbusement. They have been submitted to the county, and are being uploaded on their side. I am currently approximately ½ finished catching up Batch for FAL paperwork. Things on the Paperwork side will be much more organized as well as a smooth transition to the Re-imbusement. I received our list for FAL work on 3/8/2017, and am checking sites to make sure they have been marked and are workable for the crew. Paul and I have completed the Mail out letter for securing more contracts. The county now has them and is working on mailing those out. My main focus currently is as follows:

Recruitment, Finishing FAL paperwork for batch 4, Scheduling FAL work for the crew

Recruitment

I have interviewed multiple persons who are interested in being on the FAL crew. None of which have worked out yet do to Backgrounds mainly. I do have a couple other prospects which I am waiting to hear back from. We are trying to go strong into this upcoming season. With a full crew of 5. This means being able to put more work on the ground.

New Business

Our new saw has come in and I have put time into breaking it in properly. Going forward we would like to do as much work on the saws in house as possible. This is due to not having a dependable place to take the equipment. I can do most work on a saw, short of splitting the case for engine or valve work. This is due to tooling.

Side Note:

I would like to thank Sue P. and Paul B. for their efforts in getting the Request for Re-imbusement finished for batches 1,2,&3. There was a lot of paperwork that needed to be completed, hadn't been completed correctly, or had never been started in the past. Paul's guidance was very helpful to say the least. Without Paul, it would have been much more difficult and time consuming. Sue P. was also very helpful in supplying records and receipts for the Re-imbusement. As well as many other things.