

# VERNON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 22, 2016

1. Call to order at 1900
2. Prayer
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call – Marcia Young present, Steve Miller Present, Tony Anderson present, Bill Miketta present, Jodie Humphrey present.
5. Chair Summary –Bill Miketta and Marcia Young last meeting on the board. Next month we welcome Sara King and Steve Coombs as new board members.
6. Consent agenda
  - A. October 25, 2016 were approved – Bill Miketta motioned to approve meeting minutes as written. Jodie Humphrey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote: Jodie Humphrey Aye- Bill Miketta – Aye- Tony Anderson – Aye Marci Young Aye Steve Miller – Aye, approved.
7. REPORTS
  - a. Chief’s Report – (posted on website)
  - b. Financial Report – The October monthly financial report was reviewed by Board, we received \$147,013.21 in property tax payments, \$27465.66 in other revenue. We ended the month of October with \$257,716.52.
8. BUSINESS
  - A. Discussion and Possible Action:** Chief Niehuis: Sale of 4000-gallon Tender listed it for 29,500 was given an offer of 27,500 which is the best offer that we have received. I would like the board to consider accepting this offer. Tony Anderson: This is the tender that is out of service? Chief Niehuis: Yes. Bill Miketta: So it is no use to us. Steve Miller: Chief this bidder is a construction company have we thought about pinpointing this truck to companies similar to this company that might be able to give us a few extra dollars? Chief Niehuis: I have talked to several different companies about the sale of this truck and they recommend that we do the bidding process just as we did. Steve Miller: What were the other bids? Chief Niehuis: Scott can you speak to that. Scott Wright: We had 10 bidders, 17 bids, started the bid at 5000.00 and the highest bid was 27,500.00. Steve Miller: Were the bidders all over the place where they were going to use the vehicle for? Scott Wright: Only bidder I had in contact with was the high bidder and he has a grading and demolition company. He has the money to easily purchase the vehicle. Steve Miller: So in your mind you believe from your investigation this is about as good as its going to get? Scott Wright: It really is. Steve Miller: Do you feel if we do not accept this bid that we will have a problem down the road matching it? Scott Wright: Yes, this guy is real and wants the truck. And if we do not take his offer he has the means to buy a truck someplace else. Tony Anderson: This truck is something we can’t use and we inherited it from the previous group. If we can get rid of it, for this amount of money we should go for it. Chief Niehuis: I concur I think this is a good offer. Jodie Humphrey: How old is the truck

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we are selling? Chief Niehuis: 1985 but it was over built. It has a 4000-gallon tank and it is built to only carry a 1000-gallon tank. Steve Miller: So Scott your estimation that this guy is willing to sign on the dotted line, hand over the money, and pick up the truck. Scott Wright: Yes, and he is well aware we are taking the lights off of it, removing the radio and the lettering. We are selling it as a non-emergency vehicle. Bill Miketta: I would like to make a motion that we allow the staff to proceed forward in the sale of the 4000-gallon tender as presented. Jodie Humphrey: I second the motion. Tony Anderson: All in favor? Marcia Young: Aye, Jodie Humphrey: Aye, Tony Anderson: Aye, Bill Miketta: Aye, Steve Miller: Let the record show it is for 27,500.00 and I say yes.

### **B. Discussion and Possible Action:** New Quote for Workman's Compensation.

Kathy Schlichting: There are now two companies offering workers compensation in the State of Arizona our current company Copperpoint represented by Guy McTheny from Hill and Usher and Benchmark 7710 represented by Wiatt Wong from VFIS. We contacted Wiatt Wong to contact his underwriter to give us a quote. His quote came in at 17,663.00 which includes a 3<sup>rd</sup> category for NON Firefighters volunteers. When I discuss our renewal with Guy he said that our workers comp would probably stay the same as 2016 which is around 27,000. I did stress that I needed a quote for 2017. He said he would get it to me but if not we will go with last year's quote. At 4 PM today I received Cooperpoint quote for 2017 which has dropped over 15,000.00. Which you have before you. The difference between the two companies is that Copperpoint has not offered code 8411 for Non Fire Fighting personnel. This is one reason many people are switching to Benchmark as Jodie can contest. Also Benchmark is offering 1,000,000 policy limit where Copperpoint is offering 500,000 policy limit. Steve Miller: Can you define 8411? Kathy Schlichting: Wiatt explained this could include the Fire Auxiliary who do things for our district or volunteers that may want to come in and volunteer their time washing trucks. Even though they are a non-paid person they are not covered by any workers comp. Copperpoint does not recognize these type of personnel. To Copperpoint they are unpaid Volunteer Fire Fighters which we do not have any. Chief Niehuis: Benchmark 7710 recognizes that in our industry we have different types of personnel that would not fall under 7710 or 8810 where Copperpoint has not recognized these type of people. This information has been brought out at AFDA meetings where Jodie brought it to our attention. Steve Miller: Kathy explain the difference in the amount of payrolls. Kathy Schlichting: I pointed out to Guy that our payroll should be 307,600.00 not 270,000.00. He insisted we should leave since we pay our workers comp quarterly off our actual payroll and this would reduce our deposit. I disagree with this practice. Chief: In fact, we could owe them more money than we actually budgeted for at the end of the year. Steve Miller: I'm wondering if this is so. I sent an inquiring to

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Copperpoint with questions that I had. He wrote a response back and Guy makes a statement here: "There are no restrictions for volunteer personnel as compared to your regular firefighters under class code 7710." This would mean they would follow under this class with no cost to us since we do not pay them a wage. Kathy Schlichting: Even though they do not earn a wage they will give them a wage to base the workers comp on. Chief: And Copperpoint would use the higher rate at 7710 not 8411 like Benchmark. Steve Miller: I think since we have time we need to get these Reps in here to talk about this. I have questions and I am confused from information given me from Copperpoint. I feel we should table this, bring it back in December and get these Reps to lay it out for us. And clear up these questions that we have. Tony Anderson: Benchmark list Firefighters, volunteers, and clerical premium is 17,000. And Copperpoint list Firefighter and clerical they are a little over 11,000. Kathy Schlichting: Yes, but Copperpoint would be higher if they would adjust their payroll to 307,600. Steve Miller: I would like to get the Reps in. Chief: I agree, and we are more than willing to do that. Jodie Humphrey: I motion to table the Copperpoint and Benchmark quotes for workers' compensation until December meeting. Steve Miller: And I will second that motion.

### 9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC –

Sarah Schaffer: Thursday December 15 the Park will have the annual Christmas party at 5PM.

Dee Scienski: I will like to Thank Bill Miketta for the time he was on the board you've done a great job.

Tony Anderson: Wanted to point out Clay Wallace write up. Good job.

Nick Scienski: Would like to know if we could have a written copy of the financial report it would be easier to follow what the speaker is saying. Tony Anderson requested Chief Niehuis to see if this is possible.

Stephen Coombs: Compliment the staff on working on this insurance matter. And I recommend that you can publish that financial page along with the agenda on the website.

Under financial you could write see attachment. Chief Niehuis: We can see if we can do both of those.

### 10. NEW AGENDA ITEMS – None

### 11. ADJOURNMENT – 1947 PM