

WALKER FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING 01/10/2009

Meeting called to order 8:00am by Bob Neberman, President

Other board members:

Dan Hauck, Vice President

Chuck Bowers

Joe Lupa, Secretary

Carol Tocker

Tim McFarlan, Treasurer

Mark Keegan

Also in attendance: Bud Mellor, Fire Chief

Approximately 21 community members present

Reports:

President's report:

- Mid-year elections are coming up.

Terms expiring are for Bob Neberman, Dan Hauck and Carol Tocker. Would like to see a nominating committee reformed. Also, would like to get resolution to any open line item that has been on the table over the last year. Those items that remain unresolved must be outlined for the new board so they have the information they need to continue with them.

A short list of items needing attention is:

- Communications - ie. pagers, etc.
- Carpeting and tile for the station.
- Status of the rescue vehicle grant

Secretary's report: The minutes for the December 13th meeting were read and accepted.

A discussion was had that centered around the motions that are brought by, and, to the Board. Once a motion is verbalized it should be written down and then read to the audience so as to be recorded factually. Additionally, Once a motion is made, the additional process of fully researching all the facts should be done. A vote on a motion should be taken only after we have asked if all the facts are in evidence. A vote can be delayed on a pending motion if additional information is required.

Treasurer's report:

- Income from Dues/Donations was \$4,260
- The total of expenses for Tender repair, Utilities, Truck Fuel, Paging and Telephone was: \$4,278.
- Year to date income is \$65,300 with a budget of \$47,800 so we are \$17,000 ahead.
- Year to date expenses total is \$48,500 with a budget of \$53,900 so we are about \$5,400 ahead.
- Year to date Net Income is \$16,800.

Treasurer activities coming up:

- Issue W-2s for WFPA employees
- File Yavapai County property tax exemption annual report
- Develop 2009 annual dues request letter
- Order 2009 window placards
- Prepare the 4th quarter payroll tax reports for Fed and State.
- Attend the AFDA education conference in Laughlin.

- Myra added that we received a check at the pancake breakfast for \$250.
- Tim read the thank you letter from the Shaffer's to the Volunteer Firefighters for the benefit of the community present.

A motion was made and passed to accept the Treasurer's report as read.

Fire Chief's report:

- There were no fire and medical calls.
- A few citizen's assists.
- An APS power line was down.
- A Carbon monoxide alarm call – where Carbon monoxide was present.
- Bud made a thank you to all those involved over the past year with the Pancake Breakfasts, holiday parties, and other functions and thanks for their efforts after each function for clean up.

These functions are a major communications tool for Bud and the Board members.

- The communications system and Reverse 911 for Dispatchers, Firefighters and Station Bosses is in. The Dispatchers have this reverse 911 on their PCs at home.
- Pagers can be turned in.
- Public parking on the WFPA property was discussed.
 - Bud's understanding is that public parking is not allowed on the property. However, he has approved short term requests and has seen long term, unapproved parking - vehicles towed. Bud asks that the Board take up the discussion.
- Bud clarifies that the AFDA meeting in Laughlin is January 16-18.
- Because Bud is going to be on vacation for the next two weeks, his absence as Fire Chief will be covered by all those remaining in the area.
- Bob Neberman asks Bud to create an organizational structure that accounts for chain of command.
- Dan Hauck brings up discussion on fire fighting responsibilities and certifications as regards **fighting structure fires** and **rescue for structure fires, vehicle fires** and **rescue for vehicle fires**, etc. Dan says that 2001-2002 were the last classes with WFPA attendance and certification for the **structure rescue**. Within the next 3 to 5 months, Mayer will be offering classes for some of these certifications. Aside from training - the equipment costs about \$1,200 to 2,000 to outfit a firefighter. Dan requests that the Board consider the training, certification and equipment for structure rescue and vehicle rescue training.

- Bob Neberman suggests we have attorney Bob Whittington review our by-laws, our articles of incorporation and the State's definition of what we can and cannot do as a volunteer organization as regards structure fire fighting and rescue. Tim Mcfarlan notes that we need to define what services we can and cannot offer and what happens when those who **are certified** are **not available**.
- Chuck Bowers asks what will home insurers do - knowing that we do not support structure firefighting. The answer is that the WFD was originally put together for **forest fire fighting** but that **some firefighters** have been certified, 'along the line', for rescue in the instance that persons are caught in a burning structure.

