



Fountain Lake Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners Monthly Meeting November 18, 2024



CALL TO ORDER:

6:00 pm

Rachel Peters (Chairperson) called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: QUORUM PRESENT

Rachel Peters (Chairperson)
John Brandt (Secretary/Treasurer)
Joe Turner
Lee Coatney

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

OTHER ATTENDEES: Chief Harry Baker, Lieutenant Johnny Arnold, and Trecia Willis.

PRIOR MONTH MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from the October 21, 2024 meeting were presented by John.

The October Minutes are accepted as presented by consensus.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

John presented the P&L, Balance Sheet, and Statement of Cash Flows reports for the month of October and Year to Date through the month of October.

Bank Accounts:
General - \$161,852.13
Restricted - \$13,703.58
Chambers - \$32,267.74

October's Financial report is accepted as presented by consensus.

Training:

Lee reported that we have not done a lot of training, but we did have an incident that required us to setup an LZ here at Station #1.

Training report was accepted by Consensus

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Harry reported there were a total of 82 incidents during the month of October: 11 fires, 62 rescue & emergency medical service calls, 2 special incidents, 1 service calls, 2 good intent, 1 hazardous condition, and 5 false alarms.

Chief's report was accepted as presented by consensus.

PUBLICITY REPORT:

John reported on posting about our board meeting as well as posting about highways being closed due to accidents. John reported that the link at the bottom of our website that will allow people to volunteer is now working. The link was inactive for some reason and John got the site active and working again.

Publicity report accepted by consensus.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- Engine 1
 - John sent a letter to Chief Davis requesting the engine the Hot Springs Fire Dept is going to donate to us along with a statement of need. Joe recommended that we have someone attend the City Council meeting.
- Engine 2
 - Harry said that he still needs to get the glow plugs for it. Harry is trying to get prices for them.
- Tanker 1
- Tanker 2
 - Need to purchase another fuel tank for the pump.
- Rescue 1
- Rescue 2

- **Brush 2 (Forestry)**

Brush 2 is out of service right now because an ignition switch went out. The pump is leaking when it runs because it needs a new seal. Harry said that Tommy Scott told him he will probably be better off just buying a new pump.

- **Station 1**

Driveway Apron (John)

Table until next month.

Awnings. (Scott)

Scott Greene told John that he had a doctor's appointment and did not know if he would be able to make the meeting. He told John that the materials are in for the awnings, but he injured his wrist. As soon as his injury is healed, he will be able to get the awnings completed.

Enclose open area under roof.

Joe said that he thought he had a guy lined up to look at it but the gentleman never got the time to come look at it. Johnny Arnold said that he is now able to do the work again and he will see about getting some help from Justin Miller.

Joe asked what is wrong with the urinal in the men's bathroom. Johnny Arnold said that Lyn Price said he will look at it if we want him to.

- **Station 2**

Joe said that he will get someone to put up the walls. Johnny Arnold said that if he is available when it is time to put in the shower stall he will help.

Maintenance report is accepted by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Audit – John**

John reported that Piney gave him the name of a CPA firm they use in Arkadelphia. Judge Mahoney gave us the name of Doug Davey with the Hot Springs Fire Dept. who may know of someone. John said that he will get in touch with both and report at our next meeting.

- **Grants (John)**

John reported that the bad news is we did not get approved by FireHouse Subs for their grant. FireHouse Subs changed their parameters from waiting 2 years to 3 years. Because of that we cannot put in for a grant in January. Instead, we will have to wait until April of next year. Lexipol has started writing a new grant for us to submit for a new AFG Grant for the SCBAs.

- **Land (John)**

John reported that he and Rachel attended the closing on the purchase of the land. The total cost with closing fees was \$10,989.77. John said it may take about a month for us to receive the deed. Jay said that he will start getting everything off the property.

