

Plattsmouth Rural Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
March 12, 2014

Calling the meeting to order – Acknowledgement of Open Meetings Law

President Holdridge called the meeting to order at 7:28 pm. President Holdridge 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 John Holdridge, Shane Parshall, Lynn Vinduska, Ken Winters, and Doug Stander.

Public Forum – Reception of Delegates

No members of the public addressed the Board.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the February 5, 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.

5 Ayes 0 Nays: Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

The following bills were presented for review and approval: Black Hills Energy - \$628.72; NPPD - \$90.26; CassGram - \$18.00; Sharp's Cleaning - \$30.00; Mullenax Auto - \$54.60 parts; Higgins Hardware - \$31.07; Craig Shrimpton/LeRoy Lewis/Lee Bogle/Kenny Dillon - \$965.07 for expenses to retrieve 832 from Front Range (\$1,000 minus \$34.93 returned on not used); Rich Osterloh – Advance on refurbishment of water tender to replace 840 - \$15,000.00. Total Disbursements for March 2014: \$16,817.72. (City of Plattsmouth: Did not provide invoices in time for review by the Finance Committee and are deferred until the next meeting on April 2, 2014.)

Bank Balances:	PSB – Deposit: \$4,026.31	Balance: \$934.30
	CCB – Deposit: \$1,655.42	Balance: \$587.80

Mr. Vinduska has the paperwork needed to add the City of Plattsmouth to the title of this truck. When discussed the titling of the truck with the City, it was discussed that the City has one more payment to make on the truck before the end of the inter-local agreement. There was discussion as to whether to go ahead and place the City of Plattsmouth on the title ahead of the City's final payment or wait. Mr. Vinduska will meet again with the City as the Mayor is the one that would need to sign the paperwork.

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

5 Ayes 0 Nays: Motion carried.

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 still 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. This will be a discussion topic with the County Treasurer during the RFD Board's Finance Committee for next year's budget development.

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 continue to work on this project. We will need to have a desktop computer in the office in order to have access to the web for updates and members that are working on the project to have access to the site. Mr. Winters and Mr. Morehouse will continue to work on this.

Forestry Tanker Conversion Committee

Mr. Vinduska had the paperwork completed and submitted to the finance company in order to get the funding going for the truck. Funds should be available yet this month. Mr. Vinduska, as noted in the Treasurer's Report, has given the vendor an advance to get the parts for the truck ordered and available when the truck is picked up. He is finishing a truck for Osceola Rural Fire District at this time and as soon as it is done, he will be picking up our truck. Chief Wilson had some pictures of the truck being completed for Osceola and shared those with the members. Work on the District's truck should be completed by the end of May.

The vendor, Rich Osterloh, met with the Fire Department committee to finalize the work to be done on the truck and the fire chief will keep the Board advised of the progress. Mr. Vinduska and Mr. Winters also attended that meeting.

There was also discussion on selling the 1979 Chevrolet 1250 gallon tanker currently listed as Tanker 840. Mr. Osterloh will also assist us with that process as he has departments asking about used trucks frequently. The Fire Chief asked that we keep this truck in service until the replacement is completed and delivered to the District.

EMS Committee

Mr. Winters and Mr. Parshall have attended the past month's meeting of the Cass County EMS Board and discussed items brought up at the meetings and their concerns. Mr. Winters developed notes from the meeting and emailed them to the

District Board Members. Mr. Parshall and Mr. Winters are going to draft a set of steps for the District to consider for providing EMS operations to the residents of the District.

New Business

Fire Chief's Report:

821: The charging issues with this truck have been identified and are in the process of being corrected. It may need a new alternator. Mr. Osterloh looked at the truck with he was here for our last month's meeting. It is available for responses.

832: Joint City/Rural pumper 832 is now in service as of 10:15 pm March 11th. The electrical issue was been found and repaired and the body damage repaired as well. Capt. Shrimpton, Safety Officer Dillon, Capt. Lewis, and FF Bogle traveled to Front Range in Colorado with 860 and drove 832 back. It got 7.5 miles per gallon of diesel on the return trip. This gave them the chance to make sure all systems work and the truck is ready to go. There is 1,000 feet of five inch hose on the truck instead of 1,200 feet due to some damaged hose. 832 will be the first truck out on all fire responses to ensure all systems are up and running and to get the members use to working with the truck again. It has been out of service for nearly 10 months. We are waiting on the bills for the repairs on the truck.

Automatic Dual Response: Chief Wilson is working with Louisville Fire Chief Jason McClun regarding developing an automatic dual response with them on all structure fires. If they have a structure fire in town, Plattsmouth would automatically be dispatched with 832, 850 and manpower. If it is a structure fire in the rural district of Louisville to the east of town, it will be 832 that will respond with manpower.

Bunker gear repair/cleaning: The department has several sets of bunker gear in need of repair and cleaning. He sends them out to a vendor to have this done. He does this as new gear is purchased and placed in service.

Equipment: Looking to purchase vehicle stabilization struts for use on personal injury auto accidents.

Misc. Items: Firefighter I course is going well. 15 members are attending the class, one of the largest classes we have sponsored. A/C Dudek is teaching the class. Chief Dudek is a certified instructor through the State Fire Marshal's Office. Fire School was discussed, Mr. Winters wishes to attend the Recruitment and Retention Class since he was unable to attend it last year due to it being full.

Roster: No change in the roster, so no action is needed.

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. 5 Ayes 0 Nays: 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: They are looking to replace all of the desktop computers in the fire station. A total of six computers were purchased. These were purchased with donation funds, not City/Rural tax dollars.

Acquire ¾ ton 4x4 suburban: Mr. Winters made a motion and Mr. Holdridge second for the District to seek a ¾ ton 4x4 suburban or similar vehicle for the use of the fire department for training, meetings, towing or hauling equipment, etc. Mr. Winters stated that the need for this type of vehicle would fill a gap for transporting a large number of firefighters to meetings, training session, emergencies, and tow the water rescue boat or trailer. It would increase safety since the department would no longer need to use a weed truck to tow a boat and transport three firefighters in a cramped weed truck. Also, if the District forms its own EMS response unit, the suburban would be used as a first response vehicle for EMTs/Paramedics to attend to calls prior to transport to the hospital. This vehicle would be able to be used by the fire department, but not able to be used by Plattsmouth EMS for calls within the City limits since this is to be used by rural fire department personnel according to information gathered from Forestry.

5 Ayes 0 Nay: Motion carried

Executive Session: None needed

Board Member Comments

Board members asked Chief Wilson to relay our sincere appreciation to the officers that retrieved 832 from Colorado.

Next Meeting

The next regular District Meeting will be held April 2, 2014 at 7:30 pm. Please note the change to 7:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Mr. Winters second by Mr. Parshall to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ken Winters, Recording Secretary