

**LOCKWOOD RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES May 2nd, 2007**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Keith Broyles, Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. **ATTENDANCE**
Board Members: Keith Broyles, William Cummins, Jan Wheeler, Doug Dunker, Penny Helms
STAFF: Chief Bill Rash, Delet Smart, Robert Guenther, Allan Hutton, Marty Surdahl, Rob Walker
Volunteers: Xzlmer Anderson
Other Guests: Evelyn Pyburn (Yellowstone Co. News), Pam Malek (Exxon), Mara Broyles

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES --- April 4th, 2007 Meeting**

*** **A motion was** introduced by Doug Dunker to approve minutes of April 4th Board meeting.
Motion was seconded by Bill Cummins.
Motion to approve minutes passed 5-0.

4. **APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

*** **A motion was** made by Bill Cummins to approve payment of warrants.
Motion was seconded by Jan Wheeler.
Motion passed 5-0

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

Financial Report

General Fund expenses for April 2007 totaled \$89,201.33 (*ATTACHMENT #1*) and Ambulance expenses (*ATTACHMENT #2*) for March 2007 totaled \$1868.18. The total of the expenses for April 2007 was \$91,069.51.

\$470,995.57 in ambulance payments have been received as of April 30, 2007. Ambulance deposits for April 2007 totaled \$8,593.79. Total Miscellaneous income received in April 2007 was \$7,823.08 the total received for the General Fund July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 as of April 2007 was \$73,392.30. (*ATTACHMENT# 3*).

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

A revenue/expenditure report through March, 2007 was provided for the meeting. (*ATTACHMENT #4*)
A Profit & Loss statement through March, 2007 was also provided (*ATTACHMENT #5*).

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

BULLET POINTS FROM CHIEF'S REPORT (**ATTACHMENT #6**)

- A. Tax Exempt Forms to Dept. of Revenue.
- B. Mutual Aid Agreement with City of Billings.
- C. Training Exercise with Exxon Mobile.
- D. Town Pump \$2500.00 grant for pagers (received).
- E. Pump out of order on Eng. #3.
- F. Co-op Plan with DNRC to purchase Brush truck. (**ATTACHMENT #7**)
- G. Clean-up and Painting projects on Station.
- H. Septic tank pumped, hole fixed by County road crew.
- I. Volunteer Testing April 21, 2007, great candidates.
- J. Galusha Higgins and Galusha to help with setting up books, also withdraw Audit contract.
- K. Purchase request for Long Bar Chainsaw and Porta-Tank Liner.
- L. Tree Planting kick off for Emerald Hills, Lt. Governor, Co. Commissioners, April 30th.
- M. PERS to FURS retirement.
- N. Social Security Issue.

Allan Hutton reported that the Fire Fighters Union has lobbied long and hard to get this resolution to allow the Rural Fire Departments to switch their retirement program from PERS to FURS and that this issue with Social Security is very disappointing. He wants everyone to know that this affects Lockwood Fire District and ONLY Lockwood Fire District and that they will probably miss the window of opportunity to switch their retirement system. Bill Cummins asked if Social Security would let the department opt out and Allan Hutton said no, not since the law changed in 1983. The department could join FURS but would have to pay "both" Social Security and the retirement percentage, which would be cost prohibitive for the department. Chief Rash stated that he was going to work on solidifying what we have now with Social Security because he has to protect the members. He also stated that the District has to create a resolution opting into Social Security and then the membership would have to vote on the resolution.

*** **A motion was** introduced by Doug Dunker to allow Fire Chief Rash the authority to sign the Social Security resolution.

Motion was seconded by Jan Wheeler.

Motion to approve minutes passed 5-0.

The Run Report: 39 Calls (**ATTACHMENT #8**).

There were 39 calls in April 2007.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. ***Volunteers Fire Fighters Report – (ATTACHMENT #9) .***
- B. ***Career Fire Fighters Report – N/A***
- C. ***Labor & Safety Relations Committee- (ATTACHMENT #10)***
- D. ***Ambulance Report-*** Rob Walker reported on the collections for March, 2007 were \$10,447.89 (**ATTACHMENT #11**)
- E. ***Training Report-*** N/A

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Roof Replacement: Covered in the Chief's report, date set, fire fighters will remove old roofing, Rocking JR will replace with new material right away so we will not have an exposed roof in case of bad weather.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ambulance: Tabled until next meeting

B. Brush Truck: (SEE ATTACHMENT #7)

Chief Rash reported that he had gone to Western Security Bank and Little Horn State Bank to discuss possible financing of the Brush Truck. Little Horn State Bank offered the most desirable finance package. Keith Broyles stated that the slow down of the debt we owe the County was very important, but had to also remember that the brush truck that the District has now is 32 years old and is not reliable. The opportunity to partner with DNRC should not be passed up. This will provide the District a new front line brush truck at a very reduced price. Our job is to protect the community and we know that this is a sensitive issue considering our debt to the County.

Doug Dunker wanted to know how it would work 20 years down the road if we want to sell the truck. Jan Wheeler stated that the slip on unit that is owned by DNRC would have to be returned to them. Lockwood Fire District would be responsible for the insurance and maintenance of the truck and the slip on unit. The payment for the Brush truck is line item in the proposed 5 year budget. The Lockwood Fire District would have to release the title to Engine 3 to DNRC.

*** **A motion was** introduced by Bill Cummins to accept the offer from DNRC and to direct Chief Rash to purchase the Cab and Chassis of a brush truck up to \$32,000.00 and to put the truck in service, with the understanding that Lockwood Fire District would release the title to Engine 3.

Motion was seconded by Penny Helms.

Motion to approve minutes passed 4-1.

*** **A motion was** introduced by Bill Cummins to accept the offer from Little Horn State Bank for the proposed financing of the Brush truck and related equipment.

Motion was seconded by Jan Wheeler.

Motion to approve minutes passed 5-0.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS- None

11. MEETING ADJORNED

*** **A motion was introduced** by Jan Wheeler to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Doug Dunker

Motion passed 5-0

Keith Broyles / Chairman, Board of Trustees

May 2nd, 2007
Date

May 2nd, 2007

Delet Smart, Administrative Assistant / LRFD

Date

ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT THE LOCKWOOD FIRE STATION.