

LOCKWOOD RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MARCH 12th, 2008

# MINUTES

MARCH 12TH, 2008

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Bill Cummins, Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** William Cummins, Doug Dunker, Penny Helms

**STAFF:** Chief Rash, Chuck Hagan, Keith Kober, Rob Walker

**Other Guests:** Evelyn Pyburn (Yellowstone Co. News)

Bill addressed those present by letting everyone know that there would be no changes regarding the direction of the Board. We will all miss Keith Broyles and commended him on a job well done. He also stated that we hoped to keep the open communications with the Fire Fighters that Keith worked so effortlessly on.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

\*\*\* **A motion was** introduced by Doug Dunker to approve minutes of Board meeting February , 2008

**Motion was seconded by Penny Helms.**

**Motion to approve minutes passed 3-0.**

4. **APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

\*\*\***A motion was** made by Doug Dunker to approve payment of warrants.

**Motion was seconded by Penny Helms.**

**Motion passed 3-0**

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

**Financial Report:** Total expenses for February 2008 were \$131,211.98. Transaction List by Vendor (**ATTACHMENT #1**)

\$554,509.33 in ambulance payments have been received as of February 2008. Ambulance collections for

February 2008 totaled \$10,739.31. Total miscellaneous and tax income received in February 2008 was

\$52,548.05. Attached is the Profit and Loss Statement for February 2008 (**ATTACHMENT #2**). Also presented to

the Board was the January 2008 Reconciliation Summary (**ATTACHMENT #3**)

6. **CHIEF'S REPORT**

BULLET POINTS FROM CHIEF'S REPORT (**ATTACHMENT #4**) full report is available at the Lockwood Fire District.

- A. March 1<sup>st</sup> marked first year anniversary as William Rash as the district's Fire Chief. Will continue to maintain his vision of the district's future.
- B. The FY07-08 budget continues to be in line with the projections as we continue to progress with expenditures. Delet has discovered some incorrect accounting on the Yellowstone Co. Trial Balance. See **(ATTACHMENT #5)**
- C. Department of Revenue is on the Board agenda for April 2<sup>nd</sup>, they will inform the Board of actions they are doing to correct the past issues regarding getting new or improved properties on the tax rolls.
- D. EMS-Ambulance – the District participated with the recent CPR Saturday event that was held at St Vincent's Hospital. Chief has asked Rob Walker and Allan Hutton to evaluate the fees charged by the District as to remain competitive.
- E. Occupational Health (Safety and Labor relations) – The Billings Clinic Occu. Health staff has been doing a fantastic job working with LFD staff to identify health and wellness issues, and providing quality physicals. No adverse labor-management issues were identified at the safety and labor meeting.
- F. Maintenance- We continue working to finish the back log of maintenance on apparatus and equipment. Brad is closing out the FEMA/AFG grant , all equipment has been received and installed on the fire apparatus.
- G. Updated hydrant map is close to being finished and installed in the radio room.
- H. Lockwood Incorporation – The steering committee is investigating possibility of incorporating Lockwood into a city.
- I. Reserve Firefighter – Close to being done with SOG's for the Reserves.
- J. Career Firefighter- Have had 2 back injuries reported to Wokers Comp. Rob Walker has advised us that he will be resigning from LFD effective on or about January 31<sup>st</sup> 2009. Rob has been accepted into a Physician's Assistant program.
- K. The County is scheduled to begin work on the Jack Pine evacuation route as soon as the weather cooperates.
- L. Richard Begger of Western States Insurance has secured a \$500 donation for the purchase of smoke detectors, that we will make available to district residents at no cost to them.

**The Run Report: February, 2008 – 41 Calls (ATTACHMENT #6).**

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Reserve Fire Fighters Report** – covered in Chief's report.
- B. Career Fire Fighters Report** – covered in Chief's report.
- C. Labor & Safety Relations Committee-** covered in Chief's report.
- D. Ambulance Report-** Financial info for January, 08. **(ATTACHMENT #7)**  
 Questions were raised as to why LFD asks people in our District to pay a fee for our ambulance service, when they are tax payers in our District? Our department ambulance staff has been asked to evaluate the fees we charge. Are we charging competitively? Does our ambulance make money ie...is it a money maker for the District. Chief Rash says no, but it helps support the District. If we didn't charge a fee we would have to raise the Mill levy. Chief Rash reported that we have a positive relationship with AMR and a mutual relationship with Billings. If we didn't have ambulance service for our District who would serve our community, as AMR and Billings are not always available. We do charge for haz-mat calls. Bill Cummins stated a need for ambulance service and asked that a user fee be set up to support our fire District as a whole. LFD added one full time employee for ambulance service which saved overtime pay.
- E. Training Report-** covered in Chief's report.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

