



Westside Fire District

1123 Lake Street, Sandpoint, ID 83864-1714 • Phone 208/263-3503 • Fax 208/255-1647 • www.selkirkfire.com

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 7, 2017

Chairman Gadsby called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present were Commissioners Gadsby, Child and Warren. Also present were Chief Stocking and Executive Assistant RuthAnn Zigler.

The Chief requested that we remove Item e under New Business.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Child made a motion to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes on January 10, 2017 as presented. Commissioner Warren seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the accounts payables as presented. Commissioner Child seconded and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

REPORTS

Chief's Monthly Report

Incident update: We had a very active month in January. We had four (4) structure fires. Westside's engine responded to each of these fires. In January we had 200 total responses – 118 in Sandpoint, 67 in Sagle and 15 in Westside.

Website update: No updates on our website, but we continue to make improvements

Employee update: We received over thirty (30) applications for the positions available in Sandpoint and Westside Fire.

The Firefighter orals were conducted yesterday; eight (8) people were interviewed. Pending background checks and medical evaluations, two candidates will be called and offered the positions.

Volunteer update: There was nothing new to report.

Training update: A sample training bulletin was distributed to show the Boards the training that takes place on a monthly basis.

Maintenance update: Due to the water tender sitting for a long, the tires are rotting and need to be replaced; the cost will be approximately \$5,000 for eight (8) new tires. The front tires have just been replaced.

Other: The Battalion Chief pilot program began last July and has been a great success. It has increased our ability to respond to calls by 33% and the three (3) BC's have done an excellent job managing the Sagle, Sandpoint and Westside departments. In March the Chief stated he would like to bring a proposal to the Board to make the BC position permanent in the fire department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Discussion and possible approval of 2015-2016 audit report: Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the 2015-2016 audit report as presented. Commissioner Child seconded and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on hiring two firefighters: The Chief reported he does not recommend hiring a second firefighter at this time. We have a hiring list now, so once the budget can support another firefighter position we can discuss further. The Commissioners concurred that it will be nice to have two firefighters employed so the District can be covered 24/7.

Discussion and possible authorization to allow Commissioners to be volunteers: Will reported that a past Commissioner Board made a policy that Commissioners cannot serve on the Board and also be a volunteer with the District. After discussion, the Board and the Fire Chief agreed they see no issues with a Commissioner serving in both positions.

Commissioner Child made a motion to resend the Westside Fire policy restricting volunteer firefighter participation by Board members. Commissioner Warren seconded and the motion carried.

Discussion on Dover Stations Building, Lease and Responsibility: Commissioner Warren reported that he spoke with the Mayor of Dover and read the agreement between Ralph Sletager and Westside Fire which states that the Fire District will lease the building to the Fire District for \$1.00/ year; it was the opinion of the Mayor that it is the responsibility of the District to maintain the premises. The Chief stated that he also had a conversation with the Mayor and feels that before the Board makes any agreement with the City of Dover we need to establish a contract between the City of Dover and the Fire District.

Discussion and possible approval for a Sleeper Program: In response to not hiring two (2) firefighters, the option is to establish a Sleeper Program where the volunteers would sleep at the fire station and we would pay \$25 for Firefighters and \$50 for Firefighter/EMT. The maximum amount would be \$75.00/day. Two people would be required to be on duty but only one each – one Firefighter and one Firefighter/EMT. They would be at the station from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and would give us ½ hour of station maintenance and then they would cover the station for all calls in the Westside District.

We figure about 50% of the time we will have coverage in the station. We would start the Sleeper Program at the Dover station but eventually move the program to the Wrenco station. The preliminary cost for this year is around \$14,000 if we did ultimate coverage to the end of this year. If the program is successful we will continue it, if not, the program will

be dropped. The Sleeper Program will have Rules & Regulations that would be approved by the Board. The program would be available to all staff and volunteers of Selkirk Fire. Only career Firefighters from Sagle and Sandpoint would be eligible to participate because they are employed by Westside Fire so can be paid the stipend. Westside employees would not be able to participate; you cannot volunteer and work for the same agency.

The Chief asked for the Boards direction and we will continue the Sleeper Program discussion at the next meeting.

Discussion and possible authorization for two (2) weeks of vacation for Assistant Chief:
The Chief reported that for the past six years, Chief Hopkins was at his maximum allowance for vacation and because he was the only one on call, was not able to take vacation leave.

Commissioner Child made a motion to approval adding eighty (80) hours Assistant Chief Hopkins vacation accruals. Commissioner Warren seconded and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Child made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Commissioner Warren seconded and the motion carried.