

WCFD Board Meeting

Date : October 29th, 2024

**Location: Community Room – Base 180
11321 Aboite Center Rd Ft Wayne, IN 46818**

This meeting is a meeting of the West Central Fire District in public for the purpose of conducting the fire district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting.

Attendees

Garry Teegarden absent, family situation

Chuck Dwyer

Lance Dafforn

Mike Meyers absent, unknown

Chandler Branning

Other- Chief Gale Stelzer, Office Administrator Chris Perez

1. Call to Order/Welcome/ Pledge of Allegiance 6p

2 . Chief's Report-Gale Stelzer

1.The full report is available on request to the WCFD Office administrator.

Review of report . Noted highlights:

12 people have successfully completed Fire Instructor 2 class. WCFD is hosting a Fire 1&2 class that continues through the end of December. 4 WCFD firefighters will be starting a fire investigator class in November, the training will enhance our ability to investigate and understand fire incidents.

An upcoming public CPR class (Heart Saver) is full; almost 30 have signed up. Another class can be added, it is important to have enough supplies. (Class is free, card has small cost.)

Mr. Branning: how do they reserve a seat? Barb Stelzer (EMS Chief) answers: people have been emailing me

Mr. Dafforn: is it on the website? Chris Perez- no, the upcoming class needs added.

Lake Township run data is on the website . Enroute time is right at 1 minute. Enroute to scene average for the past 30 days is @ 6.4 minutes, overall, from January -mid October average is 6.7 minutes, which is will below the national average. Almost 20% of runs are trauma related. TRAA runs- we send 1 ambulance for extenuating circumstances.

Mr. Dafforn likes that the engine in the bay has all paramedic equipment and is ready to go. Asks which is busier, B80 or 180? B180 is busier (overall runs: B80= 585. B180=900).

Patient engagement surveys- Aug 1st, the dept sent patient engagement surveys regarding specific categories. 30 surveys sent ,10 received back, 2 returned- deceased. To date, all surveys received back have been marked with the highest score available(5). Chief Stelzer is proud of this.

Mr. Dafforn: are you going to continue sending them? We want the good, bad, ugly. Barb Stelzer: yes. Ideally, 20/mo. 10 to Lake township, 10 to Aboite. We want to know what matters. Mr. Branning: these are sent in the mail? 12 back out of 30, that's good. Barb Stelzer: yes, they are sent in the mail.

Misters Dwyer and Dafforn: it's a good way to know you are doing something well or where we need improvement.

Tanker Update- RFP(began Oct 15th) is recommended at least 30 days. Currently no bids have been received and have been sent to 3 as required by law. Summit, Pierce, and Foust Brothers. Our Goal is still to stay at or below \$400,000.

Mr. Dafforn: did you write the specs for the tanker? Chief Stelzer: yes- Markle has a problem with Foust.

Mr. Dwyer: The tanker is with grant money, not a budget. Chief Stelzer: Yes- \$357,000

MR. Dafforn: We can't pass up grant money

Request to Purchase – Chief Stelzer is seeking approval for 5 sets of gear , \$20k, would not get billed until 2025. \$40k is budgeted a year. We are trying to stagger the replacement, so they are not all needing replaced at the same time. There is no cost savings for purchasing more. We demoed Innotec in a live fire and could tell a difference. With gear, you get what you pay for.

Mr. Dafforn: there is benefit for sticking w 1 manufacturer. Chief Stelzer: we wanted to try it because it's less expensive, but it will not work out.

Tyler Fix, B80 lieutenant , gives equipment review summary :

- current pacs over 20 years old. Weight is 25-50lbs , depending on cylinder size.
- newer cylinders weigh 20bs .
- we are asking for 3 per our response plan.

MR. Dafforn: you have MSA and Scott airpacs, 5500, currently? Tyler : yes

In January the increase is 4-6%. There is money in the budget (equipment line) for this purpose.

Mr. Branning: if it is budgeted and we have the money , then I don't have an issue.

