

Pennington County Fire Service Board Meeting

April 8, 2009

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Chair person Gail Schmidt called the Pennington County Fire Service Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the EOC Room in the basement of the County Courthouse. Members present were: Leah Thibeau, Dennis Mallow, Ray Bubb, Anthony Carbajal, Paul Johnson, and Joel Stephens. Guests Mark Enright, Western Dakota Tech; Paul Smith, Rockerville VFD; Duane Hoffer, North Haines VFD; Craig Comer, Hill City VFD; Mark Raderschadt, Hill City VFD and Steve Keegan, Whispering Pines VFD.

PAST MEETINGS MINUTES: Motion Johnson, and second Mallow to approve the March 11, 2009 minutes. Motion Carried.

BUDGET REPORTS: Motion Johnson, and second Mallow to approve the budget. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Pro-Active: (Tjaden, Chair; Stephens, Carbajal)

- a. Recruitment and Retention- The board agreed to table this agenda item until next months meeting in May.
- b. Digital Radio Conversion- Johnson mentioned that he spoke with other departments that are already doing text pages to cell phones. A contact in Fargo said that texting has been working out very well and is actually faster than using a radio and pagers. Johnson said that he would like to see the board move forward on this and to take the steps necessary to start using the text paging. Schmidt said that she will try to get some information together so that we can move forward.
- c. Regional Fire Training Site Long Term Plans- Nothing at this time.

Accident Review: (Schmidt- Chair, Light, Johnson)

- a. Committee Report – Carbajal meet with the firefighter that was injured when he slipped on some ice and suffered a broken/dislocated knee cap. Carbajal will be putting together a report for Claims Associate. Carbajal also mentioned that the Firefighter was doing well and moving right along with his recovery. Schmidt said that two new claims have been filed and one was a slip on some ice and the other was a pulled back muscle on a fire. Neither one seems to be serious or should require time away from work.

OLD BUSINESS:

Employer Thank You in Hill City, Wall And RC Journal: Thibeau said that so far she has only seen the ad that ran in the Hill City prevarier. Thibeau will follow up on whether or not the ads did in fact run in the other papers.

Zone West And East Repeaters: The repeaters have been received and we are awaiting no snow days to install.

Regional AFG Communications: Rick Lehmann reported that only half of the departments responded. He will be sending out a follow up email to those departments that want to participate so that we can move forward. The grant will be open soon and everyone in Pennington County is eligible to apply.

Vehicle Maintenance Person & Budget Opportunities: Johnson suggested that the board send out a survey to determine the cost share of utilizing a maintenance position. Schmidt will send out an email and will follow up with Johnson in two weeks or so to see how many have responded. Schmidt also mentioned that there is no reason why we can not use these funds to do recruitment and retention. However if the board decides to use to funds and to go that directions we will want to let the Board of Commissioner know.

Other: Hofer had put together quotes for pump testing. If anyone would like to review those they are on file at the County Fire Administrators office.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioners Report: Trautman said that the county is in the beginning stages of starting the 2010 budgets. Trautman wanted to invite everyone to come to the Journey Museum and see the historic preservation project on the court house. Some interesting facts; this is the fourth building on this site where the court house sits now all of which been court houses. It is believed that the second and third court houses burned down. The first building was a log cabin and now sits at Sheridan Lake.

Emergency Management Report: Carbajal reported on the snow storms the past few weeks and the possibility for flooding in some areas due to warmer weather. Carbajal said that he attended a meeting with the state, County, Law Enforcement, NOAA and other agencies to do review pre planning in the event of a flood. The Emergency Management as well as other office will be monitoring intake and releases from Pactola.

Other: Smith mentioned to the board that the RT130 burn training class will be held tomorrow April 9th at Rockerville.

NEW REQUESTS: Nothing at this time.

REQUESTS TO BE ACTED ON: Motion Johnson to support the request for Search and Rescue to purchase the USAR gear in the amount up to \$10,000.00. Second Tjaden. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion Johnson, second Mallow to adjourn. Carried.