



# Fountain Lake Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners Monthly Meeting October 20, 2025



## 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:

Kenny Kizer

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Chief Harry Baker, Assistant Chief Lyn Price, Captain Nate Lamb, Lieutenant Justin Covey Lamb, Jacob Landes, Jeff Abbott, and Chad Hardin.

## PRIOR MONTH MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from the September 15, 2025, meeting were presented by John.

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

### Bank Accounts:

General -	\$ 67,786.18
Restricted -	\$ 22,503.37
Grant -	\$ 36.00
Chambers -	<u>\$ 32,367.74</u>
Total -	\$122,693.29

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

## **Training:**

Jake reported that next Tuesday we will have Intro for rookies. On November 18<sup>th</sup> we will be having Structural Search & Rescue training. The car seat installation certification training that Jake and Nate were going to attend has been postponed until January and will be held in Russellville instead of Little Rock. Jake reported that he will keep everyone drilling on transitional fire attack and will keep drilling on that. Rachel asked about when we might have a CPR class. Jake will look into when we might do a class. Lee said that if no one was available to do the training, we can call Survival Flight. Lee said they will do the class and the fee is only \$6.00 per person. Joe asked if we had received any information on any kind of training or a class to be held at the Garland County Fairgrounds. He said that Active 911 will be holding a big training event for all fire departments, police, and emergency responders. It is being coordinated by Joey Thompson and Bo Robinson. Joe said the date for this is December 6<sup>th</sup>.

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: 5 fires, 37 rescue & emergency medical service calls, 3 Agency Assist – Pafford, 2 service calls, and 2 false alarms. Harry reported that we are having good response to fires and accidents. Harry said we have been having good turnout on calls.

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 also said that after our last meeting he has been posting more information about the training and equipment. He said he will try to post more of that information in the future.

Publicity report accepted by consensus.

## **MAINTENANCE REPORT:**

- Engine 1
  - Installed the inverter.
  - 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
  - Harry had to reprogram the controller and it is doing better now..
- Tanker 1
  - Is doing a lot better now that he has cleaned the slime out of the fuel tank. Joe asked if they put any kind of gel into the tank and Harry said he put Gel in every apparatus.
- Tanker 2
  - Still doing good, but Harry said that for some reason gas has gotten into the crankcase. He will have to change the oil in it.
- Rescue 1
  - Is a perfect truck. There are no issues with it.
- Rescue 2
  - Got the brakes fixed and it is doing great. Two days later the PTO actuator would not go into gear any more. Harry said he had to buy a kit to totally rebuild it with the new housing. Harry changed it to the new style and it is now working good.
- Brush 2 (Forestry)
  - Is still doing good.
- Station 1
  - Driveway Apron (John)
    - Tabled
  - Awnings. (John)
 

John said that he is waiting to hear back from Ed Clark on the awnings, rollup door, lighting in covered area, an opening into the bay, and proper outlets to plug in equipment. Lyn contacted Ed and he said he has been swamped lately..
- 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. John said he expects to have a report next month.
  
- **Grants – John**
  - The extrication equipment from the grant by Firehouse Subs was delivered last Tuesday and Adam Cordell did a training class on how to use the new equipment.
  - John is waiting for the check from the Hot Springs Village Foundation for the landing zone lights. We should be receiving it in the next few weeks. We did not get the grant from Hot Springs Community Foundation that we requested for a portable hose decontamination system.
  - We did not get our AFG grant for the SCBAs.
  
- **Disposing of Equipment (John)**
  - **John sent an email to our attorney to find out the proper procedures for disposing of equipment. The attorney sent back an email stating that if the equipment came from the State Rural Fire Protection Services it must go back to them. On other items our attorney recommended that I contact the State Procurement office. The State Procurement Office told John that we can let them put it on Govdeals.com and the split is 60/40 or we can get rid of it any way that we want. Joe said the fairgrounds is looking for 3" fire hose to buy if we have any they might be able to purchase for their water trucks.**

## NEW BUSINESS:

- **Fence Around A/C and Generator (Lee)**
  - Lee presented three different types of fencing to the board that can be installed. The board discussed the three different types and decided that the galvanized chain link fence will work for our purpose. Lee said that the chain link is commercial grade. Lee said he can get the materials from Little Rock. Joe said that he feels that we should pay Lee some stipend for doing the work itself. Lee said he is volunteering his time and labor. Joe said that he thinks we should increase the cost from \$692 up to about \$900 to pay Lee something for his time.

