

Albany County Fire District #1 Board Meeting Minutes November 25, 2020

This meeting was held via Zoom. There was a mix-up in the Zoom meeting number, which once noticed was corrected using email and text.

Meeting was called to order at 5:20 pm. Board members present were Art Sigel, Joe Witt and Jon Essley.

Chairman Sigel moved to approve the October board meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Witt and approved unanimously.

No public comment.

Requested a thank you be sent to Goshen County for helping with the surge twice. Their address is Goshen County Courthouse, 212 E A St, Torrington, WY 82240.

Chairman Sigel moved to approve the financial report as presented. Motion was seconded by Secretary Essley and approved unanimously.

LARC – Go live for the new system was November 10th and it has gone well. They will go live with the ER interface next week and Steve is looking into whether we can include “I Am Responding”.

County Fire Warden – Working on paperwork and has submitted fires for payment. Michele has all of Mullen. We are looking at close to \$43 million with the District’s percentage at approximately \$700,000. Hence why we have the suppression account (insurance policy) as the suppression account with pick up the bill while the District was under the cost share agreement. All equipment will be paid at 25% as part of the cost share. We will likely incur costs during the spring that will not be covered by the fire or the suppression account regarding mitigation. Individual landowner mitigation – FMAG money will be handled through EMA.

Fire Pay – This month the first 50% for Mullen will be paid to all departments except for Central. Michele is still waiting on correct paperwork/numbers and if she does not receive it, they might not be paid in December either. The Board agreed that \$75,000 must remain in the reserves. Because of the delay in the meeting and the holiday, checks will be signed on Monday, November 30th and distributed from there. Please note: Teri Jo has to scan the checks before she can disperse them because this is for an in-District fire. Because we are dealing with a reimbursement situation, Michele will contact Sheilah regarding the letter on how the District operates.

WyCo Department – Secretary Essley moved to create the WyCo Volunteer Fire Department. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Witt and approved unanimously. Treasurer Witt moved to establish a \$2,000 startup fund from the District’s capital budget account for WyCo. Motion was seconded by Secretary Essley and approved unanimously. As per agreement, WyCo will deliver items back down to BLVFD and Badger truck funds for WyCo apparatus will be paid to WyCo. James Rinehart was elected Chief, Gary Williams was elected Assistant Chief, Robert

Johnson was elected Secretary and Teri Schwindt was elected Treasurer. The date of formation of the new department is November 25, 2020.

Dylan has submitted a proposal for the new South Central station as it needs finishing work to be done to make it functional. Chairman Sigel moved to approve a total of \$50,000 at a 50/50 split (\$25,000 ACFD Capitol/\$25,000 Central) for South Central finishing work. PA 261

It was requested the District Board set some guidance regarding capital projects to be published, as up to this point all facility upgrades have been denied. Board indicated they have been denying facility maintenance. The District attorney is also working on a land line dispute involving VVFD, to that must be considered. Brett suggested it may be worthwhile in the next few months to sit down and talk about major capital needs throughout the District and determine prioritization where remaining funds should be directed.

Emergency PA's –

Secretary Essley moved to approve \$1850 of CVVFD funds for the replacement of CVVFD Engine 14 tires. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Witt and approved unanimously. PA 262

Chairman Sigel moved to approve \$11,736 of CVVFD funds to replace CVVFD hose, PPE, etc that was lost or damaged from the extended fire season. Motion was seconded by Secretary Essley and approved unanimously. PA 263

Chairman Sigel moved to approve \$650 of Central funds for central engine repairs. Motion was seconded by Secretary Essley and approved unanimously. PA 264

Chairman Sigel moved to approve \$3500 of Central funds to repair AC12. Motion was seconded by Secretary Essley. PA 265

Chairman Sigel moved to approve \$1500 of Central funds for parts to repair AC11 and T37. Motion was seconded by Secretary Essley and approved unanimously. PA 266

BLVFD Break In – A full set of bunker gear, an older laptop, and 81 gallons of fuel were stolen. They now have a security system wired into phones on the front and back of the station, along with new locks on both doors and Shawn is fabricating a cage to install over the back window.

MASA Insurance – The State of Wyoming has moved MASA insurance into a different classification and therefore the cost of MASA will increase from the current \$99/enrollee/year to \$140/enrollee/year. Will need to discuss further.

Chief's Report – Lessons learned from the large number of fires – need an annual paperwork class, training on arrival reports, training on how to swap out damaged hose on fires, make sure all trucks have current inventory, wildland urban interface class, a CTR for every crew member, clarify what is in ROSS, and how to winterize trucks without antifreeze. Ambulances sent on federal fires can make a significant amount of money which could be used to support EMS within the departments. The Wyoming State Fire Marshall is not planning any training. Most training will be in-district only. CO Wildland Fire Academy might still be going. The WY Rural Firefighters meeting was canceled.

CVVFD – Status quo, worked through a few issues and the ambulance service took a bit of a hit but still have EMS personnel and others are working on getting EMT certifications. Also

working on putting together a disciplinary action. Looking at Dylan's and would like to look at others. Possibly some facility upgrades in the future as well, adding a well.

BLVFD – The two stations are now separate. Who is going to set up Emergency Reporting and "I Am Responding" for WyCo? Each department has set these up themselves. They will keep paging protocols the same for now for BLVFD and WyCo, all will be paid in both departments, until WyCo has reliable redundancy during the winter.

WyCo – The trucks have been drained. WC11 (old BL11) and WC9 (old BL9) can respond, as well as the snow machine and rescue sled.

Central – Working on getting donations for finishing for South Central station. The new station received a donation of four fire extinguishers from Laramie Fire Extinguisher.

TSVFD – They are still open. Also have a large slash pile to burn as a training fire, but will wait for more favorable, less dry weather.

VVFD – Question on \$544.63 deposit from VVFD on the "Bills Detail" report. The \$544.63 is the total for the bills paid by ACFD for VVFD. It is a debit for VVFD and a reimbursement for the District. This number ties directly to the report "Department Expenses paid by ACFD". Just to clarify, the property issue involving VVFD stems from the first iteration of VVFD, not the current VVFD. The Board would like to clarify that none of the current Board members had anything to do with the building that was possibly built on someone else's property, this was a previous Board. Looking at tank options for water. Christmas tree sale fundraiser is going on now.

New Business – Michele requested a scanner be purchased as everything is moving to online for federal fire pay. The State's new system will have to everything scanned in and most of the federal fires required everything be done online. A scanner would make processing fire pay and entering the documents into the State's system for payment much more streamlined and effective. They are about \$400 and can hook up a PC or a mac, they scan in color, portable and could be used to scan checks at meetings. The Board requested a proposal for it.

Next Board meeting is December 16, 2020 at 5:00pm

Expenditures by the Board totaling \$71,236 to include: \$2,000 startup fund from the District's capital budget account for WyCo; \$50,000 at a 50/50 split (\$25,000 ACFD Capitol/\$25,000 Central) for South Central finishing work; \$1850 of CVVFD funds for the replacement of CVVFD Engine 14 tires; \$11,736 of CVVFD funds to replace CVVFD hose, PPE, etc that was lost or damaged from the extended fire season; \$650 of Central funds for central engine repairs; \$3500 of Central funds to repair AC12; and \$1500 of Central funds for parts to repair AC11 and T37.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Turner, ACFD#1 Administrative Assistant