

**LOCKWOOD RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MINUTES January 10th, 2007**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Keith Broyles, Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** Keith Broyles, William Cummins, Jan Wheeler, Doug Dunker

**STAFF:** Delet Smart, Brad Bell, Charles Hagan, Robert Guenther, Rob Walker.

**Volunteers:**

**Other Guests:** Bill Rash

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES --- December 10th, 2006 Meeting**

\*\*\* **A motion was** introduced by Jan Wheeler to approve minutes of December 10th Board meeting.

**Motion was seconded by Doug Dunker.**

**Motion to approve minutes passed 4-0.**

4. **APPROVAL OF WARRENTS**

\*\*\* **A motion was** made by Bill Cummins to approve payment of warrants. Doug Dunker wanted to know what the warrant to Wal-mart was for, Delet reported that it was for Halloween candy.

**Motion was seconded by Doug Dunker.**

**Motion passed 4-0**

5. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Financial Report**

General Fund expenses for December 2006 totaled \$162,053.44 (*ATTACHMENT #1*) and Ambulance expenses (*ATTACHMENT #2*) for December 2006 totaled \$2559.38. The total of the expenses for December 2006 was \$164,612.82.

\$438,108.02 in ambulance payments have been received as of December 31, 2006. Ambulance deposits for December 2006 totaled \$12,251.83. Total Miscellaneous Income received in December 2006 was \$7,377.59 the total received for the General Fund July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 as of December 2006 was \$44,736.15. (*ATTACHMENT# 3*).

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**Accountant's Report --- Becky Schmitz, Centsable Accounting**

A revenue/expenditure report through November 2006 was provided for the meeting. (*ATTACHEMENT #4*).

Keith Broyles wanted to thank the staff for working hard at staying within the budget that was set at the beginning of the fiscal year.

## **6. OPERATIONS REPORT**

Chuck Hagan gave the operations report (*ATTACHEMENT #5*) He reported that Keith Broyles and Doug Dunker are going to Great Falls on January 20, 21, 2007 for Administration Training class. He reported that the position for Rural Fire Coordinator was still being discussed and he would have more information after the next council meeting.

Emerald Hills assessments are starting, there is \$100,000 from BLM and \$30,000 from DNRC for disbursements. There are 25 – 30 applications for reimbursement for fire damage. Homeowners are responsible for 25% in kind for work or \$'s. Fliers were mailed out by DNRC from list of homeowners that have signed up. This wasn't an area mailing, just to those who have come in and signed up on list. The Station remodel is done, the radio room still has some upgrades to be done for the new radio equipment , it should be operating within the next couple weeks.

Engine 3 just got repaired (approx \$1000.00) by Williard's garage. Chuck reported that they will be looking into an additive for the diesel trucks due to bad fuel. Doug Dunker and Keith Broyles stated that the bad fuel is already here and they should look into the additive now.

Brad Bell and Kevin Sparrow are going to Fire School at Texas A & M courtesy of ExxonMobil.

Robert Guenther is going to the Rural Fire Council meeting. He reported that the DES coordinator position original was going to be funded by the rural fire departments. The DES/Safety Mill Levy will now fund the position. As long as the District does not have to fund the position out of our budget, we will support this new position. The person hired for this position will be in charge of the DES side of any fire. He will not be taking control of fires from the District Departments. He will also be doing training on EDS and wildland fires. It will be a help to Lockwood Fire District as it will be more of a tactical position instead of an office position.

There is a conference coming up in Billings sponsored by the Refinery and DES, the cost is \$275.00 per person, it was suggested that we consider sending someone.

### **The Run Report: 48 Calls (*ATTACHEMENT #6*).**

Robert Guenther reported that there are 2 Senate bills (#167 and #51) that deal with wildland urban interface that make sub-dividers more aware of fire dangers, access, fuel mitigation, water supply, etc.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. *Volunteers Fire Fighters Report*** – Rob Walker reported (*ATTACHEMENT #7*) that there are currently 12 volunteers 7 of these have gear and pagers and can respond to an incident while away from the station. The City of Billings has moved their hiring up 2 weeks. We anticipate losing one volunteer, Tyron Morgan, he has been a great asset to our department and we hate to see him go.

**B. *Career Fire Fighters Report*** – Brad Bell reported that the new hire (Andy Brown) is starting On January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and will be doing some burn training with the Billings Fire Department. He also reported that he passed his Paramedic test.

**C. *Labor & Safety Relations Committee***- N/A

**D. *Ambulance Report***- Rob Walker reported on the collections for November 2006 (*ATTACHEMENT #8*). The District received the Medicaid reimbursement from the State of Montana, the IGT payment. This payment helps offset a portion of our Medicaid write-off.

**E. Training Report-** N/A

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Progress of Tax Anticipation Loan -** We received a call from the State stating that they had received all of the required paperwork and will be starting the loan process.

**B. Sage Hill Homeowners -** We still have not heard from Lane Durey concerning the petitions to bring these properties into our District.

**C. Old Montana Road/Petrified Tree Pass –** Delet reported that the Clerk and Recorder's office Needed a formal motion to approve the letter (*ATTACHMENT #9*) and the petition (*ATTACHMENT #10*) from the land owners.

**\*\*\*A motion was introduced** by Jan Wheeler to approve the letters sent out to homeowners on Old Montana Road and Petrified Tree Pass asking if they would like to be included in our Fire District.

**Motion was seconded** by Doug Dunker

**Motion was passed 4-0**

**\*\*\*A motion was introduced** by Jan Wheeler to accept the returned petitions from the landowners on Old Montana Road and Petrified Tree Pass requesting to be annexed into the Lockwood Fire District.

**Motion was seconded** by Doug Dunker.

**Motion was passed 4-0**

**D. Hiring New Fire Chief:** Bill Cummins reported that there is a meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> to look over the applications. They will narrow down how many applicants to interview. There was some discussion as to who should be on the interview committee. It was suggested that we ask John Staley (Assistant Fire Chief in Billings) to be on the committee. Robert Guenther said he would give him a call and ask if he would be willing to do this.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Union Contract Negotiation -** There is a meeting set on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 for Union Negotiations Brad Bell, Keith Kober, and Allan Hutton will meet with Bill Cummins and Keith Broyles of the Board to start negotiations.

**B. Hero's Breakfast –** Keith Kober submitted a letter nominating the son that pulled his Mother out of their burning home. They will be invited to be guests of Honor at the Breakfast.

