**West Valley Fire Rescue**

**Regular Meeting of Trustees**

**July 20, 2023**

**Members Present:** Jim Dusenberry, Marc Boutilier, Stuart Fuller, David Clague

**Absent:** Greg Archie

**Others:** Frank Dahlquist, Connor Davidson

**Called to order**: 7:12 pm

**Previous Minutes:** The June 2023 meeting minutes were read and approved.

**Communications**:

* Notices on various RIDs with no change for the annual assessment.
* Donations to West Valley in honor of David Maser. One for $100 and one for $50.
* Letter from the Montana State Board of Investments that the Intercap loan has been paid off.
* Check from Mountain Family Fellowship for CPR Classes held for $1,000.

**Public Comment – not on agenda**: N/A

**Financial Discussion:**

* Discussion audit and the firefighter association. Looked up the business registration with SOS. It went inactive in 2020 and needs to be reactivated.
* Frank gave a report of the discussions with the County on anticipated revenue for the mill levy. The anticipated revenue from the County is $598K rather than $553K.

**Motion to pay bills**:

* Motion to approve checks #20849 through #20877 and online payments for $42,980.92 for May by Stuart and seconded by Marc. Motion passed on voice vote.

**Recruitment & Retention committee:**

* Graduated new recruits and moving into driver and apparatus training. Frank discussed the credit and point system and the updated incentive program. The coverage on weekend duty shifts has significantly increased.
* Frank reported on the recruitment efforts including advertising in coordination with Rural Fire.
* Discussed the recruitment effort at the Highland Games that was held in the North Valley.

**Trustee and Staff Reports:** N/A

**Assistant Chief:**

* <See Ops/Training Report>

**Chief/Administrator Report:** N/A

**New Business:**

* **Motion:** $150 donations go to the FF fund and the $1,000 go to the county as revenue for the district. Made by Dave and seconded by Marc. Motion passed on voice vote.
* **Motion:** To increase the total real estate mill levy budget for fiscal year 23/24 to the anticipated new revenue estimate of $598,358. Motion made by Stuart and seconded by Marc. Motion passed by voice vote.
* Reviewed bid from BK Technologies for 7 new radios that will work with both the newer high digital band and the current low digital band. We received a DNRC grant for $10,000 that will help pay for these radios.
  + **Motion:** To purchase new BK radios for $24,889.02. Funding will be out of current budge supplemented by the grant. Motion made by Stuart and seconded by Marc. Motion passed on voice vote.
* Discussed reimbursement for medical training for Lisa Bush.
  + **Motion:** To reimburse $250 to Lisa Bush for medical training. Made by Stuart and seconded by Marc. Motion passed on voice vote.
* Discussed needing to fix the A/C unit for the sleeping rooms upstairs in Station #1.
  + **Motion:** To approve repairs to the A/C compressor for the sleeping rooms for $2,410. Motion made by Greg and seconded by Marc. Motion passed on voice vote.
* Frank discussed getting a free First Net repeater for Witchlach.
* Frank reported on radio changes with the MT Helena repeater. The new digital Fire Tac channel now works anywhere in the County. There is also a new Quad-County all hazard communications plan for L&C, Powell, Jefferson, & Broadwater.
* Frank reported on the EMS board. Frank is now the formal representative from Rural Fire Council. St. Pete’s is asking for an amendment to the contract to switch the response plan and staffing with medics and EMTs. The plan would align with the deployment model being used by King County, Washington.
* Frank reported on the $7,000 grant from Town Pump for wildland boots. Frank reported that the wildland combo boots the cost under $300/boot and we will about to get about 25 sets.
* Frank reported on temporary part-time help. Frank posted the job/shifts internally and received applications from five members. Frank will make hiring determinations next week.
* Discussed request from owner of lot north of Station #2 for an accommodation for a well if necessary. Discussed history of Station #2 and previous boundary issue with the access road.
* Discussed Norris Road pump and current status. Frank has a request from a homeowner regarding the pump.
* The Election of Officers was held. The new officers are:
  + Chair – Marc Boutilier
  + Vice President – Greg Archie
  + Secretary – Stuart Fuller
  + Treasurer – Dave Clague
  + At Large Member – Jim Dusenberry

The business meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**Submitted**

Stuart Fuller – Secretary