

Plattsmouth Rural Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
February 5, 2014

Calling the meeting to order – Acknowledgement of Open Meetings Law

Vice-President Parshall called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Vice-President Parshall acknowledged the Open Meetings Poster located on the wall of the District meeting room/office and available for review. Notice of the meeting was advertised in the Cass Gram, which is an approved publication of the Rural Fire Board and it was posted at the Post Office and on the front door of the rural fire station along with a copy of the agenda.

Board members present were Shane Parshall, Lynn Vinduska, Ken Winters, and Doug Stander. President John Holdridge was absent.

Public Forum – Reception of Delegates

No members of the public addressed the Board.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the January 8, 2014 meeting: Motion by Mr. Vinduska and second by Mr. Stander to waive the reading and approve the minutes as submitted to the membership previously by the recording secretary.

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting: Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

The following bills were presented for review and approval: Black Hills Energy - \$661.07; Cass County Treasurer - \$50.00 Boat Registration; CassGram - \$18.00; Sharp's Cleaning - \$30.00; Mullenax Auto - \$212.75 parts for 821; for a total of \$971.82. City of Plattsmouth: Invoice #167 – Fire-Mics.: \$202.67; Invoice #168 – EMS October 2013 Salaries: \$5,146.05; Invoice #169 – EMS-Mics.: \$1,969.37; Invoice #170 – Fire Mics: \$88.35; Invoice #171 – EMS Salaries for month of November 2013: \$7,245.92; Invoice #172 – EMS-Mics: \$1,088.28; Invoice #173 – Fire-Mics.: \$401.94; Invoice #174 – EMS December 2013 Salaries: \$6,369.03; Invoice #175 EMS-Mics.: \$1,220.84: for a total City invoices of \$20,855.21. Total Disbursements for February 2014: \$24,704.27. The City is now current on invoices to the District for payment through 2013, as far as we know.

Bank Balances: PSB – Deposit: \$20,855.21	Balance: \$34,684.46
(Deposit includes City payment of \$14,618.50 for 832. This truck is now paid for in full.)	
CCB – Deposit: \$2,563.48	Balance: \$11,067.15

The City Treasurer also submitted two invoices for vehicle insurance that had been previously paid by the District. The City seeks either payment or notification of check numbers used to pay these previous invoices. Mr. Vinduska will handle.

Mr. Vinduska has the paperwork needed to add the City of Plattsmouth to the title of this truck. He will work with the City to complete the paperwork.

Motion by Mr. Vinduska and second by Mr. Winters to pay all bills and accept the Treasurer's Report.

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting: Motion carried.

Public Hearing:

At 7:14 pm, Per Nebraska State Statute 13-511, Vice-President Parshall suspended the regular monthly meeting to open a Public Hearing for public input regarding the Plattsmouth Rural Fire District borrowing funds and revising the District budget in order to expend those funds to refurbish the 1990 International truck with 2,000 tank from Nebraska Forestry into a water tender for use by the fire department for emergency responses in the City and rural district. This public

hearing was to address the need to approve revising the budget in order to expend funds not budgeted in the current budget year in order to complete the refurbishing of the Forestry tanker. This expenditure will not increase tax asking by the district and will expend funds borrowed for the specific purpose of refurbishing a truck obtained from the Nebraska Forestry Department. These funds will be repaid over a period of time determined by the Board. Since the District has retired the previous loan for pumper 832, no increase in tax asking will be needed to repay this note. Notice of this public hearing was made by posting the agenda in the Post Office and on the front door of the rural fire station on Friday January 31, 2014.

Having no members of the public address the board at this time, the public hearing was closed and the regular meeting reconvened at 7:19 pm.

Old Business

Inter-local Agreement Negotiation Committee Report:

No change from the previous month. Negotiations have been suspended indefinitely while the District researches options for providing EMS to the patrons of the rural district.

Inter-local Agreement Budget Committee Report:

Mr. Winters reported that the City of Plattsmouth still has not responded to the letter from President Holdridge dated August 18, 2012 in regards to the District's concerns of the EMS budget advisory committee input. The City also has not responded to a letter from the District's legal counsel requesting a written response to the letters from the City.

Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage for RFD only firefighter:

Mr. Winters reported that the City of Plattsmouth stills has not responded to the letter from President Holdridge dated August 18, 2012 requesting the City to add the rural only firefighter to the insurance rolls that the District contributes to. The City also has not responded to a letter from the District's legal counsel requesting a written response to our letter.

Property/Liability/Worker's Compensation/Vehicle Insurance Coverage Committee:

The committee continues to work with insurance providers in an effort to obtain cost information for insurance coverage. The committee will have a proposal to submit to the Board as a part of the budget process for the next budget year.

