

# Lead Fire Protection District Meeting

Minutes from 07/26/23 - Meeting was held at 6pm at the Lead Fire Hall

All motions were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Present Members: Tim Eggers, Oz Enderby, Sierra Ward

Absent: Steve Stewart, Kay Rear

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:02pm

Conflict of Interest Declaration: None

Quorum was present to conduct business.

**Minutes:** Enderby made a motion to accept, Eggers seconded, passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Enderby gave a report - Escrow is \$76,864.94 retirement account is at 81,839.05, checking is at \$129,371.68. Ward made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Eggers, passed.

The bill report from the department was reviewed. Alan Williams - department president, made a note that the generator is broken and will require parts and labor to fix. Total bills were \$5,043.88. Motion by Ward to accept and pay all bills, seconded by Enderby, passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

-Snow Plowing Insurance // There has been a question about the state office doing the snow plowing in our trucks, our insurance was not inclined to cover anyone apart from the department driving our trucks (outside of an emergency). Eggers stated that he has been in contact with the state and is waiting for this question to go up the line and be answered. We will leave this item on the agenda for next month.

-Audit for District Financials // Cathy Collins, CPA was on hand to discuss the audit we need. She asked some questions and said she would go over the bank statements from 2022 and 2023 so far this year and bring back a financial report for next meeting so we can discuss what else we might need her to investigate. Since it was already approved last month to proceed, there was not motion needed.

-Wire Money Transfer & Press Release // Tim Johns, Esq. was on hand to oversee our discussion about a press release to the public regarding this loss of district funds in wire transfer fraud. Eggers stated that he has had continuing conversations and the investigation is ongoing. Johns was in favor of making the press release and suggested small changes to help clarify the draft that was presented by Ward. Ward will continue to work with Johns to finalize a draft that can be distributed to the public after email board approval.

-Escrow Account Replenishment // Enderby stated that he has been in contact with the USDA office and found more documentation about the requirements to fill our escrow account after we used a part of it to make the final payment on the new truck. He said that qualified as improvements on part of our property, and by definition of the account we need to have a full year's worth of building payments available (\$130,550). There is not a stipulation about how quickly we must replenish it, but can be done so in the amount of up to \$25,000 annually. There was following discussion about how we might do this, as it will impinge on the Department's budget.

-Agreement between District and Department // This item was revisited. Nate Allen - department chief, had originally updated the agreement that was several years out of date, and needed new

information. It has gone under several revisions since then by the board. Allen discussed his concerns with the board revisions and asked if we could simply go back to the original with a few simple changes. Discussion followed, and Ward made a motion to approve the original agreement with those changes, Eggers seconded, passed.

-Bridge Loan Clarifications // Last month there was some question about a late payment made on our loan, and instead of the payment being made at the end of December 2022, it came out in January 2023 - however the report to the Lawrence County office stated that the payment had been done in December. This has thrown off our financials registered with the county, and will continue to do so each year unless there is an amendment made. Enderby stated he would visit with Brenda McGruder in the county office, and also with First Interstate Bank and find out why this happened and how we might amend this.

-Cyber Crime Insurance Coverage // Conversation is ongoing about getting this ryder added to our insurance coverage. Discussion about how and why this might help followed. No immediate action can be taken at this time.

-Resignations & Replacements // Enderby stated that he is resigning from his county seat on the board as of August 30th meeting. He would like to instate Ron Moeller as his replacement as he also lives in the county. Discussion followed about finding a new city resident to replace Steve Stewart who resigned at the June meeting. No one has been found as of this meeting. We need to request these replacements to the County Commission meeting for September in writing.

-Air Conditioning // The AC was found to be installed and repaired improperly by Rasmussen (the only vendor that works with it) and Williams is following up with them to get it repaired.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

-Department Budget 2024 // Discussion continued about the replenishment of the escrow account, and it was agreed that we should use the line item Joe Purdue, treasurer included, of \$6500/annually until we have one of the fire trucks paid off and can use that money. This item is tabled until the next meeting for final approval. There was a motion made by Ward to approve this line item and solution for the escrow account, seconded by Eggers, passed.

**ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC** - none

**ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTORS** - Enderby presented a application for Fire Fighter of the year from the VFW to be nominated by the department.

**ADJOURN** - Motion made by Ward, seconded by Enderby, passed at 7:45pm

Date: 8/30/2023

President Signature:

