



**Minutes – WFPA  
Board of Directors Meeting – February 8, 2025**

**8:45am – Executive Session**

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

**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** – Questions for the Trash WTCS. These will be addressed later in the meeting.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT** – Clyde McKay

Everything appears to be going well with the latest improvements to the Trash and new locks. And well received by most of the Community.

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. Rudy Erdman seconds. All in favor

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – Lance Gilbert

1. Paid March installment of VFIS. Also new truck has been added to the policy.
2. Worked with accountant to remove old Engine 86 and update assets and depreciation schedule  
Still need to provide an accountant with copy of bill of sale for the new truck, Jeff will provide
3. 4200 General fundraising and event income showing \$555 from Chef Jeff’s soup fundraiser.
4. Winter Merchandise sales still strong at \$1827.67 plus \$120 in calendar sales. Plus, additional \$280 brought in today from Marti Mahoney on January sales.
5. Donations this month were \$14,245
6. Expenses for this month were 13,325 not including payroll or Ramp liability \$1,651.20

Large expenses included propane (all tanks filled); truck service; and merchandise purchase for inventory

7. WTCS cash on hand is \$54,764.59

This will fully fund the 2025 expenses estimated (operating, Best Pick, Gravel, Insurance, locks).

Bill Loughrige question regarding the donations coming in for 2025. Are these remaining steady currently to meet our yearly budget figures? Lance confirms that we are holding well and if these continue as received for the last few months, we should be covering our operating expenses.

Discussion on propane and consideration to switch to different supplier. Lance confirms that we are currently using a pre-buy option and costs with Barrett. Lance will research a possible change to Yavapai Propane, as well as if the tanks are leased or owned by WFPA.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report by Bill Loughrige. Rudy Erdman seconds. All in favor.

## **FIRE CHIEF REPORT** – Roger Nusbaum

### **Calls**

One wildland fire, one possible structure fire (it wasn't) and two medical calls.

### **Training**

Structure fire tactics and Engine 86 operations and stocking the rig.

Group packtesting will start on Feb 23.

### **Fleet**

We may be sending Engine 86 in to address a couple minor fixes.

The grant for the water tender did not work out. We should come up with some sort of intermediate term planning to start to address upgrading at least one of the water tenders.

I have quite a few talking points for the water tender discussion for intermediate term planning.

### **Personnel**

Firefighter Aubrecht is going through the EMT program.

We have one recruit taking the basic wildland firefighter class at this year's academy.

The Basin Ops Drill is scheduled for April 4 and 5.

### **Facilities**

No report.

### **PRCC**

No report.

### **Other**

We are waiting to hear from the state about the Rural Fire Capacity Grant for PPE.

We submitted to the State for the ARPA grant for \$343,804 for a Type 6 Engine. That number is based on a quote from Hughes. I also have other quotes from a different vendor for less money that might allow us to take delivery right away if we are awarded the grant.

There is a 20–28-month lag time to build a new Type 6 Engine from Hughes. Other vendors may have some available in a quicker time impact.

Consideration on moving Brush 80 up to Big Bug Station. Expenses and type of structure needed for engine to be researched for a shed/garage if this moves fwd.

Discussion regarding the existing water tenders and future planning for replacement. The size of tender required; 4wd vs 2wd; size of water tank (minimum 1800 to 2000 gal needed). Fire inspector requires a minimum of 4000 gal under roof. Currently we do not have a 4wd tender that can access some of the harder roads and locations if needed. Grants that Jeff Anderson and Roger have researched may cover a portion of the costs for a new (or used) tender. Jeff Anderson will begin research on tenders, costs, sizes. And consideration to sell the older water tender to assist in covering some of the expenses.

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS** –

#### Trash – Louie Reale and Clyde McKay

Louie, Clyde and Lance had some minor repairs to the locks and dumpsters completed this last week. New chains to be installed in lieu of the current larger chains in the coming week.

Clyde and Louie met with residents when possible to assist with the EL lock usage.

Continuing trash subscriptions are being received. Boxes were installed at the exterior of Station Office for paperwork and for completed contracts.

#### Insurance –

Bill Loughrige has completed the information on the updated Policy. Emailed to Lance for information. The vehicle insurance on the old Engine 86 needs to be removed. The new Engine 86 is covered.

#### Station Maintenance – Rudy Erdman

- Lock on the back door (facing the parking/dumpster area) replacement with a new combination lock will be scheduled towards the end of the month.
- Lance refers to the key that is supposed to open the EL lock on the station door is not working. And the front office door deadbolt, keys are not working for some board members. Rudy will be checking on these.
- Request to Rudy to investigate the heater in Roger's office and thermostat.

#### Station Improvements – Clyde McKay

Suggestion from Clyde to consider an auxiliary committee to offer water, food, etc to the Fire Crews during calls. Roger notes that Bud Melnor is the Station Boss during these calls and we can coordinate with Bud for any needs that arise. The station stocks water, Gatorade, snacks. Roger notes that the crew typically takes food/ snacks in their packs for calls.

Clyde will reach out to Bud to coordinate and provide a list of contact people for him.

#### Walker Fire Webpage –

Clyde McKay – the website is DONE and expected launch to go live in the next weeks. More user friendly for accessing information, trash sign up, calendar and events, gallery, Board information, WFPA merchandise.

Request that the Merchandise area is updated. Marti Mahoney will contact Karen Gonzales to review and get new photos and prices to Chris.