Plattsmouth Rural Fire District Fire Department Constitution, By-Laws and Standard Operating Guidelines:

The Constitution and By-Laws have been provided to the President of the Fire Department and are still under review. There continues to be a discussion by the Fire Department officers regarding lowering the age requirements for membership as a means to recruit new members and take advantage of funding sources that will pay for secondary education for a fire science degree if the student maintains membership at a volunteer fire department for two years (STRIVE Program). This program is available through the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighter's Association. The department officers are looking into the parameters for lowering the age for membership in the department and will be deciding on what will be presented to the membership for a vote. Once this review and vote is taken, the officers will report back to the By-Laws and Constitution Committee and the District.

Website Development Committee

Mr. Winters, Mr. Morehouse, and others are continuing to work on this project. The domain name is <http://www.plattsmouthfire.com/>. The committee continues to discuss sources for acquiring photos and other content for the website from the public, members of the fire department, as well as the department itself to be posted on the website. The Plattsmouth Volunteer Firefighter's Association is open to having a page on the website for their use and also provides a means for the public to donate funds to the Association on the website directly into PVFFA accounts. The next step is to obtain pictures, board member bio's, and determine if they need to obtain separate internet access or

obtain access to the existing internet connection already being provided to the building.

Forestry Tanker Conversion Committee

Motion by Mr. Vinduska and second by Mr. Winters to borrow \$30,000.00 for a term of not more than 3 years to be used to refurbish the Forestry tanker truck into a 2,000 gallon water tender and revise the District Budget in order to expend these funds and to revise the District Budget by adding \$30,000.00 for this project.

We met with the vendor, Rich Osterloh, that has submitted a bid to refurbish the truck and discussed the items to be completed and the time frame for completion. The vendor will work directly with the Fire Department committee to determine the alterations for the truck and the fire chief will keep the Board advised of the progress. Work should begin around the first of March.

Also, paperwork for license plates on the truck was delivered by a Forestry and signed by Mr. Parshall and Mr. Vinduska on behalf of the District. We will now be able to license and operate the truck.

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting: Motion carried

New Business

Fire Chief's Report:

821: There are charging issues with this truck. The battery has been replaced along with the alternator. The truck is still not charging fully when running. They are working on determining the cause and make the needed repairs.

832: Joint City/Rural pumper 832 continues to be out of service. The electrical issue has been found and repaired. The issue was a pinched wire in the cab roof, which is an area that Pierce Manufacturing told the Fire Department committee not to worry about and it could not be the cause. This damage to the wiring could be considered a workmanship issue. The only repairs left on the truck is damage due to the delivery driver dropping one wheel off the side of the transport trailer affecting the underside of the fire truck. Front Range is waiting on parts from Pierce before making final repairs to the truck. Volunteers will drive to Colorado to pick up the truck and drive it back to ensure no further issues arise with the truck. If problems come up, the truck will be returned to Front Range for repairs. Fire Chief will keep us updated.

840: Tanker 840 is back in service and working well.

Misc. Items: The PVFD received the Plattsmouth Business Booster of the Year award from the Plattsmouth Chamber of Commerce for their extraordinary efforts for the fire on Main Street. The command officers were present to accept the award.

Motion by Mr. Winters and second by Mr. Vinduska to approve the Chief's Report. No action is needed regarding the department roster since this has not changed from the previous month.

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting: Motion carried.

EMS Director's Report:

There was no report from the EMS Director as he was not present at the meeting nor did he send a representative from the EMS Department. The last meeting the EMS Director attended was the October 2012 meeting. In early 2012, City Administrator Erv Portis obligated Mr. Wood to attend at least 4 Rural Fire District Board meetings per year.

Plattsmouth Volunteer Firefighter's Association: The Plattsmouth Middle School students have scheduled an assembly on February 6th and have invited the Firefighter's Association to attend and receive a token of their appreciation for the department's efforts in fighting the fire on Main Street.

Terms of Board Membership: Traditionally, the Plattsmouth Rural Fire Board had been serving 3 year terms when elected at the annual meeting. Mr. Winters discussed this with the Board's legal counsel and it has been determined that the terms of election for the members is incorrect and in conflict with State Statute 35-506(2). Mr. Winters made the motion and Mr. Vinduska second to resolve the conflict in terms. Two board members were elected in September 2011

and shall serve until the annual meeting in September 2015 and three members of the board were elected at the annual meeting in September 2013 and shall serve until the annual meeting in September of 2017. This allows the board members to be elected every two years as intended by the state statute.

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent and not voting: Motion carried.

Executive Session: None needed

Board Member Comments

Board members present thanked Chief Wilson and asked to relay our appreciation for being invited to be a part of their Awards Banquet.

Mr. Winters reminded members of the upcoming Cass County EMS Assessment meeting in Weeping Water on February 13th at 7:00 pm.

Next Meeting

The next regular District Meeting will be held March 12, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Note the change of date and time.

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Mr. Winters second by Mr. Parshall to adjourn. Motion carried at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ken Winters, Recording Secretary