

**LOCKWOOD RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES JULY 11th, 2007**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Keith Broyles, Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

Board Members: Keith Broyles, William Cummins, Penny Helms

STAFF: Chief Rash, Delet Smart, Brad Bell, Robert Guenther, James Parmly, Keith Kober

Other Guests: Pam Malek (Exxon), Evelyn Pyburn

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES --- June , 2007 Meeting With Correction: The discussion to change the July 2007 meeting from the 4th to the 11th was omitted from the minutes.**

*** **A motion was** introduced by Bill Cummins to approve minutes of Board meeting with correction
Motion was seconded by Penny Helms.
Motion to approve minutes passed 3-0.

4. **APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

*** **A motion was** made by Bill Cummins to approve payment of warrants.
Motion was seconded by Penny Helms.
Motion passed 3-0

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

Financial Report

General Fund expenses for June 2007 totaled \$143,074.09 (*ATTACHMENT #1*) and Ambulance expenses for June 2007 totaled \$2380.01. The total of the expenses for June 2007 was \$145,454.10.

\$488,093.49 in ambulance payments have been received as of June 30, 2007. Ambulance deposits for June 2007 totaled \$7,524.81. The total income received for the Ambulance Fund July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 was \$104,356.49. Total Miscellaneous income received in June 2007 was \$6,684.08 the total received for the General Fund July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 was \$88,007.59 (*ATTACHMENT#2*).

6. **CHIEF'S REPORT**

BULLET POINTS FROM CHIEF'S REPORT (*ATTACHMENT #4*)

- A. We are in our Wildland Fire Season
- B. Finishing up with final 2 components of radio system, when finished, we can accept the system and let the warranty period begin.
- C. Had shift firefighters, off duty firefighters, Rob Walker and Keith Kober's sons help remove old roof, Roof project is now complete.
- D. A new 20,000 gallon fillsite has been added off Forest Hills Drive.

- E. The new brush truck should be in Great Falls the end of August. DNRC is loaning us a second brush truck and loaner pump for engine 3.
- F. Annual hose testing was conducted, purchase of new hose is included in FY07-08 Budget.
- G. Had 2 more training sessions with ExxonMobil.
- H. Piston intake valve on Engine 1 is not operable. Purchase one new valve out of FY06-07 budget.
- I. Mutual Aid contract with the City of Billings in being discussed and will soon be ready.
- J. A new CAD computer program has been purchased to aid in drawing floor plans of buildings.
- K. Volunteer program is strong, have 15 at this time.
- L. We have been challenged by maintenance issues on apparatus.
- M. Administrative duties have doubled, have adjusted salary.
- N. There will be an increase from \$2988.00 to \$4800.00 in our grass contract with the County.
- O. We are working with Galusha, Higgins, and Galusha on a 5 year budget and financial plan.
- P. Meeting with the Mt. Dept of Administration, PERS and Social Security was held July 9th.
- Q. Several positive things are happening at Lockwood Fire and staff continues to be enthusiastic.

ADDENDUM TO JULY CHIEF'S REPORT (ATTACHMENT #5)

The Chief has identified several maintenance and safety issues that require attention in order to maintain firefighter safety, public safety and long term savings to the District. Unless otherwise directed by the Board, he will be addressing these issues.

The Chief has been working with the County and Billings Fire to coordinate burning restrictions and bans in the County.

We had to hire a mowing service to cut the grass on the Johnson Lane property that is owned by the District. The Fire District needs to set a good example for the public.

The Chief wanted to give the Board a heads up on the cost of hose for fire fighting. There was approximately 250' of 1 3/4" and 150' of 2 1/2" hose found to be unsafe during the hose testing.

The Run Report: 55 Calls (ATTACHMENT #6).

There were 55 calls in June 2007.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Volunteers Fire Fighters Report – (ATTACHMENT #7)

Currently 15 members, all have pagers, nine have gear and can respond. Red Lodge is hosting a basic wildland class, 5 of the volunteers will participate.

B. Career Fire Fighters Report – N/A

C. Labor & Safety Relations Committee- N/A

D. Ambulance Report- (ATTACHMENT #8)

E. Training Report- N/A

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Social Security Issue/ Retirement: (ATTACHMENT #9) After 20 years, the Rural Firefighters can now belong to the Firefighters United Retirement System (FURS). This is an excellent retirement system for the firefighters and is great in getting and keeping quality staff in the rural fire districts. The Chief is asking the Board to consider the information presented and to sign two

resolutions. The first resolution will allow the district to transfer to the FURS system and the second will allow all clerical employees to be eligible for the PERS program. There is a breakdown on the costs and contributions to the different retirement programs attached. **(ATTACHMENT #10)** The estimated refund for the District from Social Security will be \$119,000.00.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 07-01 (ATTACHMENT #11)

Resolution to Participate in the Montana Firefighters United Retirement System.

*** **A motion was** introduced by Bill Cummins to approve signing Resolution No. 07-01 to allow the firefighters to join the FURS retirement program.

Motion was seconded by Penny Helms.

Motion passed 3-0.

B. Resolution No. 07-02 (ATTACHMENT #12)

Resolution to Continue Participation in the Public Employees Retirement System for Clerical Staff.

*** **A motion was** introduced by Penny Helms to approve signing Resolution No. 07-02 to allow continuation of PERS retirement program for clerical staff.

Motion was seconded by Bill Cummins.

Motion passed 3-0.

C. Mutual Aid Agreement with Billings FD

This was reported on in the Chief's report. We have an agreement now, it is just being updated and renewed.

D. Preliminary Budget –

There will be a Preliminary Budget meeting at next months meeting. The meeting time and date will be advertised in the Yellowstone County News, and posted at the Water Department, the Blue Basket and the Fire Station.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS-

11. MEETING ADJORNED

*** **A motion was introduced** by Bill Cummins to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Penny Helms

Motion passed 3-0

Keith Broyles / Chairman, Board of Trustees

July 11th, 2007

Date

Delet Smart, Administrative Assistant / LRFD

July 11th, 2007

Date

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