

Hebgen Basin Fire District
Board Meeting Minutes
November 10 2020

Meeting was called to order at 1803 hrs.

Board Members Present: Mike Gavagan, Ken Davis via webex virtual meeting.
John Costello, Kyle Goltz, in person.

Also in Attendance: Chief Grube, AC Jessop, Lindsey Charlton, Brad Wittrock, Jeremy Gallagher, Carrie Egging

Recorder of Minutes: Lindsey Charlton

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Minutes for October 13, 2020 Board Meeting: Ken Davis motions to approve minutes as written.
Mike Gavagan Seconded. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Approve Claims/Deposits: Ken Davis motions to approve the claims as presented. John Costello Seconded. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Chiefs report. See attached.

Ken Davis asked Chief to bring the board up to date on where Sydni is with the Districts financial statements. Chief stated that Sydni had issues because tax season was extended and for the month of October she had to finish filing to meet deadlines. The District will now be her top priority. Once Sydni has completed the financial statements, Chief recommends using Magda to assist with financial statements in the future.

Meeting adjourned: 18:22

Next meeting 12/08/20 at 6pm

Chief's Report

For

November 10, 2020

Incidents in October (38)

Incidents Year to Date (394)

Transfers from YNP (0)

Mutual Aid Requests (4)

EMS Calls (17)

Transports (14)

Fire (7)

2nd Out (3)

3rd Out (0)

Multiple APP (7)

2019 Incidents in October (44)

2019 Incidents Year to Date (452)

October Transfers from YNP (0)

Mutual Aid Requests (6)

EMS Calls (19)

Transports (17)

Fire (8)

2nd Out (1)

3rd Out (1)

Multiple APP (8)

Accidents

We have no accidents to report.

Staff Activities Training

The staff has been busy working on projects and running calls. Having two major structure fires in the same month is out of the norm for us. On the other hand having a major structure fire while I am on vacation also seems to be becoming the norm for us.

We will be conducting an after action review of the fire within the next week or so. I want to include Big Sky Fire in the review since they came and assisted on the fire. The fire response was supported by on duty personnel, volunteers, and off duty employees along with the town and local law enforcement. Everyone did a great job in saving the house and garage but the barn was a total loss.

County SCBA Grant

We were not successful in obtaining the County SCBA Grant. I am exploring our options but I believe that a good use for some of the Care's Act reimbursement funding would be to purchase the new SCBA's with a portion of that money. We have already set aside \$100,000 in capital funding for the project. Most all of our current bottles have hit the end of their life cycle and can't be hydro tested again.

Call Volume and Resort Tax

Our call volume continues to be very strange this year.

July + 20%

August -30%

September -20%

October -15%

Overall call volume for the year we are down 12.9 %

Our overall transports for this calendar year are still down by 22% currently.

Resort tax numbers are in for September.

Resort tax collections were down 24.3% compared to last year's total in the same month.

If you do a 4 years average of the previous 4 years, resort tax collections were only down by 8%.

The town is down 16.6 % for this current fiscal year.

Apparatus Update

I have posted our Old Ambulance three for sale by sealed bid with a reserve of \$13,500 as a minimum we will open the bids at our next board meeting in December. I have received some photos of our new engine chassis. The pump has been installed and they are currently working on the body of the engine. We will not be able to go to the plant and do a pre-paint inspection, due to COVID 19. We will have to do the pre-paint inspection by photos and video calls.

County Wide Radio System

We have been moving forward with the new radio system. The town has chosen the third option I spoke of last month, which was to spend up to \$250,000 dollars and move the new radio tower down by the current city offices to get it out of the historic district. It will require a small separate building with both heat and cooling options along with a backup generator. It would also take a direct fiber link to dispatch with a backup redundant fiber line or microwave. This plan has created an additional problem, the county will have to address. In EF Johnson's proposal, they did not bid on creating a new site but to only upgrade existing sites. The county will have to write a new RFP for the site and then put it out for bid, Which will set back the go live date by a couple of months for us down here in the West Yellowstone area. I am exploring what other options we might have in getting us back on schedule.

Station 1 Sprinkler System

The Fire Alarm system has been installed and the whole system is operational.

Cares Act Reimbursement

I am hoping to hear by the end of the week on when we can expect our Cares Act Reimbursement for the second round I submitted on September 4th. Lindsey and I have starting working on the third round of Cares Act Reimbursement. It is due next week and will cover the months of September and October.

Yellowstone National Park Auto Aid Agreement

I received an email from Chief Grey, Structural Fire Chief for Yellowstone National Park last Friday we are planning on meeting this week to work through some issues on the contract. The contracting office is having some issues in the way things are worded. But he has been given the authority to start moving forward. I will let you know how the discussions goes latter this week.

Fact Finding

The dates for Fact Finding have changed from November 23rd and 24th to possible December 28th and 29th. The proposal we submitted to the Union in an attempt to avoid fact finding, has been rejected. "The Union is at a loss for a counter proposal since the District failed to address a residency stipend".

Ice Rescue Training Grant

Lindsey wrote a grant for Ice Rescue training and was successful in securing funds for 6 people to attend the training valued at \$1350.00 from Montana Community Foundation and ATT. We are trying to bring the trainers here to West so that we can have other departments from around the area attend.

Cares Act EMS Equipment Grant

Last week I received word of addition funding available for EMS Equipment through the Local Government Services Bureau. I am currently working on a grant for new Monitors and Lucas devices. If successful it would be a grant for approximately \$144,000 dollars of new equipment.