



## **Minutes – WFPA Board of Directors Meeting – March 8, 2025**

### **8:45am – Executive Session**

Board members present for the meeting – Clyde McKay, Bill Loughrige, Jeff Anderson, Lance Gilbert, Louie Reale, Roger Nusbaum, 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 – none**

### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Clyde McKay**

Things have been moving along nicely in the last month. Appreciation to the Board members for their continued work on the Trash, event planning, community outreach.

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**

1. Received notice from VFIS old E86 has been removed from the policy.
2. Received a State Remittance Feb 20<sup>th</sup> for \$5480.72. (Misty Fire payroll)
3. Donations this month were \$5569.12
4. Expenses for this month were \$12121.51 Not including payroll or Ramp liability \$1,261.48
5. WTCS cash on hand is \$53,986.23. Amount less \$605.52 due to WFPA

Discussion – Lance will be working on information on the budget for future uploading to the website.

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

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

### **Calls**

One medical call and one illegal burn.

### **Training**

Structure fire tactics with the new engine, RT-130 and first group pack test where nine of nine passed. The next group pack test will be March 23.

### **Fleet**

We have a chance for a possible backup for fleet maintenance with Yavapai Fire Consortium which is the name for the departments being rolled up by Williamson Valley. I have the contract but need to do a thorough review and may need to ask for help.

### **Personnel**

The idea came up for weekend station manning during the fire season like we used to do. There was a lack of interest before but some interest has been expressed. We used to pay the FF2 straight pay rate which these days is between \$20-\$25/hour. In the past we've done this on Saturday, Sunday and holidays. If a fire starts when the station is being manned, we'd likely shorten our response time by about 15 minutes.

### **Facilities**

An idea we've kicked around before, but should we consider some sort of added garage capacity out back. Adding one stall by taking out the hose drying infrastructure seems plausible.

I spoke to United Fire in Tucson about a Cascade air system. I have a quote for \$3281. I followed up by asking how much more compressors would be but have not heard. The response has been very bad, I had to call twice to get the quote. I also spoke to Breathingair.com. They promised a quote by Tuesday but it never came, then promised one by Thursday and it hasn't come but a full refurbished system including a compressor would be about \$18,000 per a lengthy phone call.

### **PRCC**

More from my meeting at our station house with Yavapai Fire Consortium, they are joining PRCC which will be adding one more fire dispatcher to accommodate the call volume. They were very impressed with our station house, fleet and volunteer numbers. A few of the departments they are taking in are volunteer oriented partially or completely and they asked for input on volunteer participation and retention.

### **Other**

I spoke to the Assistant Fire Management Officer from Forest Service about whether staffing levels will be impacted by whatever is going on with the changes in the federal government. As of mid-February their staffing for front line fire personnel was not going to be effected but there is some level of confusion related to non-front line fire personnel and as I mentioned mid-month, Wildland Coordinator Doug who is very dialed in believes there will be another round of layoffs.

We potentially stand to benefit from any change at the Forest Service for anyone who finds themselves out of work but wanting to do IMT work. Older Engine Captains are engine boss qualified and often have higher qualifications, so called single resources, like task force leader, strike team leader or division supervisor.

The topic of Forest Service fallout, if there is any fallout, raised the issue of whether we should get a department pickup truck. It is much easier for a single resource to do their job in a department vehicle and the pay rate ranges from \$150/day to \$250/day depending on ½ ton, ¾ ton or 1 ton. There would also be utility locally for having a pickup. For now, this is just talking point, not a requested action item. We don't know what will happen at the Forest Service, nor do we know whether and FS personnel would come over. It's just an idea.

We are pretty much out of turnout gear for structure fires. We are issuing gear to Charlie and Boh on the wildland out of area crew. They requested it in case when they are coming or going to an assignment, and they happen onto an incident that requires structure PPE. A couple of years ago, there was a terrible vehicle accident in front of them near Las Vegas for example. Structure fire PPE is not for the firefighters to keep, it is issued for as long as they are with the department. John McReynolds expressed an interest in taking the four-day class we put people through every September and we may not have gear for him. A set of pants and coat is about \$2500. The other PPE is relatively expensive but in the low hundreds range.

We've been advised about a change in the burn permit process which will take some work to get the message out effectively. We now need to use prescottarea.burnpermits.com. It is through that new website where PRCC can see active burn permits in our area which is important to the dispatching process for a possible "illegal burn" call.

