

JOINT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FERRY COUNTY 3/STEVENS COUNTY 8

MINUTES

April 11, 2013

The regular meeting of the Joint Fire Protection District Ferry County District 3/Stevens County District 8 was called to order at 6:30p.m, on April 11, 2013, at the District Office by Chairman Helen Sowards. Present: Commissioners Helen Sowards, Susan Dechant, Steve Benell, Graham Wooten, Secretary Peter Holter-Mehren, Chief Herb Hippler, and Purchasing Agent Mark Stevens, EVIP Instructor/Station Captain Charlie Cole. Two guests from USFS were also present, Tim Sampson and Reed Heckly

Minutes .

Minutes of March 14, 2013 were discussed. **Motion, Dechant, to pass minutes of March 14, 2013, seconded by Benell. m/s/p**

Minutes of Special Board Meeting, March 28, 2013 were discussed. **Motion, Dechant, to pass minutes from Special Board Meeting, March 28, 2013, seconded by Sowards. m/s/p**

Communications to the Board

Once again, Reed Heckly and Tim Sampson from the USFS who were here to discuss a proposed Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement and Annual Operating Plan between the District and the USFS. The Board discussed the agreement with them and clarified several issues.

Motion, Wooten, to accept the Mutual Aid Agreement with the USFS, seconded by Dechant. m/s/p.

Tim Sampson went on to discuss the Fire Management Meeting to be held here on April 17.

Charlie Cole gave a report to the Board reference EVIP. We are currently in discussions with Enduris about our vehicle safety programs and further information will be provided as it comes in. The Secretary will look into yearly driver's abstracts on all volunteers

Correspondence:

A letter from was received from Enduris soliciting members to stand for their board elections.

Budget Report

Commissioner Dechant presented a current budget report. She reports that all accounts look good and income from the Treasurer's Office is in line with anticipated amount.

Vouchers

Vouchers were discussed. **Motion Wooten, to approve vouchers seconded by Sowards. m/s/p**

VOUCHERS AUDITED AND CERTIFIED BY THE AUDITING OFFICER AS REQUIRED BY RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the board.

As of this date March 14, 2013 the board by a unanimous vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the above list and further described as follows: Vouchers 304487- 304509 in the total amount of \$18,284.82.

Committee Reports

Buildings: Discussion on the new vehicle storage building. The Chief will also be looking at a potential building currently located in North Dakota that could be moved to our location.

Signage for the Sand Creek Station was discussed.

No bids were received by the District for the “materials bid” that was published in the paper.

Motion, Benell, to purchase two signs from the Dept. of Corrections for the Sand Creek Station, seconded by Wooten. m/s/p

Communications: Commissioner Wooten: Barstow repeater is currently active and the transfer to new property should happen in April, along with a second tower here on the Barstow property to support a cell phone booster.

Recruitment – Commissioner Sowards. No new recruits this month

Fire Safety – No report

Insurance- Commissioner Benell. The computer data entry for small inventory is ongoing. All stations are currently on computer except Orient. Work is progressing.

Chiefs Report: Chief Report for March to April 2013

Quiet. We have had one of the quietest pre-green up fire season ever. But this summer’s outlook may change the story. We will be having an inner agency meeting here at the Training center April 17th to talk about this year’s up and coming fire season.

Repeater. The new location is getting prepped with the needed supplies and we hope to have the power lines in the ground within the next few weeks and the tower base mounted. I would like to purchase one more repeater station for this location. I would like to have the option of having a tactical channel that is repeatable. Will need to purchase the unit (\$1,400), antenna (\$300) and cable (\$200) total \$1900. The reasoning for this purchase is due to the amount of fire department that uses the same channel. In the event of more than three departments talking on the radio at one time, we encounter no communication between the north and south end. Also in a large fire event, it near impossible to communicate with other units.

Security cameras. The Orient station is now up and running, we still have Barstow, Tipton and the Training center to wire up. I have started on the Training Center but we are two units short to complete this task. The Training center, along with the Orient station, will have to option to hook to the internet and view it on line if needed.

The BLM fire truck will be here this Saturday evening, Alex Sechrest will be flying down to SLC this Friday, one of the guys from BLM will pick him up from the airport and then he’ll be headed home.

We have several SCBA bottles that have expired; the life expectancy is 17 years max for Alum and composite bottles. I’ll be on the look-out for new bottles.

I was at the Sand Creek Station last week looking at the security system and noticed that we have a leak in the roof above the bath room, I told the station captain to look into the problem.

Spoke With the Washington State FEMA director; I was informed that our 2012 grant did not get chosen for peer review and that they have limited \$104 million for the 2013 grants.

The Stevens County Fire Chiefs Association will become official as we will except the by-laws presented at the end of this month.

The signed agreement between DNR and JFDP 3&8 has been returned for our records.

The US Forest Service is trying to follow the same format in case of a large fire; this will enable them to hire our equipment and personnel. Fire Dist. 13 and 14 have agreed to the contract presented.

This spring and summer we have a ton of projects, repeater, vehicle storage building, 2000 freightliner project and several miscellaneous projects like finish installing the winches and hover trailers.

Charlie presented his concerns about EVIPP and we might look into just following the WACs for emergency response vehicles. Not sure if EVIPP and WAC tie into each other.

Motion, Dechant, to purchase new repeater unit to be used for our tactical frequency at a cost of approximately \$1900, seconded Wooten. m/s/p

Medical Officer's Report: No report

Open Issues:

- Newsletter. Articles have been received from most stations and layout of the newsletter has started.
- Credit card usage was discussed by the Board with the Purchasing Agent.

Motion, Wooten, to raise the Purchasing Agent's limit to \$2000, after consultation with the Ferry County Treasurer, seconded by Dechant. m/s/p

New Issues

- Laptop computer usage was discussed by the Board. The Secretary will be passing his laptop off to the new Training Officer.

Motion, Benell, to spend up to \$1400 for two new laptop computers, one to be used by the Secretary, the other by the Finance Commissioner, seconded by Wooten. m/s/p

Executive Session: None.

Motion to Adjourn, Wooten, at 2123 hours, seconded by Dechant

Respectfully submitted:

Peter Holter-Mehren, Secretary

Helen Sowards, Chairperson