

LA VETA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
La Veta Fire Station
100 Birch
La Veta, Colorado

MINUTES

September 17, 2018
6:00 P.M.

Present: Directors Littlefield, Nielsen, Heikes, and Shrout were in attendance. Director Walker's absence was excused due to family business and traveling.
Staff: Fire Chief David DeTray, EMS Director Schmidt and District Secretary Pezze
Guests: Jim Berg, Paula Berg, Eddie Ray, Deb Lathrop and Sam Law and Russell and Karen Austin

Call to Order – Pledge - Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

MSA:* The September 17, 2018 Agenda was approved as amended to correct dates.

Minutes

MSA: Minutes of the August 9, 2018 special meeting were approved as presented.

MSA: Minutes of the August 20, 2018 meeting were approved as amended

MSA: Minutes of the September 6, 2018 meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comments

Director Nielsen introduced Russell and Karen Austin, owners of the Main Street Gallery. Mr. Austin is also an accomplished wildlife photographer. The Austin's presented the District with a large photograph of a Sky Crane helicopter that was making drops on Raspberry Mountain during the Spring Creek Fire. Sam Law and Deb Lathrop, owners of Up Top on Old La Veta Pass, addressed the Board and presented an article from the Denver Post that was a "success story" from the Spring Creek Fire. They also held a fundraiser on August 31, 2018 to kick off raising \$45,000 for acquisition of a newer brush truck. These donations will be held by the La Veta Fire Protection (LVFPD) Auxiliary until the goal is reached. LVFPD Auxiliary President Paula Berg presented her Auxiliary report stating that they are working with EMS Director Schmidt on the Colo. Dept. of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) EMS Provider grant application and will be able to provide the 10% matching funds for a new ambulance in Cuchara, if the grant is awarded. The application will be submitted in Feb. 2019. The Auxiliary is also putting together a calendar with pictures from the Spring Creek Fire. They will host a booth at the October 6, 2018 Oktoberfest and also do the annual Fire Prevention Week presentations at the elementary school in October. Paula then presented the District with a large picture of the La Veta FPD Firefighter 4th of July Parade in Cuchara. Director Littlefield expressed his concern for the amount of donations that are being received that are earmarked for equipment. He feels that this may not align with the capital plans of the Board. Volunteer training is the highest priority at this time. EMS Director Schmidt asked that the Auxiliary consider doing a higher match of up to 50% that could increase the chances of a grant award.

Guests, Correspondence, and Presenters

None.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report and payments for the September 17, 2018 meeting were presented.

MSA: The Board approved the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Director Littlefield asked that accounts be established for the purpose of debt reserves.

EMS Director Report

- 1) 15 EMS runs with 11 patients transported in August 2018.
- 2) Will hold a CDPHE grant preparation meeting on Sept. 25, 2018.
- 3) Will be working on grant request for the annual RETAC funding along with the new EMS Director, Derek Garcia, at Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center. \$13,000 is available to Huerfano County this year.
- 4) Presented applications from Brenna Ray (EMT Basic) and Amber Olsen (EMT Paramedic).

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

- 5) Would like to send 4 EMTs to the EMSAC conference in Keystone on November 9 through 11. Cost is \$270 each for registration, \$810 for lodging plus meals and fuel. Total cost approximately \$2,700.
- 4) Nicole Sudderth wants to take the EMT class whenever it is offered.
- 5) Attended a Fire and EMS department's workshop to discuss and develop long range goals regarding recruitment and retention and call response.
- 6) Darcy Saint Peter is hoping to become more active in La Veta EMS.
- 7) John Mayfired has been very helpful and active with covering special events.
- 8) Working on CDPHE grant for new ambulance and EMS Director Schmidt asked the Board, in addition to the LVFPD Auxiliary, to consider supplying a high amount of matching funds, up to 50%, to increase the chances of the grant being awarded.

The Board advised EMS Director Schmidt to proceed with the application based on both the 10% and 50% match basis and then the Board will decide in January which matching route to use when submitting the application in February 2019.

MSA: The approved the EMS applications of Brenna Ray and Amber Olsen contingent upon clear background checks. The 6-month residency requirement per the District's Standard Operations Procedures (S.O.P.s) was waived on Amber Olsen's application.

Fire Chief Report

- 1) 8 fire calls in August 2018: Tree fire (possible lightning strike), car fire MM 280 on Hwy. 160, 5 smoke reports from Spring Creek Fire burn scan and haz-mat – chlorine contamination at Town water plant facility.
- 2) Fire Trainings in August: August 1 on flooding, I Am Responding system, and trucks with 16 FFs in attendance. August 18 on ICS-100, WUI and 6111 pumping with 8 FFs in attendance.

Chief DeTray's Fire Report is attached to these minutes. In addition to the printed report Chief DeTray asked for approval to send Ron Jameson to a training instruction class in Ignacio, CO. The 2 day class, 2 nights lodging, food and fuel cost would be \$795.00. The F-MAG payments was discussed and District Secretary Pezze is still working on complication of that information and will meet with Director Littlefield to review the totals and amounts shortly. Chief DeTray also advised that there will be extensive training on the new ladder truck in November after it is delivered to LVFPD. It is currently at the City of Pueblo maintenance shop for inspection, repair, and upgrading it to certifiable condition. Chief DeTray expanded on the workshop held with EMS Director Schmidt and officers regarding funding a "paid fire shift" position as explained in Chief DeTray's report.

Director Nielsen stated, and the Board concurred, that there needs to be in-depth research, discussion and review of long term finances before funding a fire shift, as proposed, could be considered. Director Littlefield mentioned that safer grants could also be researched.