- **Signs (John)**

John gave each board member three quotes for new signs. The quotes are from Custom Advertising in Alexander, Seiz Signs in Hot Springs, and Stewart Signs in Florida. John showed the styles of signs from each company on the screen.

Custom Advertising will donate the top part of their sign showing the fire department name. The sign is an LED sign that is 41 inches by 63 inches. It is a double sided LED display with a 5 year warranty. The price is \$30,052.51 which includes installation. That is the amount for one sign. We are considering putting in a sign at each station. We have a grant which will cover the cost of one sign.

Seiz Signs will provide an LED sign that is either a 4 X 6 or a 3 X 8 sign. The non LED part of the sign at the top is \$2,750.00, The sign itself is \$26,395.00 and installation is 4,150.00 for a total of \$33,295.00. It also has a five year warranty.

Stewart Signs will sent quotes for three different size LED signs. The first is a 4 X 8 sign for \$27, 954.00. The second quote is \$27,134.00 for a 5 X 8 sign. The third quote is \$24,845.00 for a 4 X 8 sign. These quotes do not include a \$7,000 installation fee. The quotes state an unlimited warranty.

After some discussion it was decided to ask Custom Advertising if they can do a different base along with a bigger sign. We would like a quote for a different base and a larger sign.

We will table this decision until our next board meeting and get more information from Custom Advertising. It was also recommended to ask Jimmy of Custom Advertising if he can attend our next board meeting.

- **Commissioner's Election (John)**

John had emailed documents that were given to Joe Turner by Judge Mahoney. The documents were prepared by Mr John Howard, the Garland County Attorney. Joe reported that in his meeting with Judge Mahone, Mr. John Howard, and Mr. Bo Robertson it was discussed that everything regarding this election must go through and be handled by Judge Mahoney's office. John was able to cancel the notice he was going to put in the paper regarding those who wanted to be nominated. John explained that whomever is interested can either email a

message stating their interest and in which position or mail a letter. All letters or emails must be received no later than November 27th. After that, John will sent the letters and emails to Judge Mahone for publication. John then went over the documents that were given to Joe by Judge Mahone. The first being a letter from Mr. John Howard regarding the proper procedures for conducting the election including that any board member who had been appointed cannot run for that position in the next election. Mr. Howard's letter also stated that all registered voters who live within the district. They do not have to be a property owner. They only need to be a registered voter and live within the fire district. In Mr. Howard's letter he pointed out that the limitation on state and county officials not being eligible to run for a position for which they were appointed. He pointed out that even though it is not stated anywhere that this practice pertains to fire districts, it is his recommendation that we follow this procedure. John said that other documents that were provided were court cases, state acts, attorney general opinions, and a copy of the Fire Department Guidebook. John also reported that Judge Mahoney had requested the recordings of our August Special Board meeting, September's and October's board meetings. John has supplied all of these recordings to Judge Mahoney.

- **Chief's Laptop (Harry)**

Harry stated that he received the laptop. Rachel asked if it came with Microsoft Office. John stated that the fire department has Microsoft 365 and that will be put onto the chief's laptop.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Budget Committee (John)**

John reported that he met with Harry Baker, Katrina Gates, and Trecia Willis last week. We will be meeting again next week, but we need some help and guidance on what we plan to do with the new land we purchased to budget accordingly. John said we also need some guidance for the drain and paving of the driveway apron at Station #1. Joe recommended that we put \$25,000 in the budget for work at the new land next year. It was suggested that we approach Mountain Valley Spring Water for a donation to help with some of the cost of the work and building. It was also discussed and recommended that we budget \$30,000 for the drain and paving of the driveway apron at Station #1.

- **Firefighter's meal (John)**

The firefighters decided to have Wendy's Chili.

Comments and Questions:

ADJOURNED:

7:21 pm

Motion to adjourn: Lee moved that we adjourn

Second: Joe Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

Meeting minutes submitted by:

John Brandt, Secretary/Treasurer