



Minutes – WFPA Board of Directors Meeting – January 11, 2025

8:45am – Executive Session

Board members present for the meeting – Clyde McKay, Bill Loughrige, Marti Mahoney, Jeff Anderson, Lance Gilbert, Louie Reale, Roger Nusbaum, Rudy Erdman.

9:15am – Begin General Session

- The Quorum has been met.

APPROVE AGENDA -

Bill Loughrige makes the motion to approve the meeting agenda. Jeff Anderson seconds the motion. Agenda is approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Residents' questions regarding information on the WFPA Budget. Is it, will it be provided on the Webpage? Donations for Chip & Haul vs donations for WFPA education to the community needs to be made for clear.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Clyde McKay

Big Thanks to all the Board members for their work and efforts this last month on the Trash new set up and assistance for community. Good feedback from a lot of residents for the new program.

Bill Loughrige makes the Motion to approve report. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Marti Mahoney

Minutes from the last meeting have been sent to the Board and Chris for posting on webpage. Bill Loughrige makes the motion to accept the minutes from last month and dispense with the reading of the minutes. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lance Gilbert

- Signed county exemption forms for 2025.
- Executed payment for the new truck. Payment for transport is ready.
- New donation cards ordered and approved. Cost was \$424.99
- Fall newsletter cost \$5956 – line Item #11 is being corrected. Calendar expense was put here by mistake.
- Donations this month were \$51,101 in response to newsletter and social media outreach to the community.
- Expenses for this month were 19,160.88 not including payroll or Ramp liability \$2,616.58
- WTCS cash on hand is \$38,209.64 - (estimate WTCS will cost \$43,000-\$44,000 to operate in 2025: includes insurance, locks, clean up, lot maintenance, Best Pick services).

- The new truck expense has not been added to the books yet. Lance needs to also submit to county. Lance will be including this information for January and updates for February's meeting.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report by Bill Loughrige. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT – Roger Nusbaum

Calls

- 1 Structure fire.

Training

HAZMAT and driver training

Fleet

- Engine 85 needs to go in to address potential overheating issue.
- We're probably not going to paint/wrap the new engine but there will be an expense for the graphics. I've been in touch with CAFMA that we need seats and tires right away. Unfortunately, they are not interested in the old Engine 86.

Personnel

Firefighter Manning passed his national EMT test.

Facilities

We rearranged the station house to better situate the new Engine 86. The workout equipment has been moved away from the kitchen area.

PRCC

No report.

Other

We submitted to the state for the Rural Fire Capacity Grant for PPE.

DFFM ARPA Grant for wildland apparatus up to \$400,000. The entire program is for \$5 million, which implies 12 or 13 departments can get an award. We were encouraged to apply despite not being a district. There are 144 districts in the state but there is a requirement that departments be at least 80% of volunteers, which weeds out many departments of course. It appears they are more concerned about weeding out municipal departments as opposed to weeding out 501c3s. Our two primary points of contact with DFFM were also supportive of our applying. We will be applying for a new Type 6 engine. Based on consulting with Ed McDonald from Hughes who helped with Type 3, we will be asking for \$300,000.

Also, DFFM related, an issue came up where a different non-profit/volunteer fire department with a wildland program got into some sort of serious trouble with the state. We do not know which department (not us!) or what happened, but it is important to understand how lucky we've been with this window of opportunity we've had sending trucks out. We have a strong reputation for professionalism with the state and it wouldn't be logical to have fewer resources eligible to go out but we do get to go out of the area at the privilege of the state.

Discussion –

- Roger to provide information on Engine 86 to Jeff Anderson for sale or auction options. Jeff will be researching different ways to sell for funds to come back.
- Bill asks if the existing tires on Engine 86 can be re-used on the "new" truck? Roger will review to see if they will fit, as well as the age / certification fits for the new truck
- Roger reminds Board earlier review on Firefighter Manning being reimbursed for his EMT classes. Again, this is approved. And Roger also notes FF Manning only wants 50% of the cost with the rest as a donation back to WFPA intent.
- Updated new title for the new truck needs to be done. Jeff Anderson will provide information to Bill Loughrige to complete once the truck has been received next week.

