



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



CALL TO ORDER:

6:30 pm

Rachel Peters (Chairperson) called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER

ELECTION

- Garland County Election Commissioner, Gene Haley, oversaw and conducted the election of commissioners. After all votes were in, Gene selected two people attending the meeting to count the ballots. After the ballots were counted, Gene announced that we had an election and do not need to have a runoff. Gene announced that John Brandt was the winner for Position #3, Lee Coatney was the winner of Position #4, and Jack Fields was the winner of Position #5. Lyn Price requested a recount. Gene then selected two different people attending the meeting to conduct the recount. After the recount, Gene announced that the results were exactly the same. Gene said that he will certify the election and asked for a motion to destroy the ballots. Kenny Kizer moved to destroy the ballots and Lee Coatney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROLL CALL

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, Captain Nate Lamb, Lieutenant Charles Collins, Jeff Abbott, Brady Smith, Cici Collins, Josh Niblett, and Jessica Davis.

PRIOR MONTH MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from the Special Board Meeting held November 10, 2025 and the regular board meeting held on November 17, 2025, were presented by John.

The both November 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 November 2025 and Year to Date through the month of November 2025 along with a report of Actuals vs Budget through November 2025.

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

Training:

Jake reported that we are continuing our training on transitional fire attack. We had a search and rescue training scheduled, but felt it was more imperative to train our firefighters using the tanker and supplying our engines. January 6th will be a CPR class. Jason Curtis asked about training and getting everyone to Firefighter I status. Jake said that we are not there yet, but he is working on getting everyone to Firefighter I status.

Training report was accepted as presented by Consensus

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Harry reported there were a total of 75 incidents during the month of November: 9 fires, 58 rescue & emergency medical service calls, 5 Agency Assist – Pafford, 2 service calls, and 1 false alarm. Harry reported that we are having good response to fires and accidents. John asked Harry to report on the school inspection that was done this past Saturday. Harry said the last school inspection he did he came up with the idea of taking pictures of all violations to document and show the school what was wrong and needed to be corrected. He met with school officials after the last inspection and showed them pictures of all the violations. Those violations were corrected when the inspection was done this past Saturday. This past Saturday on 4 violations was found in all of the buildings. Jason Curtis asked if one of our inspections is a random surprise inspection. Harry said we were not doing any surprise inspections at this time.

Chief's report was accepted as presented by consensus.

PUBLICITY REPORT:

John reported that he has posted the normal activity about our board meeting and road closures due to accidents. He said that he has tried his best to post pictures and information about what is happening at the fire department and the training that is happening.

Publicity report accepted by consensus.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- Engine 1
 - Harry said engine 1 needs to have the front end worked on it. Kenny asked if Harry had any idea how much it might cost to fix Engine 1. Harry said that he is trying to get some pricing.
 - John said that he needs to get two appraisals or at least someone who can say at what amount this apparatus might be valued.
- Engine 2
 - Working fine.
- Tanker 1
 - Doing great..
- Tanker 2
 - Harry said he may have to clean out the fuel tank again.
- Rescue 1
 - Doing good..
- Rescue 2
 - Doing good.
- Brush 2 (Forestry)
 - Doing good.
- Station 1
 - Driveway Apron (John)
 - Tabled
 - Awnings. (John)
Tabled
- Station 2
 - Tabled.

Maintenance report is accepted by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Audit – John**

- The reported that he received an email today from the accounting firm saying they will have the 2023 report sometime this week. They will begin working on 2024, but there may be some delay because of tax season.

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- **Grants – John**

- John reported that we are not waiting to hear on any grants. There is a new AFG grant that will be coming available soon. John said he will be asking Harry and Lyn what equipment or tools we might need that we can apply for using this grant..

- **SCBA Funding (John)**

- John said that he has the contract with him for signatures from himself, Rachel, and Kenny. He is getting the necessary insurance documentation for them and he is also having to wait on an opinion letter from our attorney that is required.

- **Drug Testing Program (John)**

- John said that he is waiting for information from our attorney.

- **Christmas Dinner (John)**

- John reported that our annual Christmas Dinner for the firefighters and their families will be held this Saturday, December 20th at 6:00 pm. It will be catered by Clampits. We will still have roast turkey that will be sliced by Claimpits along with spiral sliced ham, with mashed potatoes, gravy, cornbread, string bean casserole, rolls, and five different pies. Their price came in at \$950.00.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Benefits (John)**

- John said that he and Rachel discussed informing our firefighters and community what benefits we have for them now. John signs each firefighter up on LOPFI which is a police and fire retirement fund. They

also have a death benefit attached to that. The county covers everyone for the medical portion of workers' compensation. Through our insurance company we have a Supplemental Income Benefit which is the replace income if disabled or cannot work due to an injury based on the state workers' compensation rate. Josh Niblett asked it was part of the municipal plan. John thought the cost was \$5 or \$6 per firefighter, but he will have to check to find out the exact cost.

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

- John said that we will forego the monthly firefighter meal as we are having our Christmas Dinner this Saturday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- **Comments/Questions:**

- .Josh Niblett presented the board with a FOIA request for information. Josh asked why it takes three years to do our audits and why the funds from the insurance company for totaling out our engine be used to pay down expenses or fund other projects? Josh is also requesting financial information as part of the open records law. Josh then asked about the Glazypeau property as to whether it is part of the community. Josh asked if the previous owner who has stuff still on the property is paying rent or can anyone in the community just park stuff there. Joe said that the gentleman is going through a divorce and told Joe that as soon as his divorce is over he will get the property cleaned up. He recently cleaned up another property on Hwy 7 N that he owned. He said that he will start on it as soon as his divorce is settled. Josh then asked why it takes three years to get an audit done. John addressed that explaining that when we were looking for an accounting firm to audit our books there was no accounting firm in Hot Springs that would do an audit. We did find an accounting firm in Little Rock that said they would do the audit, but before they got started they were bough out by a larger firm. We were told that under the new management we were too small and would not now perform the an audit for us. We checked with the state and we did not come under the state guidelines for the state to do our audit. We then found out from Lake Hamilton Fire Department that the agency we are now with will do what is called Agreed Upon Procedures. We went this route with the Cleveland Accounting Firm because an audit will cost about \$20,000. Using the Agreed Upon Procedures they can look at our records

and give us a report on where we stand and how our records look to them. John explained that we had been looking to get this done and only found out about this accounting firm last year. The question as to what happened to the \$107,000 that was from the insurance company came up and asked where that money is. John said the check was deposited in our bank account. The question came up as to whether that money is still in the bank to which John responded that some of it is in the bank. The board has made decisions to spend money and pay for things. Jason Curtis asked if this is the money that paid for the damage to our engine. John said yes, it was. Jason then asked why that money was not put into a fund to be used for the purchase of another vehicle. John responded that the board made decisions to use some of that money. Some of that money was used to pay off other things like the loan for the cascade system.

8:14 pm

Motion to adjourn: John moved that we adjourn

Second: Joe Seconded

Passed: Unanimously

Meeting minutes submitted by:

John Brandt, Secretary/Treasurer