We were awarded the Rural Fire Capacity Grant which is the small PPE grant we get every year. We're still waiting on the ARPA Grant for the Type 6

**Discussion items:**

Roger is currently reviewing a contract for a mobile maintenance service option for the fleet. This would save time with a service coming to the station, and avoid trucks being out of service for lengthy time. Our current service is thru CFMA.

Motion from Bill Loughrige to move forward to increase budget and payroll to cover crew on the weekend manning of the station of \$8000-10,000. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor.

Roger will review with the crew on availability and shifts. He will provide information to the Board on when this will start. This also allows for additional training to occur for those firefighters manning the weekend shifts.

Research and quoting will be done by Louie Reale, Clyde McKay and Roger regarding a new larger garage building onsite for the possible larger water tender and UTV. Station #1 location to be moved onsite, or different site. Locations to be researched and costs for moving.

The Cascade Air system is still needed. Roger notes a minimum of (4) cylinders – approx. \$2500 each. Roger is pricing and Louie will also look into options with other sources. Bill Loughrige makes the motion for budget \$10,000 increase towards the Cascade Air system purchase. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor.

Roger notes that additional gear is needed - minimum of (1) set of coat/pants for wildland gear. He'd suggest that we consider buying (3) sets. Costs approx. \$2500 each. Marti Mahoney notes that a poster is being worked on to have at the station during events and the "INFO" table that shows the costs of all the different gear items. She asks Roger to please forward the item and costs.

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

Louie and Clyde worked on a few issues that came up with the locks this last month. They've replaced or fixed the chains holding the locks for easier access. Clyde or Louie will be contacting the Best Pick driver in regard to how he unlocks and places the locks when emptying the dumpsters.

Bill Loughridge asks about the current 2025 subscription quantity vs 2024. Clyde notes that currently we have received (210) contracts thru March 2025 which does not include the part time contracts that come in for Summer and seasonal residents. 2024 had (225) total for the year.

Station Maintenance – Rudy Erdman (not in attendance)

- EL lock on the back door has been completed. The office door / lock has been fixed.
- Request to Rudy to investigate the heater in Roger's office and thermostat. Rudy has quotes sent email to the Board. Need to determine if and when this has been ordered vs the costs noted.

### Insurance –

Bill Loughrige has completed the insurance for the new truck and taken the old #86 off. We are currently covered until Insurance is due in May

### Station Improvements – Clyde McKay

Reference the comments and discussion with Chief Report for Louie Reale, Roger Nusbaum and Clyde to look into quotes, building size and structure for new garage building.

### Walker Fire Webpage – Clyde McKay

The new webpage was launched last month. Big thank you to Chris for all his hard work and time.

### **FUND RAISING** – Jeff Anderson

Golf Tournament – Discussion on Dates and he will be reaching out to Antelope Hills for an October date. Information to be added to the Spring Newsletter and future emails.

Verification with Chris on last years 2024 QR code for Tournament registration and information.

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

### Fish Fry – Jeff Anderson

Schedule “dry run” for Fish Fry on March 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday evening 5:30 p.m.

This is for the Board members and spouses; firefighter volunteers and spouses only.

Roger to verify the quantity of firefighter to Jeff.

Heaters needed. Volunteers for set up, cooking and clean up. Jeff to reach out for set up. Check on the kitchen stock (plates, utensils, etc) by Jeff.

### Grants – Jeff Anderson / Roger Nusbaum

Roger has received notification of grant approval for the small PPE approved request.

We have not heard back on the larger grant request.

Suggestion from Roger that although we cannot request the grant again for a truck, we may be able to request the funds towards a new garage building. The Del E Webb foundation does not have deadline dates and release/grant funds often throughout the year. The Board votes yes for Roger to pursue this grant request option.

Bill Loughrige notes that there is service he has seen noted as “Grant Station”. Jeff and Roger will research this to see if there are grant writers we can use.

### Firewise Report – Loren Bykerk

WCAA FireWise Preparedness day is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Fire Station; start time 1:00 p.m.

Loren notes continued assessments this month for 8 to 10 acres and quotes due to come in.

The Yavapai County Firewise meeting was attended by Loren. Current forest clean up at Lynx Lake area on the West side of Walker road. This will be moving to the East side when completed. Plans to burn the large slash piles in 2026.

