



Fountain Lake Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners Monthly Meeting September 15, 2025



CALL TO ORDER:

6:06 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
Kenny Kizer

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

OTHER ATTENDEES: Chief Harry Baker, Assistant Chief Lyn Price, Lieutenant Charles Collins, Cindy Collins, and Captain Nate Lamb.

PRIOR MONTH MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from the August 18, 2025, meeting were presented by John. Joe asked about the tool that was referenced in the Maintenance report for Engine #1. Lyn stated that he was talking to a Mr. Troy Garner who used to drive the truck that is now Engine #1. He told Lyn that the whole front end needs to be replaced. The City of Hot Springs Fire Department took it to a shop in Little rock and had it straightened out, but when he picked it up the truck did not drive right. His chief instructed him to take it back and have them put it back the way it was. The City of Hot Springs would not authorize the work to be done on this truck because it was only going to be used as a standby truck. Joe said that Harry and Lyn might want to get a few quotes for us to find out what it will cost to repair the truck.

The August 2025 minutes were accepted as presented by consensus.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

John presented the P&L, Balance Sheet, and Statement of Cash Flow reports for the month of August 2025 and Year to Date through the month of August 2025 along with a report of Actuals vs Budget through August 2025.

Bank Accounts:

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| General - | \$ 79,978.48 |
| Restricted - | \$ 26,744.08 |
| Grant - | \$ 44.00 |
| Chambers - | <u>\$ 32,367.74</u> |
| Total - | \$139,134.30 |

The August 2025 Financial reports were accepted as presented by consensus.

Training:

Harry read Jake's training report. He stated that we have been training on transitional fire attack and has been successfully implemented. We had four new firefighters come off of probation. Training has been successful. Jake and Nathaniel will be taking a seat installation and technician class in October. Classes for the future will be Search and Rescue and we have a new person who may need PPE. Lyn mentioned that we need to make sure that new people must meet physical requirements.

Training report was accepted as presented by Consensus

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Harry reported there were a total of 59 incidents during the month of August: 6 fires, 42 rescue & emergency medical service calls, 5 Agency Assist – Pafford, 3 service calls, and 3 false alarms. Harry reported that we are having good response to fires and accidents.

Chief's report was accepted as presented by consensus.

PUBLICITY REPORT:

John reported on posting about our board meeting as well as posting about road and lane closures. John stated that after last month's meeting he dropped the ball on posting pictures and information about the new cascade system and pictures of fire fighter training.

Publicity report accepted by consensus.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- Engine 1

- Lyn has already reported on the front end of this truck.
- John reported that he got a response from the state on our request for a bonded title. The donation from Hot Springs of this apparatus was to the Fountain Lake Fire Department, but when I sent in the request, I put Fountain Lake Fire Protection District. I need to make that change on the request and also send in 2 appraisal amounts for the truck.
- Engine 2
 - The module on Engine #2 keeps losing its memory and you have to keep entering the passcode in to get it to work. Once you type in the passcode, it works perfectly. Harry says it only loses its memory after it has been off for quite a while.
- Tanker 1
- Tanker 2
- Rescue 1
- Rescue 2

Rescue #2 is out of service because the brakes and drums are bad. Harry said he has called all around and no one has the disc brakes for this vehicle. Harry said he ordered the parts from Banner and they should be in on Wednesday.
- Brush 2 (Forestry)
- Station 1
 - Driveway Apron (John)
 - Awnings. (Scott)

John said that Scott Greene recently started a new job at the penitentiary and they have not connected to talk to each other. John said the last time he talked to Scott he was told that Scott has some of the materials and we are welcome to pick them up.
 - Enclose open area under roof

John said after advertising for bids we did not get in any other bids other than the one we received from Clark Electric. Theirs is the only bid at this

time in the amount of \$8,200. It was mentioned that we might ask if he can also install the rollup door and install a light in the enclosed area. Lyn asked about hearing we might move the cascade system into that area. It was discussed the opening of the wall so we can have open access from that bay into the enclosed area. There was also discussion about hooking up the dryer out in that area too. Joe asked if we have 220 service into the building. We talked about other equipment It was recommended that John get copies of all licenses and insurance certificates from Clark Electric and any other sub-contractors that may be used.

