

Hebgen Basin Fire District

Meeting Minutes

October 08, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1805 hrs.

Board Members Present: Ken Davis, Gay McBirnie, Kyle Goltz, Mike Gavagan, John Costello

Also in Attendance: Chief Grube, AC Jessop, Lindsey Charlton, Cassandra Mitchell, James, McBirnie, Landon Zimmerman

Recorder of Minutes: Lindsey Charlton

Public Comment for Items Not on Agenda: no public comment

Approval of Minutes for September 10, 2019 Regular Board Meeting: Ken Davis requested a few revisions to be made. Ken Davis made a motion to approve minutes with corrections. Gay McBirnie seconded. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Approve Claims/Deposits: Ken Davis made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Gay Seconded. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Chief's Report: See attached.

New Business:

Update to Purchase Policy 121

Chief learned at recent conference that we can make purchases through a cooperative agreement. Chief amended current policy to allow cooperative purchasing or purchasing with bidding. Mike Gavagan motions to adopt update to policy 121 with new language. John Costello seconds. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Engine 1 Replacement Purchase

Chief provided the set of specs of new engine for board. Going with the cooperative bid and Sourcewell pricing will put the total cost at \$626,300.00. Almost half the cost comes from building a custom chassis. One of the larger benefits of having a custom chassis will be that the district can increase water capacity. New engine can carry 1500 gallons of water, has room for patient care in back seat with back board, and has an in-cab medical compartment with dual opening compartments. A few issues were discussed with specs and Chief requested they move hose reel to back along with adding beds for 2.5 hose. The District has been saving for this for many years, we have \$440,000.00 in apparatus budget and would need to move money to complete purchase. This would be a 25 year purchase, if you compare to spending \$200,000.00 every time we need a new ambulance that lasts 6 years. The Districts current engine is only 2wd, lacks compartment space, and can only transport patient in back seat. John asks Chief where the additional funds to cover cost of engine will come from. Chief responds the district can use ambulance revenue and there is roll over funds every year that can be used. Ken Davis asks Chief if he knows what the weight will be once it is fully loaded. Chief states 53,500 is total estimated weight with all the hose and equipment needed loaded onto Engine. The pre-construction meeting should be in December and it could take up to 1 year for construction to be completed. Bernie comments that the District is long overdue for a new engine and the current engine is a safety concern since it does not have 4 wheel drive. Landon adds that we are an understaffed district and often have to roll to scenes with minimal apparatus. Cassandra states that the new engine would accommodate a MCA and being able to have a place for patient care is needed along with being very beneficial. The current engine is packed and does not even have all the items our crew requires for scenes. Chief adds that East Helena has a similar truck that they paid \$578,000.00, big sky bought one that was identical to what we specked out and they paid \$717,000.00. Mike states that now is the time to make this purchase as prices are not going to go down and this has been

discussed for three years now. Mike Gavagan makes motion to approve the engine 1 purchase. John Costello seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.

YNP Service Agreement Direction

Chief reports that he is supposed to have conference call with Pat Kenney to discuss efforts being made with trying to get a response out of park pertaining to entering into a service agreement. The District currently has a Mutual Aid Agreement and in 60 days it is null and void. The NPS currently has service agreements with other agencies and pays these agencies for their mutual aid calls. The park has been consistently 14% of our call volume and the tax payers are currently covering costs. The park could pay the District \$160,000-\$180,000 annually to help cover cost of running park calls. Chief suggests we send a letter to the NPS to remind them the contract will be expiring on a specific date. It will cost the park a lot more to provide the west entrance with fire and ems apparatus than it would to pay the District for services. This could provide us with the opportunity to hire more staff and provide them additional support. The District currently does not get engines or transport service support from the park and in the last three years they have only transported 1 patient for us. All the other calls we have had the NPS rangers show up to scene to support the District but not the EMS staff. Ken Davis asks Chief what are the Districts costs that we are not getting covered. Chief responds that the District is sending staff that we pay from our district funds to respond to mutual aid calls. The cost comes in when our on shift staff has to wait to engage and then we have to pay extra staff to come in and be on standby. Ken Davis states that the District has to recover costs, if we send crew A into park and Crew B is standby they need to be paid. Chief responds that right now San Francisco provides an ambulance and Engine to NPS and receives compensation. If the park provided the District with \$200,000.00, it could cover the additional expenses we encounter and allow for District to add additional staffing. Ken Davis motions the Chief should begin negotiations with NPS immediately and his last presentation would be to send a letter rescinding the current agreement. Gay McBirnie Seconds. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Approve to Excess 2003 F 450 Pickup

Chief requests to offer old plow truck to public by a sealed bid sale with \$6,500.00 minimum bid. We have a second plow frame to sell with the truck. Chief determined minimum bid amount based on Kelly Blue Book value of similar model since actual model was not available. Mike Gavagan motions to approve excess sale of old plow truck with minimum bid of \$6,500.00. Gay Mcbirnie seconds. All in favor. Motion passed

Meeting adjourned: 730

Next meeting 11/12 6pm