- Chief reminder that the Air Cascade system is still needed. The new truck does not offer this equipment, and it is still needed in the station, or installed on one of the trucks. Cost expenses were approved on this last year. Roger will review if this can be added to the new truck.
- Engine 86 will need to come out of the station house and a temporary location is needed. Jeff will be researching sale possibilities. Temporary parking needs to have power options. And transport of truck for sale to Phoenix needs to be reviewed by Roger and Jeff (drive or transport).
- Discussion regarding Road maintenance conditions or poorly maintained road conditions that do not allow for Fire Truck access. It is not WFPA to provide this maintenance. The County may not offer any assistance. This then falls to the residents and 'road group' in that area to maintain.

Bill Loughrige makes the Motion to accept the Fire Chief's report. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Trash – Louie Reale and Clyde McKay

The EL locks have been installed, and they are working as expected. Clyde, Louie and Jeff offered an opportunity to meet at the Station for a couple of hours to provide instructions, training and assistance. This was well received.

- The black rubber trim on the locks do not appear to be staying on. Decision to wait on any replacement to see what impact it has on the lock
- Lock #3 has had a couple minor issues. Clyde has addressed it and it is currently working.
- One dumpster has a broken handle. Lance / Louie are going to address repair this next week.
- Louie worked on a WIFI extension area which is now past the last dumpster and is providing better connection for usage.
- Trash "income" addressed. The monies paid for trash service cover the dumpsters and pick up costs; the yearly insurance costs; gravel for the parking area; county fees; and maintenance equipment (locks, etc) costs. Any overage monies left go towards the Chip & Haul costs.

Insurance – Clyde McKay and Lance Gilbert

- Insurance for the new truck will be reviewed by Bill Loughridge
- Insurance for the Trash renewal is not due until May
- Potato Patch substation renewal will be kept as currently covered and compliant.

Station Maintenance – Rudy Erdman

- Rudy will be replacing the lock on the back door (facing the parking/dumpster area) with a new combination lock this next week. Same # access as Firehouse door
- Request to Rudy to investigate the heater in Roger's office and thermostat.

Station Improvements – Clyde McKay

- Good point of view from Rudy Erman that "Improvements" do not necessarily mean repairs.
- Discussion on how the Board can improve the education to the community. Options include providing more information on the yearly budget and funds. Providing a chart / thermometer sign at the station showing yearly expenses vs what has been donated.

Walker Fire Webpage –

Chris Alex has been working on the new Trash website and will be now continuing to complete the new Walker webpage. This is intended to be more user-friendly with clear links to information; donations; Trash; sign up for emails and newsletters.

Intent at this time is for this to be launched in February.

Clyde and Lance will work with Chris on showing the financial information and the yearly budget information available for the community. And the information on the yearly expenses vs the donations receive to date information.

Fund Raising –

- Jeff Anderson hosted the first Walker Soup Night on Friday 10th. Sold out. FB posts will be sent prior to each sale, and the intent is to offer two soup nights per month until April
- Jeff will confirm with Antelope Hills on the next Walker Golf Tournament for April 19th Saturday date. Information and promotions will go out starting February.
- Fish Fry Night starts in April. Bill has information on fish prices and will fwd email to Jeff. This is to be a sit down (inside station) type dinner. JULY date is changing to July 11th. Marti will notify Chris to change on the webpage event calendar.

Grants – Jeff Anderson

Jeff will be sending the applications out on Wednesday this week. He is working on the grant going towards a new water tender truck needed to replace the truck aging out. Grant offered is \$150,000. The size of the truck, 4wd, 2000 gal max tank information from Roger to be provided as Jeff searches for that purchase.

Future improvements and grant money to be used for possible larger building for one or two trucks. Consideration and discussion to move Station #1 a viable option?

