

**COLUMBUS RURAL FIRE DISTRICT #3
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONTHLY MEETING Minutes
December 14th, 2020**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Curt at 17:30

Present: Curt Robbins, John Patterson, Steve Hopsiter, Chuck Kronz, Debbie Parrod
Fire Chief: Rich Cowger **Assistant Chief:** Nick Jacobs **Batt Chief:** Travis Hansen
Admin Assistant: Lisa Westervelt

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVE MINUTES: Minutes for November's meeting were approved as presented.

TREASURER REPORT: The treasurer's report was presented. Chief noted that the annual insurance renewal was included in this billing cycle. **There was a motion made to pay bills in the amount of \$120,245.43. Motion passed unanimously.**

CHIEF REPORT: See attached.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

NEW MEMBER APPROVAL: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Broken equipment updates: See Chief's report.

COVID relief funds/EMS equipment: We found out the CARES program would cover some new equipment, so we requested some items from the Wishlist Nick shared last month. The state then changed the rules for what they will buy with the CARES money, but we have it in writing from them that we can order the items and they will pay for them.

Planning issues-Strategic Plan: Chief is asking for consideration to do the strategic planning and move forward with having a 3rd party help with the strategic plans. We have the funding now to do it, there is a benefit of 3rd party verification and expertise of consultants. Debbie would still like community involvement/buyoff for the plans, to gain support and make sure there is value in spending money. It was agreed that we should set aside the funding for this now so it's planned out and accounted for.

Land Purchase updates/ proposal: Chief would like to use some of the Covid relief monies, and wildland deployment income to secure the properties behind us. He would like to give the property owners security monies to guarantee first right of refusal, with a defined purchase price. There was some concern on how specify purchase price, but it's commonly tied to a market appraisal. **There was a motion from Deb to approve 1st right of refusal for both properties, with a security deposit of up to \$10,000 per property. Get input from Dan and have Dan write**

up and/or have Kate review to make sure all parties are protected. Bring this back to the board for approval before presenting to owners, by the February board meeting. Steve seconded the motion, motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Member appreciation: To recognize the membership after a long trying year with COVID, and because it may still be a while before we can get together for our normal appreciation activities, Chief would like to ask the board to sign a card for the members, and consider giving a gift card for up to \$50.00. There was a motion from John to give all the members a gift card for \$50.00, plus any activation fees. Motion was seconded and approved.

Potential different dates for January meeting: Chief will be out of town next month during our normal meeting time. In the interest of getting bills paid earlier rather than later in the month, would like to change January's meeting to Tuesday, January 5th at 5:30 PM. The change was approved.

Other: There was a motion from Deb to approve repair costs from McCandless Truck Center in the amount of \$28,119.41. Chuck seconded the motion, motion was approved. Funds will be wire transferred.


OTHER MEMBERS BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURN: 18:43

NEXT MEETING: January 5th, 2021 5:30 PM FIREHALL

Minutes submitted by Chief Rich Cowger



Chairman: Curt Robbins



Secretary: Debbie Parod