The job descriptions for the fire department were presented. District Secretary Pezze had also supplied the job description for the District Secretary position at the request of Director Littlefield. The Dist. Secretary job description had been approved at the March 15, 2015 meeting. However, the Board requested that it be approved again.

MSA: The Board approved the job descriptions for the Fire Department and also the District Secretary's position (originally approved on March 15, 2015).

Chief DeTray then asked to have the position of Assistant Fire Chief reinstated after it had been removed at the June 14, 2018 meeting. Multiple Directors stated they were not ready to consider that request and further discussion was necessary before any action could be taken.

MSA: The Board approved the total expenditure of \$2,577.00 for Ron Jameson's training class in Ignacio and Chief DeTray and Jim Berg's CO State Fire Chief's Conf. in Keystone, CO.

Old Business

Regarding the USDA \$66,500 grant for fire and EMS gear and equipment, the Board asked that all purchases be completed prior to the end of the year. Chief DeTray and EMS Director Schmidt are working on those purchases. The VFA grant is progressing and reimbursement request will be completed by the September 30, 2018 deadline.

Director Littlefield is handling the Survey Monkey survey and it should be sent out shortly. A pre-survey letter will be sent to members.

MSA: The Board approved amending the motion made at the August 9, 2018 Board meeting that instead of having two Directors attend department training sessions (to introduce and discuss the upcoming survey) the survey will be sent out as soon as a pre-survey letter is sent to the members.

The November 6, 2018 General Election ballot issue to de-Gallagherize is progressing and the District's pros and cons statements will be sent to the Huerfano County Clerk to be included in the Huerfano County TABOR Notice.

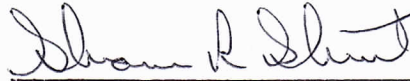
Sale of the 1987 Ford Utility pickup was discussed and Director ShROUT advised that he did not place it on ebay but will help sell the truck via standard advertising methods. It will be advertised in the World Journal and the Thrifty Nickel and offers taken by sealed bids. Minimum bid is \$2,500.00 and sealed bids will be opened at the October 11, 2018 meeting. Director ShROUT will be the contact for sale of this truck.

New Business

The topic of the 2018 Budget was discussed and Directors Littlefield, Nielsen and Dist. Sec. Pezze held an initial budget committee meeting and changes were also reviewed with department managers at the workshop held prior to the Board meeting on September 17, 2018. The preliminary, proposed 2019 Budget will be presented at the Board meeting on October 11, 2018.

The Board approved District Secretary Pezze's organizing of the October 6, 2018 Oktoberfest Bonfils Blood Drive.

MSA: The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.



Shannon R. ShROUT, Secretary

No New Applications.

Calls and Trainings see attached.

I want to personally thank the LVFPD BOD with there help and understanding in the recent purchase of equipment for the LVFPD.

Business

- Communication with Jim Berg, New Leadership and myself continue to be going well.
- Awaiting repairs on Ladder truck. Hope to have better idea on completion by Monday's Workshop.
- Met with CMAT team members this past Saturday at our training and was blessed with a large amount of information that we will be following up on in the recent weeks.
- Berg and I have talked with Ron Jameson about helping with our training program and he has agreed to do so. We have made a trading schedule for the next six month with the understanding there will be minimal changes to said schedule. I have advised our members that we all need to be flexible with the training schedule as opportunity's may come up as well as personnel schedules as well.
- There has been word of Deb Lathrop wanting to raise money for a new Brush truck. I have spoken with Ms. Lathrop on this and advised her that the decision will be left to the BOD's Also in our discussion I advised her of my Idea of the possibility of reclassify of 6611 which was in my last months Board report. The Idea would to use the Pump package of 6611 on preferably used chassis and flat bed, Have Pump and motor went through by City of Pueblo shop to ensure service for years to come. We would then retain the old 6611 for a service unit within the district. This option would defray the cost of a new Type 6 brush truck Greatly. I hope we can discuss this matter at the Workshop to get the BOD's ideas on this matter.
- Malea, Jim Berg, Eddie Ray and myself met to come up with ideas for strengthening our call response for the District.
 1. We first will be placing Command 2 the Black and White Expedition at station 2 to provided personnel response to Both Fire and EMS calls.
 2. We would like to increase the EMS shift to 24 hours, Add a Firefighter shift for the same 24 hours.
 3. Increased the EMS shift pay from 80.00 per shift to 100.00 per shift and pay the Firefighter the Same 100.00 per shift.This will ensure that we has at least 2 responders on Shift for EMS and Fire calls for service. Funds from EMS billing will pay up to 50,000.00 for position and we are under the understanding that when we proposed the Mill Levi increase that there was money from Mill increase to go for the EMS Position as well. Proposed cost of this would be 200.00 per day x 365 for a total of 73,000.00 Which the District is paying 29,200.00 right now for its EMS shift personnel. Each Shift personal would be required a minimum of 2 hours of Station duties to include truck checks, Care of Station to include cleaning bathrooms, Bays and equipment and Inventory to name a few.
- I have also encouraged our firefighter to take advantage of proposed upcoming classes Pumps and water class in Stonewall and EMR class in Walsenburg.

Action Items

Would like permission to Send Jim Berg and myself to the Colorado State Fire Chiefs Conference in Keystone OCTOBER 24th through the 26th.

Cost break down

1. Conference for 2 = 790.00 if paid by 10-05-2018 after this date would increase by 200.00
2. Room is 642.00
3. Food would approx be 350.00

For a total of 1782.00 if registered by 10-05-2018

This is a great training opportunity not to mention the phenomenal networking opportunity's.

David L DeTray

Fire Chief

LaVeta Fire Protection District.

719-989-0295