

**Upper Pine River Fire District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 18th, 2013
6:00 p.m.**

The meeting for March 21^h, 2013 was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by President of the Board Jeff Dyar.

Board Member Attendance

Jeff Dyar (President), Roger Pennington (Vice President) excused absence, Mack Coker (member) via phone, John Beebe (Treasurer) Bill Kourim (member)

Staff Present

Bruce Evans (Chief), Randy Larson (Deputy Chief/ OPS), Lisa Eckert (Board Secretary), Mickey Ramsey (Accountant)

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance

Public Attendees

Approximately 20 fire employees and family members and several community members were in attendance.

Additions/ Deletions to Agenda

None

Public Comment

None

Special Presentations

French exchange student, Guilhem Calvet, introduced himself to the group explaining what he is going to do while he is here in Bayfield. He will be working on several projects including CWPP effectiveness, gas company relocations and general fire practices.

Approval of Minutes

John made the recommendation to approve the meeting minutes for March 21st, 2013. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

John made the recommendation to approve the meeting minutes for April 5th, 2013. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Balance Sheet Regular

Mack made the motion to accept the revenues and expenditure budget vs. actual for March 2013 as presented. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approve All of March Bills (and Cash Checking)

John made the motion to approve the March 2013 bills as presented. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Balance Sheet Bond

Mack made the motion to approve the balance sheet bond services fund for March 2013 as presented. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

- A. Meeting format- John Beebe. John proposed the check register report be removed from the board meeting discussion however continue to be included in the board packet for review. Board members can review and ask questions individually. Jeff made the motion to use the “stamp” approval process by the Chief and suspend the check register review. The Board will use the check signing process to review the approve checks. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- B. Town Hall meeting schedule- Bruce and John have had discussions regarding planning the town hall meetings on May 13, 14 and 15 with discussion to be determined on the target groups. School district officials, senior center and general town meeting with plans to visit the lake and other fire districts. Town hall meetings will include at least two Board members.
- C. Type 3 engine- Bruce reported the Type 3 is due to be inspected at the end of May by Roger Pennington and Dan Roberts traveling to the manufacturer location.
- D. Personnel changes- Bruce discussed the potential changes and changes made to date regarding administration. Many positions have been reduced or performed by part time resources. Travis Wright has resigned from the department as of April 25th as Wildland Fire Manager. Roy Vreeland will be assuming that role when promoted to Deputy Chief of Support Services.

Old Business

- A. Bruce requested the Board make a decision regarding direction on the following:
 - 1. Balancing the budget
 - 2. Cut the budget by half
 - 3. Wait on town hall meeting results and take no action

After much discussion Jeff recommended waiting on the town hall meeting while planning for operational reductions. Bruce asked for waiting on the town hall meetings as well and wants to investigate an FPPA option with FPPA and the retirement board for people being moved to part time or volunteer status eliminating a gap in years of service.

Mack recommended the option of cutting the budget by half in the next 30 days.

Jeff made the motion to wait 30 days on the public response at the town hall meeting while the chiefs prepare a budget cut by \$242,000 with a Performa to be presented at the next board meeting in May. In addition, aggressively pursue selling the ladder truck and pursuing grant funding. Mack made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Comments from the attendees included requesting information on the town hall meetings and communications. Randy appealed to the staff members to get involved in the message going out to the community. Bill recommended the staff engage those that are not current allies.

Paul Valdez introduced Christie Roberts of Under the Sun Graphics who volunteered her services in helping the department in a marketing strategy.

- B. Mill levy option 4- Option 1- do nothing
The public will be presented with:
 - Option 2 bare bones maintenance- this equates to a possible ISO rate reduction
 - Option 3 Paramedics/EMS levy
 - Option 4 Sustainability and EMS and WLF staffed engine to include a 12.5 mil levy. This equates to an approx. 150 annual increase for a 250,00 property value.

- C. Cost containment- Bruce reported admin continues to reduce labor and expenses. Part time vs. full time labor and purchasing freeze still in effect with the exception of mission critical purchases.

Chiefs Reports

Chief Evans presented Travis Wright's (in his absence) report to the board.

Chief Larson presented his report to the board.

Chief Evans presented his report to the board.

Adjournment

At 9:05p.m. Jeff made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill made the second. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Submitted by

Lisa Eckert

Jeff Dyar, President

Date

Attest:

Lisa Eckert, Admin