Community information that is shared will be updated continually on the webpage; as well as FaceBook information.

### **FUND RAISING** – Jeff Anderson

Golf Tournament – Discussion on Dates as the previous April date considered was Easter weekend. Consensus to look to an October date. Jeff will verify with Antelope Hills.

Need to review with committee for tournament on swag bag, raffle prizes, date, volunteers.

Fish Fry – First event scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>. Intent is for sit down inside the Station.

Bill has located competitive pricing for the fish and will coordinate with Jeff on picking up the food.

Jeff would like to have a "dry -run thru" – Scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>; 5:30 pm. This will be only for the Board members family; and fire crew volunteers, family. Not open to community

Need head count for March 21<sup>st</sup> from Board and Roger on crew sent to Jeff.

Heaters will be needed. Jeff will reach out closer to March date for assistance.

Discussion regarding fund raising continued support and push. Jeff Anderson is working on the large sign for the Station to show gauge on operating expenses vs donations. He had to revise the original

sign made. Hoping to have this in place by March. Information shared to the community regarding the latest fire calls, new Engines needs to continue and be added with the Spring Newsletter.

#### Grants – Jeff Anderson

Jeff has sent applications out last month. Waiting for feedback responses.

#### Firewise Report – Loren Bykerk

Chip and Haul Slash date will be scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup>; continuing thru April 28<sup>th</sup>. Chipper from County requested for the first week of May.

Louie will be working and coordinating with Loren on the organization of equipment for moving slash, dumpster truck pickups. WCAA will be setting up table and information regarding C&H and the need for donations. No donations received last year C&H and that needs to be encouraged.

Dumpsters will be moved closer to the station house to allow for more room in the back area for slash. The dead trees in the center need to be removed when C&H starts to add to slash pile.

Discussion regarding costs and how to encourage residents to donate or pay for utilizing the C&H service. Agreed that information and announcements will ask for a minimal donation of \$10 per pick up truck and \$20 per trailer load.

A large sign is needed with information about and for the Chip & Haul requirements, donation requests, timing, filling out the volunteer sheets. Chris will be asked to work up a QR code that can be added to the sign and accessed quickly by residents dropping off slash.

Discussion on setting a specific time and/or days for dropping off slash; blocking off the area after hours. Further organization will be completed in March.

WCAA FireWise Preparedness day is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Fire Station.

Roger notes this is a training day. Agrees for the event to be schedule any time after 1pm.

#### Merchandise – Marti Mahoney

Karen Gonzales has been working on orders in January and February for the WFPA merchandise apparel items. Information has been copied to Clyde McKay and Lance Gilbert for costs, and an inventory sheet on current merchandise has been sent.

Lance is working with a new phone app that doesn't require a charge machine. And is a cheaper option on expenses for charges. He will be forwarding that info to Karen, Marti.

January sales days were held by Karen and Karla in the Valley; and by Marti Mahoney in Walker. Results were good sales for winter months.

The Merchandise team is working on new items. Marti provided information on suggested items (Flasks, Lawn chairs) to move on from these ideas currently due to the expense and the minimum purchases required. The Hawaiian Shirts are still in process. Marti confirmed that several board members are interested, and the consensus is to move forward obtaining these for the FAD event.

#### **OLD BUSINESS –**

##### New Truck –

The Truck has arrived. Fire crews worked on prep and set up for the truck. Graphics are scheduled to be completed in the next week.

##### Community Education - Clyde McKay

The new webpage will help with sharing information and will be able to offer education about living in Walker and being aware of the fire conditions.

Request back to Roger to consider 5 min videos from the Fire Dept / Crews on safety training and being firewise for education purposes.

## **NEW BUSINESS** –

Newsletter – Clyde McKay / Marti Mahoney

The Spring Newsletter needs to be started in March; and deadline to mail out in April.

Newsletter needs to contain information on the Annual Meeting and any bio's for candidates looking to run for the WFPA Board.

Marti Mahoney will be sending out a reminder to the Board members for their reports. And meeting with Clyde to discuss the information and items needed. Request for any new Walker photos to be included.

Annual Meeting – Scheduled May 24<sup>th</sup>

Announcement to be emailed and posted on FB for anyone interested in running; bios and information needed for the Spring Newsletter

Proxies / Ballots need to be printed and included with email and posting on FB - Send in March.

Discussion for food – consensus is to move away from a potluck, or a pancake breakfast option. Jeff Anderson suggests burgers and hot dogs with chips for \$5 donation; and offering water only. He will get a committee formed for that day's event on cooking and clean up.

Possible option suggestion from Bill for coffee, water and pastries set up at the beginning of meeting.

## **Public Comments** –

Request from the floor regarding the increase in cost for the Trash subscriptions vs the information that is shared on the WTCS financials and in the newsletter. There is a comment that the funds left in WTCS are moved to the General Fund and why then have subscriptions increased.

Clyde McKay and Lance Gilbert address that the account for WTCS pays for the dumpsters, pick ups and insurance. The funds moved are paid out of General fund cover the repairs, locks, dumpster area gravel repairs after chip & haul is completed. Lance will work on more information provided at a later date on the WTCS funds and expenses.

Request for clarifications from the floor regarding Burn Permits. Who should residents be contacting? Roger confirms that Walker (Potato Patch, MPA) should be contacting Yavapai County for any request on a burn permit. This is for burning yard waste items, not for warming fires. This can be accessed online thru the Yavapai County.

## **10:45 – Adjournment**

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

End