



Fountain Lake Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners Monthly Meeting December 16, 2024



CALL TO ORDER:

6:00 pm

Rachel Peters (Chairperson) called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER

Board Election

Gene Haley of the Garland County Election Commission conducted the election for the two open board positions.

Running for Position #1 was Johnny Arnold and Kenny Kizer
Running for Position #2 was Jack Fields and Joe Turner

After ballots were tabulated Gene Haley announced that the winner of the race for Position #1 is Kenny Kizer and the winner of Position #2 is Joe Turner.

Their terms will be January 1, 2025 and when they execute their Oaths of Office.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: QUORUM PRESENT

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

OTHER ATTENDEES: Chief Harry Baker, Captain Scott Foster, Lieutenant Johnny Arnold, Lyn Price, Trecia Willis, Susan Ault, Alan Ault, Lucy Moore, Jeanne Springer, Rendi Threadgill, Ty Threadgill, Ron Huchingson, Debbie Wright, Mary Jo Dartt, Josh Hanley, Kenny Kizer, Jennifer Vaughn, Jerry Vaughn, Glenda Vaughn, Izabel Tillery, Kenny Talbert, Rebecca Dodd Talbert, and Katrina Scott.

PRIOR MONTH MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from the November 18, 2024 meeting were presented by John.

The November 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 November and Year to Date through the month of November.

Bank Accounts:

General - \$147,966.71

Restricted - \$12,767.09

Chambers - \$32,267.74

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

Training:

Lee reported that we have done some training, but mostly maintenance around the station and on the apparatus.

Training report was accepted by Consensus

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Harry reported there were a total of 45 incidents during the month of November: 1 fire, 40 rescue & emergency medical service calls, and 4 false alarms. The numbers are low because it is only the numbers from Emergency Reporting and the numbers from FirstDue are missing.

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.

Publicity report accepted by consensus.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- Engine 1
 - Harry reported that we now have the engine donated by Hot Springs Fire Dept. It needs some work on the valve cover gasket and the hydraulic lift for the seat. He also needs to replace the battery.

- Engine 2
 - Harry said that the wires were loose on the glow plugs. He tightened them up and they are now working.
- Tanker 1
- Tanker 2
 - Fuel tank is on it, mounted, and all Harry needs to get is a battery for it or battery cables for it to start.
- Rescue 1
- Rescue 2
- Brush 2 (Forestry)

Brush 2 is still out of service because the wiring burned up and it still needs an ignition switch.
- Station 1

Driveway Apron (John)
Table until next month.

Awnings. (Scott)
Scott Greene told John that he was attending a visitation. He told John that he will be having surgery in about three weeks and then after his recovery he can get the awnings completed.

Enclose open area under roof.
We will table this until next year.

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 recommended that we table this work untiln.

Maintenance report is accepted by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Audit – John**

John reported that he called the Banks CPA firm in Arkadelphia. He left a message and is waiting to hear back from them. He also got the name of David Cleveland of Cleveland Accounting and Consulting from Doug Davey with the Lake Hamilton Fire Dept. He left a message for David to return his call..

- **Grants (John)**

John reported that Lexipol will be submitting our AFG 2024 grant for new SCBAs this week. John will also be submitting an application with the Arkansas Fire Service tomorrow for a grant up to \$30,000. This request will be to fund the purchase of a cascade system with fill stations for the new SCBAs we need. Justin Miller told John that we can still fill our current SCBAs with the new cascade system should we get this grant.

- **Grants Bank Account (John)**

John reported that we had tabled this item until this meeting to know who the commissioners will be for the new year. Now that the election has been decided we can move to establish a new bank account for Grants with the signatories being listed as follows:

Motion: John moved that we establish a new Grants Bank Account at Bank OZK with the signatories being John L. Brandt, Jr, Rachel Peters, Joe Turner, Leonard Coatney, and Kenny Kizer.

Second: Lee Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

- **Land (John)**

Kenny Kizer asked about whether we will be putting in a sign at the station to be built on the property purchased on W Glazypeau Rd. He was informed that we are not putting a sign there at this time. We are only putting signs at the two stations that are on the major highways. John reported that he and Rachel had attended and signed the papers at the closing for the property last month and they deed arrived in the mail just last week. Joe then explained to those in attendance why we purchased that land and what our plans are for it.

- **Signs (John)**

John gave a brief summary of the SAFER grant for the benefit of all in attendance. This grant will give us money for a new sign to recruit new people, and also provide funding over a four year period to pay for training and equipment for new personnel. Custom Advertising will still donate the top part of their sign showing the fire department name. They can do the base the way we want. 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. Custom Advertising presented other proposals, the first of which is for \$36,600. This sign is a little bit wider sign and is 7'3" wide. There is another proposal for a sign that is 8' in width and the cost of that one is \$50,000. In all of the proposals, the cost for the top of the signs which show the fire department name is will be donated.

Motion: John moved that we accept the quote for the 41' x 6'3" sign to be installed at both stations in the amount of \$30,052 for each sign.
Second: Lee Seconded
Passed: Unanimously

- **Budget Committee (John)**

John reported that the budget committee has one more meeting scheduled on Saturday, January 4, 2025 and he will be presenting the new proposed 2025 budget at our next meeting for approval by the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Assessments (John)**

John reported that he brought the 2025 assessments to the Tax Collector's office on Friday, December 13, 2024 for the 2025 to be added on to the tax bills. The total amount of assessments is \$130,950.

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

The firefighters will not have a firefighter's meal this month as they can still have food that is available from our Christmas Dinner.

Comments and Questions:

ADJOURNED:

7:21 pm

Motion to adjourn: John moved that we adjourn

Second: Lee Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

Meeting minutes submitted by:

John Brandt, Secretary/Treasurer

