

Plattsmouth Rural Fire Protection District  
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting  
December 03, 2014

**Calling the meeting to order – Acknowledgement of Open Meetings Law**

President Holdridge called the meeting to order at 7:08 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, Doug Stander, and Ken Winters. Absent: None.

**Public Forum – Reception of Delegates**

No member of the public addressed the board.

**Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the November 5, 2014 meeting: Motion by Mr. Vinduska and second by Mr. Stander to waive reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as submitted by the recording secretary to the Board members in advance of the meeting. 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

The following bills were presented for review and approval: CassGram - \$36.00 (two invoices); NPPD - \$92.09; Black Hills Energy - \$81.92; Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department - \$73.21 for Water Rescue Operation Expenses; Sharp's Cleaning - \$30.00; Mullenax Auto Parts - \$109.89 for parts for 840; Front Range Fire Equipment - \$1,605.00 for repairs to 832; R. Wassinger Business Services - \$500.00 for professional services regarding the budget; City of Plattsmouth for Invoices #202, #203, #204, #205, #206, and #207 - \$22,493.50. Total expenditures: \$25,021.61.

PBS: Deposits: \$ 957.19	Balance: \$ 8,556.35
CCSB: Deposits: \$ 393.39	Balance: \$19,996.35

Also, Mr. Vinduska is sending the final invoice to the City of Plattsmouth for their final payment for 832 in the amount of \$14,618.50. Also, Mr. Vinduska reported that the IRS informed him that the Board needed to file a Form 8038GC tax exempt status in regards to the bank loan for the refurbishing of 842. The bank had done this in the past and Mr. Vinduska talked to the bank and they will take care of it.

Motion by Mr. Winters and second by Mr. Vinduska to pay all bills as submitted and accept the Treasurer's Report. 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

**Inter-local Agreement Negotiation Committee Report:** No action is taken on this issue since negotiations are suspended indefinitely at this time to allow for all options to be explored by the Board.

**Inter-local Agreement Budget Committee Report:** No Report

**Insurance Coverage for PRFD:**

Mr. Vinduska and Mr. Winters are working with the agent to finalize the information in order to seek cost projections for insurance coverage for the District and be put into effect for the next year. There is a meeting set between the representative of the Ball Insurance Agency and Murray State Bank to finalize these numbers on December 5th. The committee is concerned the current coverage we have through the City's policy is seriously inadequate for vehicle, liability, and Directors and Officers/Errors and Omission Coverage. The coverage being sought by the Committee for the District is a specialized coverage package that is designed specifically for fire and EMS operations and not a generic governmental/commercial policy. Murray Rural Fire District has this coverage in place, for example.

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

The Committee is waiting to hear back from the Department on the second reading of the document. Once the second reading has taken place, the department will return the document with all changes made by the department for the Rural Board to act on.

**Cass County EMS Committee:**

The County EMS is up and running as EMTs only until the State of Nebraska DHHS/EMS Division approves their paramedic license. The Board has not yet seen the Inter-local Agreement that is needed from the County in order to operate EMS operations in the Fire/EMS Districts of the County. District representatives have advised the County EMS Committee that it wishes to ensure they have the agreement reviewed by the Board's legal counsel prior to it being approved by the District and signed for the County EMS to operate in the Plattsmouth Rural Fire District.

**Website Development Committee:**

Mr. Morehouse, Mr. Winters, and others continue to work on this project. It remains a work in progress. Mr. Morehouse will be conducting training on how to maintain the site with those that will continue the work on it in the future.

**New Business:**

**Fire Chief Report:**

**Calls for Service:** There were a total of 26 calls on the month, 8 Rural and 18 City.

**Roster:** No change to the City's roster at this time.

**Recognition/Awards Dinner:** Scheduled for January 17, 2015.

**842:** Is now in service and training is in progress for drivers. It was used at the training burn this past month and worked very well. It has needed some minor tweaking/repairs, but is going to be a valuable addition to the department. There will be some additional small equipment purchases needed to fully equip the truck for service.

**Officers:** As was reported last month, Mike was re-elected to another term as fire chief as well as the Assistant Chiefs. The appointed officer positions have not been finalized as yet, but Capt. Shrimpton is stepping down at this time to allow more time for other activities as well as open the opportunity up for a younger officer to step in. Chief will have more information next month.

**Training:** House burn at 5006 Ranch Road went very well and there was a great opportunity to get people trained on 842. Buccaneer Bay Homeowners Association offered the fire department access to their private fire hydrants for water resupply for the training burn as well as any time they need water for a fire. Chief Wilson expressed his gratitude to the Buccaneer Bay HOA for this and was echoed by the District Board. This will greatly help make up for the loss of the Plattsmouth Rural Water District #1's prohibition on using water from their installed fire hydrants. The Plattsmouth Rural Water District #1 representatives have not been in contact with the Rural Board Representatives or the Command officers as to what they propose to do to make up for denying the use of the fire hydrants that have been placed around the District, most were installed at the expense of the Rural Board, as well as the removal from service of the fire hydrants in the Chasemore Estates addition that were required by the City to be installed and maintained in order to approve that development. This leaves the houses built in the addition without fire protection water that was required by the City Building Commission. This is what led to the District borrowing money to refurbish the Forestry Service water tender for use by the department.

**Insurance:** Chief discussed concerns with insurance coverage under worker's compensation for mental health issues in the event of a serious event. After some discussion, the Committee advised they would discuss this concern with the agency at their meeting later on this month.

Motion was made by Mr. Winters to accept the Fire Chief's Report as presented by Chief Wilson. Seconded by Mr. Vinduska. 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, Mr. Portis obligated Mr. Wood to attend at least 4 Rural Fire District Board meetings per year. Regarding the monthly written EMS Report, nothing was submitted this month.

**Plattsmouth Volunteer Firefighter's Association:** Nothing new to report.

**Rural Fire District Roster:** Mr. Morehouse submitted his resignation from the Rural Fire Department roster. Mr. Morehouse and his family are moving to Louisville, KY. Mr. Winters moved, Mr. Parshall second, to accept Mr. Morehouse's resignation with regret but with best wishes on his move to Louisville. Discussion centered on the disappointment that the District was unable to obtain the cooperation of the City to allow Mr. Morehouse to contribute to the rural fire district as a rural only firefighter. 5 Ayes 0 Nays: Motion Carried.

**Executive Session:** None needed at this time since the negotiations are suspended.

#### **Board Member Comments**

President Holdridge advised the Board that he attempted to reach out to the incoming Mayor, Paul Lambert, but his call was not returned.

Mr. Parshall discussed the committee for future planning in regards to Rural Fire District growth and needs. Mr. Parshall and Mr. Winters are working together to develop a plan to address future fire station needs, EMS, and equipment. This will include short and long range needs and planning. As always, the committee will provide information to the Command Officers for their comment and contribution to the planning process in order to ensure their future needs are met.

**Next Meeting**

The next regular District Meeting will be held January 7, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

**Motion to adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Winters Second by Mr. Vinduska: 5 Ayes 0 Nays: Motion carried at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Ken Winters, Recording Secretary