Firewise Report – Loren Bykerk

- Loren asks when the WFPA wants to hold the Chip and Haul dates? Discussion on timing vs the WFPA events. Roger comments on the lack of winter snow and moisture and recommends it needs to be done early Spring or late Fall. Board Consensus is for Loren to request County to provide Chipper the first week of May. Slash to be brought in the month of April
- Louie wants to be actively involved with Loren in the coordination of the Chip & Haul. The gravel and large percentage of it, needs to be pushed back. The intent is for the C&H slash to be at the back side of the parking area and the dumpsters to be pulled closer towards the Station House. The two trees in the center area will be removed, allowing for more access. The well head is now repaired and covered to avoid any damage.
- Costs in 2024 were \$25k. Costs for 2025 and lowering those cost include looking at the different hauling options; and not replacing the gravel (or different type of gravel).
- WCAA request from Loren on the Firewise program working side by side with WFPA. Discussion with Board initial thoughts are that if this moves forward that the Firewise is a Committee under the WFPA with Loren being the head of that committee. Loren will be bringing this back to WCAA for review and decision. Per Loren, the current WCAA members have not stepped in to take on the running of C&H coordination or organization.
- Suggestion from Loren to consider a different type of equipment like an “air burner” in lieu of the County chipper which is aging out. These vary in size, operation, towable options and costs. Jeff Anderson and Louie to research.

Merchandise – Marti Mahoney

- Calendar sales have been going on since mid December and in to January.
- Current sales on Calendars and Walker Merchandise = \$ 1115.00 to date.
- A sale day was held at Station on December 21st; and Marti met other residents for sales on 23rd.
- The new support vintage shirts were received on Friday 10th. A sale day will be promoted by Karen in Phoenix area, and Marti in Walker in January to sell with Calendars. And will include the Antigua higher quality items (embroidered jackets and golf shirts).

- Discussion for Merch team to have a side Information Table for Community Education on Walker webpage; links to Donations, Trash, newsletters and emails; Brick sales; Flyer hand out; etc. Marti provides a sample of a flyer hand out / mailer for review and input. She will look into costs for printing. Intent is to have this prior to April events starting.

OLD BUSINESS –

Newsletter – Clyde McKay / Marti Mahoney

Clyde will be looking in to printers and costs prior to the Spring Newsletter going out.

Clyde noted that several of the newsletters are coming back (undeliverable) as Owners listed with their Walker address information in lieu of their primary mailing address. They may not have a mail box or receive mail in any way in Walker. We need to revise and update the Owner mailing list.

Bill will be checking in with Larry (current printer) on how they verify mailing addresses prior to sending out newsletters.

Cost savings to delete the addresses that are not correct or useable.

New Truck –

The new truck is currently on it's way to Walker. It is expected to arrive sometime in the next week.

- Decision to not paint or wrap the truck due to costs.
- New tires and seats are needed. This is being researched once the truck is on site.
- Insurance for truck and title will be completed after the truck arrives

NEW BUSINESS –

Clyde McKay wants to have 2025 focus on Community Education and information availability. This will start with the Info Table by Merchandise tables at events. And information and update webpage in February.

Clyde will also contact the trash subscribers and inquire if they are interested in receiving WFPA emails with the email addresses they've provided for trash. Not all of the subscribers are currently signed in to WFPA for notifications.

Public Comments –

Resident request that the Chip & Haul donations and information, that is done through WCAA group and not thru WFPA, is communicated more effectively to the community on where the donations need to be sent?

- Clyde comments on the earlier discussions for trash and Chip & Haul and Firewise. The Newsletter also includes information on WCAA as well as the Chip & Haul dates and costs and requests for donations. WCAA is responsible for sending out their information and updates.
- Lance confirms that the WFPA financials show a separate line item on the Chip & Haul and that the shortages that come after the WCAA grant and their donations are then covered by WFPA. All monies that are needed to cover the C&H expenses come from WCAA, the Grant and from the WFPA.
- Loren Bykerk confirms that the request for grants for Chip & Haul currently done thru WCAA. That information is provided in their newsletters or webpage. Last year 2024 they received no donations during the C&H timeline, and the slash was the largest ever delivered for C&H.

11.25 – Adjournment

Bill Loughrige makes the Motion to adjourn and Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor and we are adjourned.

End