

Minutes

Board meeting of Park County Rural Fire District #1

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Board of Trustees of Park County Rural Fire District #1 met on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, for their regular meeting at 304 Main Street, Livingston MT.

Trustees Present: Chairperson Lawellin, Secretary Nelson, Trustee Fee, Trustee Lowy, and Trustee Donovan in at 6:10 pm

Also Present: Chief Babcox, Assistant Chief Anderson, Vickie Jo Shipley, Chris Satterfield, Dave Jupe, Ashley Sites, Elijah [redacted], Jordan Caoile, Norbert Hackles Hackl

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.

Public Comment: Trustee Fee reported to the board that he and Chief Babcox visited Station 2 to look at the floor and the issues with the pooling. John Fridley Construction will be able to look at the issue when they are ready to be reported that it sounds like it is not a critical issue, and it would cost an estimated \$[redacted]. Firefighter Jupe reported that he would be giving the board a quote on the work and materials for station 3 and that the work could be done by May. Firefighter Sites gave an association report to the board. Firefighter Sites reported the association voted in a new president, [redacted], and a new Vice President, Bryan Eastman. The association also wrote a letter to [redacted] regarding DOT, that will be mailed out.

Minutes: The minutes from the January 8, 2024, board meeting were read by Chairperson Lawellin. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by Secretary Nelson. Second by Trustee Fee. The motion passed unanimously.

Sign Claims and Warrants, Financial Report: See Attached. Financials were read by Vickie Jo Shipley. Signed and approved by Trustee Fee. 1-31<sup>st</sup> warrants and claims #14946-14964=\$40,330.39. Signed and approved by Trustee Fee. February 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> warrants and claims #14965-14991=\$65,547.07. The total for the month includes the payments to the 3 loans to the board of investments. The current balance of the fund at the January income is \$252,923.62. Capital Improvement Fund has [redacted]. A motion was made to approve the December financials by Trustee Fee. Second by Secretary Nelson. The motion passed. Trustee Donovan abstained.

**Chiefs Report: See Attached.**

**Old Business: Update on winter freeway closure.** Trustee Lowy updated the board that she secured a spot on the Park County Commissioners meeting agenda for the 20<sup>th</sup>. The introduction to the subject will be in public hearing with the action item being later on the agenda. Trustee Lowy informed the board the preparation for the meeting is complete. A notice will need to be put out for the meeting.

**Pine Creek update.** The original check the KOA sent has been sent back. The KOA sent a \$1000 check covering the amount due through December.

*Hackles* **New Business: Discussion/Decision Haug Subdivision letter for variance.** Mr. Haug and Mr. Hackles presented to the board a letter for a variance for the subdivision regulations along with a letter for a variance for the pond off Meigs Road. The standard is the pond is usually on the property where the subdivision is developed. Currently, the pond needs clean up, reflective markers, No Parking signs, and a fire hydrant head to replace the current one to meet standards. The HOA of the subdivision will manage clean up and have an easement of use for the fire department. Chairperson Lawellin asked how many people the pond currently supports. The pond supports 0 people. Chairperson Lawellin asked if the calculation for the number of structures and water per NFPA 1142. The calculation had no water in the pond. The house is 3000 square footage will be 158,000 gallons of water in the pond. The house is 3000 square feet, with 4-5 bedrooms. Secretary Nelson asked who is currently responsible for the pond. There is no HOA established yet, along with changing the requirement to a yearly inspection when the subdivision is completed. The property owner is the HOA president and is responsible for the pond. Secretary Nelson mentioned that when the HOA is established, the pond should be inspected yearly by the fire department and turned over to them. Firefighter Jupe asked what feeds the pond. The question was asked if the HOA was mandatory. The HOA will be 2-acre lots and not usually a proportion across the street. Secretary Nelson mentioned further discussion and subdivisions on February 26<sup>th</sup>. A list will be put together for the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

*is a 1/2 acre and acre from the subdivision*

**Discussion/Decision 4** board reporting that the price. The contract covers board meetings, as well

accounting contract. Mrs. Shipley presented the contract to the board. The price is the same as last year with an overall \$50/mo increase in the services along with audit up to 20 hours, preparing for assistant position housed in the fire department. A motion

was made to approve the contract with 406 Paradise Accounting by Trustee Lowy. Second by Secretary Nelson. Motion passed. Trustee Donovan abstained.

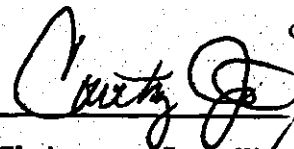
Discussion ISO testing. Asst. Chief Anderson presented to the board. ISO is coming this year to the department. ISO is insurance-related and can help residents get a better rate on insurance dependent on the rating with other considerations. Their job is to ensure the department is meeting set standards. The department's current ISO rating is ~~4Y74~~. On May 24<sup>th</sup>, at 11 am there will be a meeting with the ISO representative. The department is looking to improve the operational side to improve the rating. The department score will degrade due to the amount of water supplies that were used in the City of Livingston.

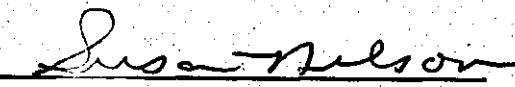
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Discussion/decision on health stipend. The cost of insurance has gone up and the Assistant Chief Anderson needs an increase. The cost raise must be equal for both. A motion was made to increase the health stipend to \$800 a month for both Chiefs by Trustee Lowy. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Trustee Anderson presented to the board that the letter for the Senator regarding the AFG grant has been ready to send. Secretary Nelson asked for the next board meeting agenda to have this topic as well as her intention to resign from Secretary of the board.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Secretary Nelson. Second by Trustee Fee. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:20 pm.

  
Chairperson Lawellin

  
Secretary Nelson