Mr. Dafforn: if you send one for service, you are down 1 . The NFPA has a 10-year rule that's ridiculous, the rotation is a good idea. Gale, it's your call , 3 or 4 bags? Chief Stelzer: 4

Motion to approve 4 RIT bags: Lance Dafforn 2nd- Chandler Branning Chuck Dwyer- All pass

Motion to approve 5 sets of gear this year, 5 next year: Chandler Branning 2nd Chuck Dwyer

3. Approval of minutes from WCFD board meeting Aug 26th, 2024

1. Read agenda items aloud , approved after item 4

Motion to approve by: Lance Dafforn 2nd: Chuck Dwyer

4.Financial Report- Chris Perez

- 1.The full report is available on request to the WCFD Office administrator.

Review of the financial report. We will be able to repay our loan, which was the goal; as well as go into the next year with funds. With our planning and in being frugal- we are on target and sitting good for the upcoming year.

Mr. Dafforn : Overtime, have we had a need? Chief Stelzer: Yes. I've created comp time and that it's saving money. I allow 2 people off on a given day that we don't have to cover; it has worked out well. If they need the money , it can be cashed out on Dec 31 (comp and personal time too.) It can carry over.

December wages will be higher (A/B line is where the above will come from.)

Mr. Dafforn: Longevity pay? Chris Perez: yes, in the same paycheck at the end of the year. Everyone agreed the 1st year to get it in December, following years on their anniversary date. They can carry over up to 5 vacation days, PTO days up to 10.

Mr. Dafforn: pre-employment cost is because of 77? Chris Perez- yes.

Chris Perez- delay from anticipated start date of Oct 1 due to legal review citing PERF; it was worked out (\$33,000). We have a group on PERF and one on 77 with Oct 18th as the official start date. Excise revenue hits tomorrow. In Nov/Dec \$2.9 million will go into the general fund.

5. Campers-

This was run through the state auction site, and didn't meet the minimum. Sold in Michigan. Aboite Township asked us to return the sale amount, the \$33,000. The board needs to approve the action. The next Aboite trustee meeting is Nov 12, the 2nd Tuesday of the month. WCFD is the only district that the trustees kept the cum funds.

Mr. Dwyer: The camper money was from the Aboite fire cum fund (pre district formation) and we thought we were doing everything as we needed.

Mr. Dafforn: I'm confused...the movement of money, that was for fire service, from taxpayers?

Mr. Dwyer: We're having a bit of an issue; they are giving us \$750,000 from that fund..

Chris Perez: there is not a law , that the trustees have to turn over the cum fund or titles to trucks, EMS, to districts.

Mr. Branning: in Lake township, wasn't the tanker title turned over? Chris Perez: yes, the Lake Township trustee did give that to us.

Motion to approve the check (\$33,000) to the Aboite Trustee : Chuck Dwyer 2nd: Chandler Branning All in favor- Aye

6. Station Leases –

We have a monthly lease for commercial purposes. \$1/yr B80 signed with Arcola Inc . B180 \$1/yr signed with Aboite Trustee. The lease can only be year to year. If no details are changed, we can save legal cost by simply changing the dates year to year.

Mr. Branning : Are we already talking to Aboite about a lease for next year? Chief Stelzer: yes

Mr. Branning: do you want me to reach out to the Arcola President? I see no problem with it getting approved.

Chris Perez- I can, too.

7. New Business

Set 2025 meetings for continuing business. There is certain paperwork and business that will need conducted, officers on the board, salary resolution. We might need another meeting for scoping results before the end of the year. A yearly posting in the paper is required.

Start at B80, 2nd Wednesday, Jan. 8th @6pm. The 2nd Wednesday of the months of January, April, July, October. (We can change these, if necessary, but we have tentative dates to work from.)

8. Public Comment

1 person – Tim Knitter

- Runs/falls at nursing home
- Can attachments be made available to the public
- No one at Arcola because they are getting gas

Chandler Branning- any meeting notes from when someone met with the builders in August, and I couldn't go, I had asked for notes.

Live streaming or recording meetings?

Chris Perez- it was simply them explaining the process and sending paperwork. The video system we have (for recording/streaming) is called an Owl. Recording is to begin on or before July 1st of 2025. We are still determining what is needed on our end to for full implementation, including the cost of video storage, website updates, etc.

9. Adjourn

7:10p

Motion : Lance Dafforn 2nd Chuck Dwyer