

EVART FIRE BOARD MEETING

February 19, 2019

Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting called to order @ 4:03pm by Co-Chairman Elliott.

Roll Call: Members Present: Gary Hammer – Evart Township, Bev Mills – Sylvan Township, Dan Elliott – City of Evart, Sherri Bancroft – Osceola Township, Absent Brad Morgan – Orient Township.

Guests Present: Keith Smith, Dale Bailey, Dan Winters, Angie Cushman, Shane Helmer, Denise Custer, Doug Derscheid, Jesse Hyden.

MOTION BY BANCROFT, 2ND BY HAMMER to amend and approve the agenda, adding number 6 to New Business City Attorney Letter, and number 4 to Old Business, Mutual Aid Agreement. MOTION PASSED.

Old Business: The truck that we were looking at in Kansas, sold the last meeting night for \$30,000. Shane has been looking for other trucks but is coming up empty handed as the trucks he is finding are either very old, or not up on maintenance. Shane would like to know what the next step will be for the tower truck. He needs to report this to ISO and that is the next step and he needs to tell them what the status is of the truck.

He said there is options to take this to the townships, he can come up with a letter and present it to the townships and let them know what the options are for fixing the old tower.

QuickBooks update: Shane stated that Angie has been in contact with Kelly and is planning on putting the corrections in the computer tomorrow, and that would bring us up to date as of June 30, 2018. She needs to have all past deposits in and then she can then continue to correct any issues for the July 1, 2018 to present of QuickBooks.

The proposed budget was sent out last meeting, and some questions were emailed back to Shane, he addressed those questions. Some of the questions pertained to operating, education, office supplies, wages, and physicals. Spectrum Health currently does our physicals, and is the least expensive as of now, we will be changing over to BioOne for employment physicals. Each of those physicals will be roughly \$300 for each employee. These physicals are more in depth, with x-rays, blood work, urinalysis, TB testing, and so on.

Osceola County foundation grant was submitted for \$10,000 and asked for 2-smartboards, and 2- 60" plasma TVs, so that we could use them in the day room for education and meetings. We are just waiting on the outcome of that, around mid-June. The room is used for fire meetings, education classes for the county fire departments, and some county departments and the City of Evart, and most recently for the Police department body cam presentation.

Update for the USDA grant, the check was sent to them, and once that is cleared, the bank statements need to be sent to USDA for the Check for the \$50,000.

Dan presented letters to the board from the city attorney, and how that appeals case would impact the authority or district of the fire department. Dan hasn't had a lot of time to go over the letters but has

done a bit of research. He believes that we would have to have a vote of the people to do the special assessment. He will do some more research and bring anything he finds back to the board.

New Business: Shane has had a request from Marion to do a dual enrollment from our department. He lives close to M-115, so is close to both departments. Shane just wants insights on what the board thinks for this before he does much investigating on who's gear, insurance, training, and so on for the enrollment. Marion is shorthanded, and we are doing well with 32 on our department.

Shane, Travis and Dan went to Lansing and got a Department of Defense (DOD) 2007 4x6 Wheel Freightliner Truck. It has 9000 miles, brand new tires in May, and is good for a re-chassis and would like to do a refurbish of Engine 8, so do 2 trucks for \$400,000, compared to doing one truck for purchase of \$400,000. Shane has been in contact with companies to see what the final cost would be for the change over of the trucks. This DOD truck did not cost us any money. Shane did talk to USDA and it is eligible for grant funding for both trucks. It would give us low interest rates for a loan and for no payments till 2021. This truck will not replace nothing, it will add to our fleet, as we do not only have one tender.

Engine 8 is up and running, costing us \$1000. He had to have a part overnighted to us from California. It was an original part that froze up and was difficult to locate another one. Also had wires that were disconnected, because of old wiring.

Mutual Aid request have been asked for Surrey Fire and Clare City Fire Departments. Clare fire has a tower truck, which will benefit us tremendously. Clare does not have an Air Trailer, so that will benefit them also, and it is a straight shot on the US 10 Corridor. We currently have 21 mutual aid agreements, between Mecosta, Clare, Newaygo, and Osceola County.

MOTION BY BANCROFT, 2ND BY MILLS, to accept the Mutual Aid agreements between Clare City Fire and Surrey Township Fire Department. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION BY MILLS, 2ND BY HAMMER, to approve the minutes of January 15, 2019 as written. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION BY BANCROFT, 2ND BY HAMMER, to pay the monthly bills totaling \$163,101.29 beginning with check #5984-5977. MOTION PASSED.

Treasurers report: General Checking \$58,442.88, Truck Account \$15,137.01 with a total of \$73,579.89.

MOTION BY HAMMER, 2ND BY MILLS, to approve the Treasurers Report as presented with an ending balance of \$73,579.89. MOTION PASSED.

Fire Chief Report: Shane stated that when they made the trip to Lansing, he was able to acquire 10 Tie downs, safety glasses, and two multimedia projectors for the classroom. Also 200' of fire hose, all totaling \$114,000. Shane put in for a UTV, and a generator for our department, he also put in for another chassis, for a heavier brush truck. We have 2 interviews this Thursday, both are very much into fire and have training. There are a lot of training sessions coming up until October.

Shane stated that the river search went as well as it could given the circumstances. The state police dive team was very impressed with our response and how we ran our command center, to food and drinks, and warming trailers, and with the help we received from 10+ departments, and over 85 volunteers to help from 3 counties. The plan is to go in the spring, with a cadaver dog and boats to do another search.

Shane also stated that a couple department members would like to do a Car Seat Training Clinic and be able to do clinics here at the department. They would also like to do a Red Cross Smoke Detector program for free smoke detectors.

Shane also stated that we would be sending a few guys to CPR certification so that there is more in our department to be able to teach CPR classes and only Jesse and Shane are certified as of now.

Citizens Comments: None

Next Meeting is March 14, 2019 @ 6pm.

Public Hearing Meeting begins at 7pm.

MOTION BY MILLS, 2ND BY HAMMER to adjourn the meeting @ 5:20pm. MOTION PASSED.

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A FUTURE BOARD MEETING.

Submitted by, Angela Cushman

Administrative Assistant Evart Fire Department