**Motion: Joe moved that we approve Lee putting up the galvanized chain link fence around the A/C and Generator for a price of \$692.44 plus tax and pay Lee a stipend to round the cost up to \$900 total.**

**Second: John Seconded**

**Passed: Unanimously**

- **SCBAs (John)**

- John said that we need to discuss this topic because we did not get our AFG grant. There is a need for this equipment and we need to discuss financing options. John presented quotes for 18 SCBAs. There are two quotes from Siddon Martin, two quotes from Casco, and one quote from Emergency Equipment Professionals (EEP). John asked Lyn and Harry to explain what is involved in these quotes. Lyn stated that the quote from Siddon Martin in the amount of \$200,000 is for equipment with all the bells and whistles which is what we applied for in our grant. The second quote is just a basic package without all the bells and whistles and that cost is \$173,000. These are Scott packs. The quote from EEP is for a basic package too, and the quote is \$205,000. Casco's quotes are for MSA equipment which is the brand we have now. Their quote is for \$140,000. In this quote we will be 18 bottles with the air packs and we will also get 18 bottles free under a special promotion that ends at the end of October. The other quote from Casco is for \$154,000 for the same equipment, but without the special for the 18 extra bottles.
- Lee and Joe were bringing up the idea of purchasing 8 or 12 packs instead of 18. John mentioned that he talked with David Wooldridge with Chambers Bank and David told John that we can be another \$100,000 if needed for funding. Joe asked about terms and John said they had not yet discussed terms. Joe thinks we should know how many years and the terms before we make a decision. Joe said that John needs to call David to find out about terms so we can make a decision on what we can afford.
- There was discussion about our need and how we can afford the payments. John got in touch with David Wooldridge. David told John that for \$140,000 the terms would be for 10 years at 4% \$1,417 per month. Joe pointed out that for 10 years it will cost the department at total of \$180,000.
- Joe asked about what our current loan payments are. John said the loan for the truck is \$1,440.97 dollars per month on a 7 year note and the loan payment for the compressor is \$1,081.27 per month for a 3 year note. The loan for the SCBAs was quoted by David as \$1,417 per month. Rachel said the total payment will be \$3,938.27 a month without the

additional \$500. That is an annual amount of \$47,259.24. John told the board that as long as we have money available in our Act 833 account, he makes the truck and compressor payments out of that account. John recommended that he keep the truck payment at \$1,440.97 and put the additional \$500 he has been paying on the truck towards the \$1,417 new loan.

**Motion: John moved that we authorize Harry and Lyn to contact Casco to order 18 SCBA packs with 18 masks, 18 additional cylinders for the amount of \$140,000.**

**Second: Lee Seconded**

**Passed: Unanimously**

**Motion: John moved that he be given authority to contact David Wooldridge with Chambers Bank to negotiate a loan for the department in the amount of \$140,000 at a rate of 4% for 10 years.**

**Second: Lee Seconded**

**Passed: Unanimously**

- **Wrecker Service Recognition (Lyn)**
  - Lyn said that Chip is donating damaged vehicles for us to use for training. We talked about getting him a gift card of some kind and it is a way we can show our appreciation for how he is helping us. John said he can write up something to document giving him a gift card. Joe mentioned that Chip likes to eat at Sonic and John suggested that we get him a Sonic give card. It was suggested that we get him a \$50 gift card from Sonic.
- **Oil for Truck Maintenance (Harry)**
  - Harry said that it is now time to change the oil. Maintenance is part of the budget. Joe said that there is a place where you can buy a drum of oil for \$697.00 for a 55 gallon drum. Harry said the he has to use a special oil for Rescue #1. Harry was only wanting to inform the board that he will be changing the oil on all of the apparatus.
- **Grid Heater (Harry)**
  - Harry said that if the nut falls off of the bottom of the grid heater it can damage the engine. This is not an emergency at this time, but if it does happen, it will put Rescue #1 out of service for several weeks. The cost for the kit is about \$900 but it is on sale now for \$700. Joe found a price for the grid heater kit for \$748.
- **Drug Testing Program (Harry)**

- Harry wants to put in place a drug testing program to test everyone initially and then test randomly. John said that he emailed our attorney for us doing a drug policy. The attorney responded to John that it is a good idea to have one and sent John a sample policy. It was commented that we want to make sure medical marijuana was addresses as well as alcohol. Lyn stated that anyone involved in an accident should also be tested. John said that he will get back in touch with our attorney.
- **Firefighter's meal (John)**
  - The firefighters decided to have Wendy's chili.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**7:33 pm**

**Motion to adjourn: Lee moved that we adjourn**

**Second: Joe Seconded**

**Passed: Unanimously**

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**Meeting minutes submitted by:**

**John Brandt, Secretary/Treasurer**