

Plattsmouth Rural Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
October 2, 2013

Calling the meeting to order – Acknowledgement of Open Meetings Law

President Holdridge called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm. President Holdridge acknowledged the Open Meetings Poster located on the wall of the District meeting room/office and available for review. Notice of the meeting was advertised in the Cass Gram, which is an approved publication of the Rural Fire Board and it was posted at the Post Office and on the front door of the rural fire station along with a copy of the agenda.

Board members present were John Holdridge, Shane Parshall, Lynn Vinduska, and Ken Winters. Board Member Doug Stander absent.

Public Forum – Reception of Delegates

No members of the public addressed the Board.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting: Motion by Mr. Parshall and second by Mr. Winters to approve the minutes as amended by the recording secretary. 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

The following bills were presented for review and approval: Black Hills Energy - \$27.06; Cass Gram - \$18.00; Sharp's Cleaning - \$30.00; Richard Wassinger for Professional Services – \$500.00; Interstate Detroit Diesel for 821 service - \$223.83; Beneficial Towing for services for Unit 840 - \$337.50; Front Range, Pierce Fire Truck Dealer – parts for Unit 832 (two invoices) - \$71.54 and \$242.19 for a total of: \$1,450.12. No invoices from the City this month.

Bank Balances: PBS - \$33,576.24
CCB - \$11,552.72

Motion by Mr. Winters and second by Mr. Parshall to pay all bills and accept the Treasurer's Report.
4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting. Motion carried.

Old Business

Inter-local Agreement Negotiation Committee Report:

No change from the previous month, but will discuss strategy in Executive Session.

Inter-local Agreement Budget Committee Report:

Mr. Winters reported that the City of Plattsmouth still refuses to formally respond to the letter from President Holdridge dated August 18, 2012 in regards to the District's concerns of the EMS budget advisory committee input. The City also has not responded to a letter from the District's legal counsel requesting a written response to the letters from the City.

Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage for RFD only firefighter:

Mr. Winters reported that the City of Plattsmouth stills refuses to formally respond to the letter from President Holdridge dated August 18, 2012 requesting the City to add the rural only firefighter to the insurance rolls that the District contributes to. The City also has not responded to a letter from the District's legal counsel requesting a written response to our letter. This is confusing to the members of the Committee since Mr. Portis asked at a regular board meeting in 2012 which firefighter was left off the insurance rolls and was verbally given the name of the firefighter. Mr. Portis has also been present at other Rural Fire District Board meetings when this subject has been discussed.

Mr. Vinduska has started discussions with area insurance providers to obtain cost information and will report back to the District. Mr. Vinduska reported that some information was provided to one agent so far and further information was needed in order to provide cost estimates. The Committee will continue to work on this project. The current policy does not expire until December of 2013 and we should have information in place prior to that time for a Board decision.

Property/Liability/Worker's Compensation/Vehicle Insurance Coverage Committee:

Mr. Vinduska is working with area agents to determine costs for insurance coverage for the District. He will be meeting with PBS Agency soon.

Plattsmouth Rural Fire District Fire Department Constitution, By-Laws and Standard Operating Guidelines:

The Constitution and By-Laws have been provided to the President of the Fire Department and are still under review. There as a discussion by the board members regarding lowering the age requirements for membership as a means to recruit new members and take advantage of funding sources that will pay for secondary education for a fire science degree if the student maintains membership at a volunteer fire department for two years (STRIVE Program). This program is available through the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighter's Association. The committee will look into this further and work with the Fire Department Officers on changing the by-laws and constitution.

Website Development Committee

Mr. Winters and Mr. Morehouse are continuing to work on this. The next action to take is to decide on a domain name and present it to the District Board for approval. Costs to acquire a domain name that is not already owned by Mr. Morehouse would be minimal. We should have a proposal for the Board by next month. We also discussed sources for acquiring photos and other content for the website.

New Business

Fire Chief Report

Roster: No changes in the roster from the previous meeting so no action is required.

Fire Calls: – 13 total calls, with 7 rural calls (which includes 2 mutual aid calls to Murray) and 6 City calls.

832: Joint pumper 832 is still out of service due to electrical issues. Lee Bogle continues to be in contact with Pierce Fire Apparatus in attempts to find the issue. It is down to the ECM, which is on order. The relay board is \$358.00 and a new ECM is \$863.00. Lee, a diesel tech from Schmidt's, and others continue to work on the truck.

New Tanker: The truck is still at Schmidt's Trucking. Their diesel techs will be looking the truck over to see what of the projected work they can do for the Board and report back. We will also look into seeing if there are any other local vendors that can work on the truck as well as some self-help projects the department members can help with.

Misc. Items: Fire prevention week is coming up, with the Annual Spaghetti Feed to take place the evening of October 10th.

Motion by Mr. Winters and second by Mr. Vinduska to approve the Chief's Report: 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting: motion carried.

EMS Director's Report.

There again was no report from the EMS Director as he was not present at the meeting nor did he send a representative from the EMS Department. The last meeting the EMS Director attended was the October 2012 meeting. In early 2012, Mr. Portis obligated Mr. Wood to attend at least 4 Rural Fire District Board meetings per year. In answer to another email from Mr. Holdridge, Mr. Wood did send the EMS Monthly reports that had not been received by the District since March of this year.

Plattsmouth Volunteer Firefighter's Association. The Association will be holding their annual spaghetti feed on October 10th from 5pm to 8pm. They also have their fire prevention materials in hand and will be visiting the schools in the community. Also all accounts that were held by the City of Plattsmouth have been closed and monies belonging to the Association have been moved to accounts at a different bank.

Executive Session: Mr. Winters moved and Mr. Vinduska second to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy and the progress of the negotiation for a new inter-local agreement 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting to enter Executive Session at 8:40 pm, motion carried.

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:07 pm.

Mediation: Motion by Mr. Winters and second by Mr. Vinduska to table Mediation and continue to suspend negotiations with the City until President Holdridge can follow up by letter with elected city officials to discuss the current status of the negotiations. 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting. Motion carried.

Board Member Comments

None

Next Meeting

The next regular District Meeting will be held November 6, 2013 at 7:30 pm

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Mr. Winters second by Mr. Parshall to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ken Winters, Recording Secretary