A Motion was made and passed to accept the Fire Chief's report.

A Motion was made and passed that we have attorney Bill Whittington do the reviews and make recommendations to the Board for our by-laws, our articles of incorporation and the State's definition of what we can and cannot do as a volunteer organization as regards structure fire fighting and rescue. We will also ask Bill Whittington to look at our SOP's and validate that we have all the proper documents on file at the AZ Corporation Commission, IRS, Yavapai County etc. appropriate for WFPA.

Old Business:

Fire Department flooring: Chuck Bowers and Sharon Atwood found that the carpeting we picked out is no longer available at Home Depot. But we did find similar carpeting at one of the other locales. The sample of tile to be donated by Trevor and Susan Naugle does not match. The details of getting the rooms painted first were discussed. A schedule of when to paint and carpet took forever to discuss.

Dumpsters: Chuck Bowers reports that he has been working closely with Shari Sumner and the signup notice for the 2009 service has been posted with a fee of \$180 - to wit it should have been \$90 – but in June we are going to do a review and monies can be left alone or reallocated then.

- Currently there is no more wait list. All parties seeking dumpster service have been accommodated.
- Shari is sending full written receipts to all with lock combos as payment is received. Sending computerized statements is in the works.

- Shari has been calling by phone to insure all parties are fully informed on their service.

Bob Neberman was asked about and presented his previous discussions with Waste Management as regards the level of container service, the rate and billing schedule and 'flow locks' that were negotiated for the WFPA. Bob noted that Patriot had agreed to the same terms when he spoke with them.

And, when Bob contacted Waste Management to inform them that the WFPA will not assume responsibility for the dumpsters after all and that we have re-transferred the program back to Shari Sumner - Bob told WM that it would be in their best interest if all of the considerations discussed with the WFPA were provided to Shari Sumner. Chuck and Shari will work with WM to secure the details of these considerations in a new or revised contract.

Tim McFarlan suggested we continue to pursue a review by Attorney Bob Wittington as regards the details surrounding a 'use permit'.

Norm Davis spoke as to the history of the establishment of the original dumpster program. i.e. an approved 'Amended Use Permit' for the dumpsters on the WFPA property - that the County never did type up and present to the WFPA.

Bob Neberman stated that all we are trying to determine is possible tax and insurance liabilities.

Chuck Bowers reviewed his discussions with the County regarding a requirement for a small business license and found it is not required. Chuck also revealed that he had contacted Waste Management as to their insurance liability – and they stated that they have no responsibility to provide such coverage. Chuck contacted the Walker Fire Department insurer John Hays with VFIS and found that they provide various liabilities on our property but that it is limited to emergency response operations and not those that may occur from operating a dumpster program.

When asked, Chuck's insurance agent suggested that private, commercial 'umbrella' insurance could be purchased by the Sumners, and we recognize that additional costs be passed to the consumer. Shari will check with her homeowner's insurance.

New Business.

John Horvat announced a reminder that Workers of Walker is being reorganized. Meeting is at 10:00. Chairperson and Secretary will be up for grabs. Please attend.

Parking at Firehouse: A lengthy discussion was had regarding vehicle parking, permissions, responsibilities, liabilities, weather, location, emergencies, other functions, plowing, etc. Additional discussion was had surrounding the possibility of expanding the parking areas.

A motion was made That, during inclement weather - to allow short term parking where dates requested, license number and a phone number are communicated to Bud or next in command and approved. 4 Board members voted for and Board members Joe Lupa and Carol Tocker voted against. The motion was passed.

Fire District report by Nick Wold.

The forming district Web Site has been updated. The site is listed on the WalkerFire.org.

A community meeting is going to be scheduled and advertised up to 6 weeks in advance. Bill Whittington will be there, the Board and all community members are invited.

Several questions will be posed to Bill such as: if a Fire District is voted and approved, does the existing WFPA Board have the authority to transfer assets to the District? We want to understand all of the ramifications of such an event as this, and other issues.

Mark Keegan announces that there is Firefighting training at Embry Riddle March 17-21. Bud notes April 3 and 4 is tied up for the Firefighters.

Myra announces a community pot luck picnic combined with Peggy Zink's yard sale, along about June. As long as the Board and Fire Chief approve the use of the facilities – the WOW meeting will put it into motion.

Meeting adjourned 10:10 a.m.