### Merchandise – Marti Mahoney

Karen Gonzales has released ordered for Merchandise (kids apparel, glasses, hoodies, Hawaiian shirts). These are all due in March.

Plans for the Merchandise team to meet in April prior to events starting to go thru stock, sort and inventory. Pull old items for clearance sales. Lance to follow up with Karen regarding the quarterly inventory information.

Storage is a growing issue for the Merchandise items. Marti Mahoney has requests from the Merch team to review options.... 1) new storage shed; 2) utilizing the garage bldg.; Roger's office. The discussion and Board agreement with Roger's approval to utilize Roger's office. New shelf unit and bins will be picked up by Marti Mahoney prior to the Clean up Day. Bill Loughrige makes motion to approve funds towards additional shelving and bins for merchandise. Jeff Anderson seconds. All in favor.

Information Table will be set up for each event. This will be handled by Marti Mahoney and the Merch team. Intent is to provide the WFPA walker Flyer; trash information; water use agreement; poster for Fire Gear costs, etc. Marti provides the information on pricing for printing the Flyer. Agreement by Board for printing (500) copies – Cost \$90. She will send this info to Larry.

### **OLD BUSINESS** –

#### **Community Education** - Clyde McKay

Reminder request back to Roger to consider 5 min videos from the Fire Dept / Crews on safety training and being firewise for education purposes. Roger will discuss with crew at next training day. The information table to be placed at events will also be providing community education materials.

#### **Spring Newsletter** - Marti Mahoney / Clyde McKay

- Request is made for all Officer articles to be sent before the end of March. Intended deadline for rough draft review by first of April; and sent to printer for mid-April mail out.
- Bio's needed for Lance and Marti; as well as any new candidates considering running
- Merchandise article needed from Karen Gonzeles. Marti will reach out to her.
- Bill notes that Joyce has requested and ordered a new mailing list.
- Clyde to review AD's for newsletter and will send out email.

#### **Chip & Haul** – Clyde McKay / Louie Reale

Loren Bykerk confirms the dates for C&H to start June 20<sup>th</sup>. County chipper to arrive by July 20<sup>th</sup>. He has confirmed with Best Pick for the start of (3) rolls offs to be on site by the 21<sup>st</sup>. Costs quoted \$270 per trip . Estimated 30-40 roll offs for 2025. Estimated \$8300 cost.

- Louie Reale will be coordinating to push gravel to one side of parking area. And to relocate the dumpsters closer to the station during C&H. This needs to occur before the 6.20.25 date
- Jeff Anderson has worked on a large C&H banner to be hung at the station with information, requested donation encouragement, and a QR code for access donation.
- Currently WCAA has approx. \$ 6300 in donations including the grant monies.
- The QR code access is tied into the WFPA account with funds allocated to the C&H and WTCS.
- Louie is researching the costs and availability for heavy equipment, back hoe, etc. Rental will include insurance coverage for equipment and the operator. Louie and Loren to discuss and coordinate.

### **NEW BUSINESS** –

#### **Station Clean up Day** – Clyde McKay

Events are starting in March with dry run for Fish Fry, and April events. Station clean up needed for kitchen, bathroom, shed storage, garage, parking area, etc. Taking stock of Kitchen inventory items. Scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> – following the Board meeting.

New merchandise shelves for Roger's Office will be picked up prior to be installed that day.

#### **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 by Clyde McKay

Events – Clyde McKay

Clyde has sent out a rough draft email to the Board with the different event committees and contact person. Please review and reply to Clyde. This will be sent out Community wide to encourage volunteers on set up, clean up, cooking, assistance at all events.

Discussion on if a designated “Clean up “ Committee is needed with main contact person that oversees every event. Agreement that each committee will be responsible for clean up after the event they are in charge of.

Tables, Chairs storage – Clyde McKay

Currently the tables and chairs are located on the Southeast corner of the station. Can these be moved, and is there an option for brackets to hold the tables and chairs in place. They have slipped and come down several times.

Discussion and agreement is that Roger and crew will be moving the fire equipment and shelves to that corner. And switch the location of tables and chairs to the opposite side. This allows for less traffic during clean up after events when Merchandise is trying to pack up and people are trying to store the tables and chairs.

Public Comments – None

**11:10 – Adjournment**

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

End