

Fountain Lake Fire Protection District
Board of Commissioners Monthly Meeting
February 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

6:00 pm

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: QUORUM PRESENT

Jerry Vaughn (Chairman)
John Brandt (Secretary/Treasurer)
Lee Coatney (Late)
Rachel Peters
Joe Turner

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

OTHER ATTENDEES: Chief Harry Baker, Lieutenant Johnny Arnold, Charles Collins, Justin Covey, Brady Smith, Scott Foster, Karl Lowry, Jack Fields, and Lyn Price.

MINUTES FROM PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING:

Prior meeting minutes:

Minutes from the December 18, 2023 meeting were read by John as he had trouble with the printer. There were no January minutes as the January meeting was cancelled due to weather and road conditions.

The December Minutes are accepted as read by consensus.

Financial Report:

John presented the P&L, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and P&L Budget vs Actual reports for the months of December and January as the January meeting was cancelled due to weather and road conditions.

Bank Accounts:

General - \$34,958.73
Restricted - \$9,048.55
Chambers - \$30,000.00

Financial reports are accepted by consensus.

Chief's Report (Harry) Harry did not have a report for numbers of incidents for the month of January. Jerry asked how much money Harry can spend each month. John reported that Harry can spend up to \$500 per month without board approval, but there is also an additional emergency amount of \$1,500 that was approved last year. The \$500 per month is a separate amount from the \$1,500 emergency amount. There was discussion about items (front bumper/grill, headache rack, winch, etc) that will be needed to put on the new truck.

John looked up and gave the report on number of incidents for Harry. In January there were 88 total calls, 4 fires, 1 over pressure rupture, 76 rescue/emergency medical services, 1 hazardous condition, 2 good intent, and 2 severe weather calls.

Publicity Report (John):

John reported on posting about our board meeting as well as posting about highways being closed due to accidents.

Publicity report accepted by consensus.

Maintenance Report (Harry):

- Engine 1
- Engine 2
- Tanker 1
 - Waiting on one of the fuel filters come in and then Harry will replace the fuel and oil filters to complete the annual service
- Tanker 2
 - Tank motor got damaged and is throwing oil. Part came in. Status on installation. Needs the rubber motor mounts.
- Rescue 2
- Brush 1 (Forestry)
 - There is a maintenance problem with the sled in the bed of the truck. The pump is leaking when it runs because it needs a new seal. Will probably have to tear it apart and get a seal.
- Station 1
 - Driveway Apron

Jerry asked about giving John Hendricks a cal. Jerry said he will call Robbie. Joe also recommended McHenry's Excavating.

- Doors and Awnings. (John)
John said that Scott told him he is planning to get to the doors and thresholds in February. Jerry recommended to put a time on it and then if not completed, we will find someone else to do the work.
- Enclose open area under roof (Johnny Arnold).
Johnny said that he will be working on it Thursday following the board meeting.
- Painting of Exterior (Johnny Arnold)
Johnny recommended that we wait until he finished enclosing the open area and putting up the metal before we worry about painting the exterior. He said it might be best to wait until Spring.
- Station 2
 - All the electrical has been completed, the cell phone booster has been hooked up along with the wifi. He got prices on the shower stall. He got prices on a shower stall and the cheapest was at Railroad Salvage for \$625. Harry told Joe that it is a 4' x 3' stall. Joe said to give him a day or two as he thinks he can get it cheaper by getting it at his cost and all we would have to do is pick it up and have it installed.

Maintenance report is accepted by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Rescue/Brush Truck (Harry)**
The truck is at the body shop to have the bed fixed. Harry said that he has called to find out when it will be completed and has not heard back from them. Harry will continue to follow up with them.
- **Audit – John**
John reported that they are reviewing our general ledger to determine what will be done for 2022.
- **Communication (John)**
In December John reported that he had found to do emergency communication services.
 - Text Magic – This is a prepaid company. You fund an account for however much money you want to have available for messaging. The rate is \$0.049 cents per text message. Their service will only send text messages. It will deduct \$0.049 cents per each text message and we would need to keep this account funded for future messages. This company does a lot of small business sales type messaging.

- SimpleText – This company has an annual fee of \$3,950.40. They only provide text messaging and provides for up to 15,000 text messages per month. This company also does a lot of business sales and advertising type messages.
- Rave – Provides unlimited emergency text messages and 10,000 per month non-emergency messages. 3 year contract for \$9,000 with a \$500 one time setup fee. The \$9,000 can be paid \$3,000 annually.
- Code Red – 15,000 annual text limit. 3 year contract which is p \$12,855.75 with a \$502.50 setup fee.

Jerry recommended in December to conduct a survey. John posted a survey on Facebook. The results of the survey were that 46 said they would definitely sign up for a service like this, 6 said they would definitely consider signing up, 1 said they might sign up, and 2 said they are not interested in receiving emergency notifications.

After much discussion, the board decided to not pursue a service of this type. They felt the money can be spent better on the fire fighters.

- **Grants (John)**

John reported that the AFG grant for SCBAs will be submitted this week. John printed the actual application for each board member to be able to read and see the work that was done by Lexipol.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Land (Jerry)**

Jerry reported that at the last water board meeting he asked about them donating some land to the fire department for a new station. The water board decided to call and discuss it with the water board's attorney. Jerry and Joe said that the response was positive and they expect a good response to get some land for a new fire station.

- **Fire Fighter's Meal (Jeff)**

The fire fighters decided to have Wendy's chili for their monthly meal. Tomorrow night John will pick up the chili for the meal tomorrow night.

- **Signatories for check signing**

Lee asked about him being added to the checking accounts so he can sign checks and save Rachel and Joe from having to come on Tuesday nights since he is usually at the station.

Motion: John moved that the signatories on both BankOZK and Chambers Bank checking accounts be John L. Brandt, Jr., Rachel Peters, Joe Turner, and Lee Coatney.

Seconded by: Rachel seconded

Passed: Unanimously

Comments and Questions:

Lyn Price gave his opinion on his thoughts about it being nice that lights are working when driving down the street. Joe commented that he received a call from a lady today who said that one of our trucks had no lights working and she wanted to report it so we can make sure we took care of that. She said the siren was working, but the lights were not. Harry said it is possible that someone did not flip the switch to turn the lights on.

Johnny Arnold stated that he wants the board to know what a good job Harry is doing as Chief. He said that Harry also decided that all fire fighters were going to take the Intro class. He also thanked Lyn, Harry, and Justin for cleaning up the mess out back of the station. Lyn asked about using the millings to resurface the helicopter landing zone in the back of Station #1. He was told it is there for us to use for the fire department as it was not needed at Station #2.

John commented that the trailer and equipment parked at Station #2 by Summit Utilities will be parked closer to each other in order to open up more room for our fire fighters to park.

ADJOURNED:

7:05 pm

Motion to adjourn: John moved that we adjourn

Second: Rachel Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

Meeting minutes submitted by:

John Brandt, Secretary/Treasurer