

COLUMBUS RURAL FIRE DISTRICT #3
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 13, 2009
5:30 pm

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: by Curt Robbins, Barb Potzman and Bill Wilson were in attendance. Absent Jason Wells and Kevin Schatz

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

APPROVE MINUTES: There were no minutes from the previous meeting so none were approved.

TREASURER REPORT: No treasurer, no report. Warrants were sent early by e-mail for board review. Total amount of warrants was 27,142.92. The board questioned a few of the items:

- RF Comm, last large installment of communication grant
- Jeff Limburg, E-Bay equipment scored by Jeff
- Health Care Billings, 1,128.36 is two months of 3rd party billing 630.42 for February and 497.94 for March.
- Global Collection is the bad check/bad account collection service
- Kois Brothers Equipment, for flat bed on brush truck

Chief Cowger presented a new report that he just received showing the Accounts Receivable in dated format. This aged receivable report will allow us to have a better idea of what receivables will be coming in for future use.

Motion to Pay Bills was made by Bill Wilson, seconded by Barb Potzman and voted all in favor.

CHIEF REPORT: Chief Cowger went over his report. The report will be added to the minutes as an attachment. Item 11 on the report talks about the contracts for the DNRC and they are prepared and ready. Chief Cowger has put them together 2 different ways because sometimes our services and equipment are needed and sometimes just our equipment is needed. If interested in looking over the contracts they can be seen in the chief's office.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Generator Grant: Information found on Chief's report line item 9. He has submitted a PO to get the generator going. It takes about 8 weeks to get it in, but the process needed to get started.

New truck status: flat bed has been install and tank is in production
Expired board terms filled by acclamation (Barb & Bill)

NEW MEMBER APPROVAL:

Two new members: Tara Smith and Loren Deichman. Both come to the department with extensive knowledge and experience.

Motion to approve new members was made by Bill Wilson, seconded by Barb Potzman and voted all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

By-Laws approval: Motion to table the approval of By-laws rewrite was made by Bill Wilson, seconded by Barb Potzman and voted all in favor. It was decided to wait until May to hopefully get the whole board together to make this decision. We also changed two items under Article 17. New revised edition will be attached.

NEW BUSINESS:

Department Credit Card: The use of a credit card for the department was discussed and it was decided the Chief would look into different programs that would allow us to have one account with different cards. The intent of using credit cards for fire department business is to elevate/eliminate the fire fighters from having to cover their out of pocket expenses while on the job and wait to get reimbursed for 3-4 weeks putting an undue hardship on those members without their own credit cards. All credit card statements will be paid at the same time as the warrants and will be fully reviewed.

Motion to have the Rich Cowger look into and present a credit card company and get back to Curt Robbins for final approval, no more board discussion is necessary was made by Barb Potzman, seconded by Bill Wilson and voted all in favor

Policy review & approval: It was suggested by Chief Cowger we include another Policy on operational agreements so we don't confuse Policy Item 5 with the everyday action of the fire department. Example would be the DNRC fire contracts that he needed to sign. We will write this and have it ready for vote in May. We did not try and pass these policies's again waiting for a full board to make these executive decisions. We will vote at the May meeting.

Fire station stimulus funds: Chief would like us to be ready and back looking at possible satellite station sites in case we get some presidential stimulus funds. He has heard these funds may need to be used for "fast" action and we are going to look at some possible buildings that can be up in a short period of time: Cleary, Morton, etc. There is also a piece of property in Countryman Creek Subdivision that may be suitable for our needs and we are looking into the possibility of attaining that property.

Chief has 2 more items of business:

1. Rich suggested exploring the possibly of providing fire protection and administration to the Town of Columbus for a set contractual fee.
2. Jason had mentioned earlier about getting smart cell phones or current cell phones since we lost our analog phones. Rich found a state resource where we can get new phones and air cards for the laptop for very low price. There is no conversion cost. He will need to work directly with the state site. Motion to allow Chief Cowger to spend up to \$100 plus taxes per month as he sees fit to outfit the ambulances and trucks was made by Barb Potzman, seconded by Bill Wilson and voted all in favor.

OTHER MEMBERS BUSINESS:

AGENDA INPUT FOR NEXT MONTH: get the revised by-laws and policy's approved.

ADJOURN: 7:15 p.m. by Curt Robbins

NEXT MEETING: MAY 11, 2009 5:30 PM FIREHALL

Respectfully submitted by Barb Potzman