Motion: John moved that we authorize Clark Electric to pour the pad and move the A/C and Generator outside of the building for the amount of \$8,200.

Second: Lee Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

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- Station 2
 - It was reported that Matthew was going to install the shower at Station #2 at no cost to the fire department.

Maintenance report is accepted by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Audit – John**
 - The accounting company is working on 2023 and is expecting to have a report on 2023 hopefully by our next board meeting..
- **Grants – John**
 - The extrication equipment from the grant by Firehouse Subs has been ordered.
 - John also reported that last week he sent in two more grant applications. One is for two sets of Landing Zone Lights with windsocks. One set is for Station #1 and the other is a mobile set for Station #2. The second grant was requesting funding for a portable hose decontamination equipment that will allow us to decontaminate the hoses after a fire. We did receive an email from the Hot Springs Community Foundation for the hose decontamination system was not awarded to us this time.
 - No AFG grants have yet been awarded. It appears that they will award all of the grants at one time instead of awarding them weekly. John will

advise as soon as he has information about whether we received this grant or not.

- **Assessment Committee (John)**

- John talked to our attorney about the process we need to follow if we make a decision to increase our assessments. The attorney told John there are two ways to go about this depending on how assessments are determined. One way entails having an election. The other way is we would post a notice publicly for two weeks and that the assessors will be available on a certain day to address any concerns. This is similar to how property tax assessments are done. To do this we would not have a committee. We instead would have to appoint assessors. Rachel is concerned about whether the people who were volunteering to be on the assessment committee. John read the attorney's email to the board. After much discussion, it was decided that we keep assessments the same for 2026. Kenny suggested that maybe we can get in touch with someone at Mountain Valley Water to find out if they might contribute to our fire department with the addition of their new facility.

Motion: John moved that we leave the current residential and commercial assessments the same for 2026.

Second: Joe Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

- **CPR Dummies (John)**

- John reported that Kat and Cindy got in touch with Jack Fields and Jack donated six adult dummies and one infant dummy for us to use for CPR training. We will ask Jake and Sarge about when we might have a class for CPR Certification.

- **County Fair Booth (Harry)**

- Harry reported that it was hot. He said that we gave away activity books and things to the many kids that came through. We also talked with parents about fire safety. We also had a good turnout from our firefighters to work the booth. Lyn reported that we got involved in a friendly competition with Lake Hamilton Fire Department to send people to the Lake Hamilton School booth. We beat them by one pair of sox. John said that he had a discussion with Doug Davey from Lake Hamilton about some of the public relations banners and tent that they had. He said this is

something we might consider getting over time to develop our public relations presence.

- **Disposing of Equipment (John)**
 - **John sent an email to our attorney to find out the proper procedures for disposing of equipment. He is waiting to hear a response back from our attorney.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Combination Tool (Harry/Lyn)**
 - This is a tool that can be used in addition to the cutter, spreader, and ram that we put in for our award with Firehouse Subs. The cost of the combination tool is about \$10,000. The quote from Dixie Rescue Solutions was \$11,785.00 which includes shipping. There was a question as to whether there are any grants that might help to pay for this type of equipment. It was decided to table this item.
- **Firefighter's meal (John)**
 - The firefighters decided to have Smokin in Style. We will have ribs, chicken, pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, and buns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- At this point the board went into executive session.
- The board came out of executive session and opened the meeting back up to the public.
- **Comments and Questions:**

8:02 pm

Motion to adjourn: Lee moved that we adjourn

Second: Joe Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

Meeting minutes submitted by:

John Brandt, Secretary/Treasurer

