

Albany County Fire District #1 Amended Special Board Meeting Minutes June 18, 2021 Working Session

This meeting was held as a hybrid meeting with in-person attendance, as well as through Zoom.
(Formal action taken by the Board is indicated via italics.)

Top agenda items: Dispatch algorithms, Truck pay/fire pay, CDL's, PA Process

1. PA Process – Suggestions made to streamline process and increase amount from \$500 to \$1000. How much risk is the Board willing to assume. Fuel and utilities could be looked at monthly or quarterly. For truck maintenance we have the “serious immediate concern” phrase to expedite approving these expenditures. Board has the fiduciary responsibility to not mis-spend money. PA's should be assembled and approved in one vote. Should do PA approval after department reports
2. Truck pay/Fire Pay – Need to try to use 50% of the withheld trucks funds (current withholding of truck funds is 10% for overhead; so 50% of those withheld funds for overhead would equal 5%) to build a fire pay account. Where does extra money that comes in go as far as ACFD#1 priorities go? Suggestion made that excess monies should not just be appropriated into the general pot but should go into the fire pay pot, subject to other needs of the District and/or needs of the departments which may arise. If the Board has the funding available they could pay up to 90%. Desire to ensure firefighters out on dispatch to be paid in the next cycle but Board has to have confidence paperwork is correct when submitted. Need to prepare a list prior to fire season of all who are qualified to dispatch out. Chiefs/Board need to get word to all membership of ACFD#1 that if Administrative Assistant calls/emails regarding paperwork that this is high priority. The Board needs to agree on a policy and how quickly to x percentage on fire pay subject to the fund availability retained by the District. Departments also need to be paid the truck pay. If you fix the firefighter pay issue the truck pay issue should disappear but it will take time.
3. CDL's – In house development is important. Could offer bonus money for getting it and every year keeping it active. Incentivizing does not always have a favorable outcome and if you incentivize this what about HAZMAT, FF1, ENGB, etc. This is a strategic need for the District and the departments.
4. Dispatch Algorithms – Chairman Hawkins requested list of capabilities. An example – MVA at WYCO, Chairman Hawkins requests the page goes to WYCO and BLVFD, but according the dispatch algorithm, WYCO shouldn't be paged at all because they are not MVA or medical. Chairman Hawkins wants the department called if it is in their jurisdiction and feels they should be first on scene, to get eyes on the scene and give scene size-up. What resources needed based on standardized algorithm. LARC has a lot of questions. LARC only looks at capabilities. What about time-outs. LFD is the only backup guaranteed to be there. Every paged VFD should be communicating with dispatch even you cannot respond so they are not waiting for your response. Departments needs to get trained to talk on the radio and communicate with dispatch, this gives dispatch and those arriving on scene of what resources are coming. Chairman Hawkins feels it's important to know department capabilities so the correct page

goes out. What about the overtasking of Central, especially with I-80? Trying to grow capabilities, but money and resources are limited. Very underfunded special district.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Turner, ACFD#1 Administrative Assistant