

The Rye Fire Protection District

MINUTES OF THE RYE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Workshop Meeting September 21, 2015

Present Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger, Mr. Wade Wills, Mr. Mike Davis, Mr. Garry Melchi

Absent Directors – None

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mr. Wills who chaired the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented.

Workshop Session

Update on Research and Findings

Status and Assessments

- Mr. Wills and Captain Beach discussed the updated estimate, which was E-Mailed to the Board Members, for Station #2 per the workshop meeting on August 8, 2015. The change was to add a second level to the northern portion of the station, which added about \$181,700 to the project. Mr. Schaiberger noted that he would like to Ken West review the estimate to see if there are substantial corners that can be cut before accepting these numbers.
- Chief Bennett continues to have troubles getting firms to respond to his inquiries for station exhaust system. Mr. Wills is also assisting.

Future Direction

The balance of the meeting was directed towards Rye Fire Protection District's financial need.

Mr. Wills noted that he has received positive comments from residents when asked about a possible mill levy increase. Captain Beach noted that School District No. 70 will not be asking for tax increases and the Board Member he talked to noted that they may be supportive. Chief Bennett also noted that Sheriff Kirk Taylor is supportive. Other members noted the same positive feedback. All parties agreed that a strong, positive outreach marketing campaign will be necessary.

The Rye Fire Protection District

Mr. Schaiberger will do research on how a mill levy will impact the various tax based entities. The mill levy increase will impact commercial and residential different. In addition, there is a difference with residential taxes based upon age and other programs.

Mr. Davis passed out staffing budget information based upon the 2015 Budget with various potential raises. The 2015 budget was based upon 1.5 persons for Command Staff, 6 persons for FTE for Career Firefighters, and 16 persons for Part Time Firefighters. Figures provided were based upon employee-only insurance coverage with information on family insurance benefit.

Mr. Schaiberger noted that Rye Fire should keep wages within about 15, maybe stretching to 20% of other comparable agencies so we are competitive. Mr. Wills asked about staff levels over the past 3 years, which Chief Bennett noted he has had 3-4 per shift per his records. Chief Bennett noted that 3 crew members are required on a medical, 4 is idea. It was noted that a fire requires at a minimum of 5. Chief Bennett is able to get additional personnel to respond for fire events. The crew needs noted do not include command staff.

Mr. Schaiberger asked for information on how many shifts there are 3 crew members plus command and how many have 4 plus command. This will be used to defend the staffing needs that will be stressed in defending the mill increase.

All 911 communications are from the County and we do not pay for. Radios were paid for from grants and CSSEP funding. In time we will have to maintain batteries, antennas, etc. for hand-held devices.

It was noted a portion of the mill levy increase should be set aside for Capital Reserve for items such as Station improvements.

Mr. Schaiberger asked if we have competitive wages. Chief Bennett noted that he has most area comparative agencies wage packages already.

Next workshop meeting will be held Monday, October 5th at 5:00 P.M.

Adjourn

Workshop Session adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Dated this 21st day of September 2015.



Submitted by Jim Beach, Captain