

BIGFORK FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE

July 28th, 2020

5:30pm

This meeting was conducted via ZOOM. The public was able to join this meeting at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85395796288>

Trustees: Dan Elwell, Robert Borges, Andrew Sliter

Absent Trustees: Gary Wilson, Seth Price

Guests: Chief-Mark Thiry, Jeremy Patton, Cindy Norred, Tracey Gembala, Joseph Bakker, Dave Creamer, Winston Walters, Peach & Gary Graeff

Guests on via Zoom: No guest on Zoom

This meeting was recorded.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** 17:39
2. **General Public Comment:** Peach and Gary wanted to thank the district for purchasing land, they are willing to help with fund raisers, they want a good plan for the station.
3. **Review/Approval of meeting minutes June 30th, 2020:** No comment
A motion to approve June 30th, 2020 meeting minutes: Sliter (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.
4. **Review/Approval of Purchase Orders:** None were presented
5. **Review/Approval of Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid:**
Sliter questioned any cash that was moved. Explained that on balance sheet, cash was entered in on preliminary budget. Sliter asked about the wildland money, on preliminary budget and it was noted that we possibly did receive the money on Friday in the Flathead County account and that other departments had received theirs. A motion to approve financial statements and bills paid, Borges (1st), Sliter (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.
6. **Committee Update:**

Apparatus Committee: Ambulance is stalled.

Echo Lake Tree Removal: Property was surveyed again at \$450.00 cost, only received one bid from Jim Holman, others that Borges reached out to, cannot do the work, or have not called back.

New Facility Committee: Wilson sent email to Elwell about cost of sign, aluminum 5X4 \$200.00, plus cost for additional lettering. Committee needs to be set up. Graeff's, Wilson, Borges & Thiry. Next meeting needs to formalize New Facility Committee-form guidelines, signage, receiving gifts, county attorney involved, and the approach. The first start is a sign for Future Home of Bigfork Fire. New committee needs to be an action item on next agenda.

7. **Fire Chief Report:** See attached report
8. **Old Business**

A. Health Insurance Continuation after Sick Leave Exhaustion:

Dave Creamer and Winston Walters were present to answer any questions the board had on this topic. Mr. Walters explained if you do it for one employee then you do must it for all. This creates discrimination issues, labor, workers comp laws and the market does not care who pays the bill. The district is not able to offer COBRA nor can offer COBRA-FTEs. Discussion on offering COBRA like insurance within district policy. There was discussion about concerns on receiving money and liability issues. A motion not to offer COBRA like insurance after Leave exhausted. Borges (1st), Sliter (2nd) all in favor, none opposed

9. **Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to MCA 2-3-203 (3):** *Went into closed session at 18:24*
10. **Reconvene into Open Session:** Back from closed session, opened session at 18:57
11. **New Business**


A. Any item from Close Session if necessary:

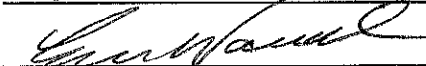
A motion to approve extension of job offer to August 15th with estimated start date to be September 1st or August 31st, Sliter (1st), Borges (2nd) all in favor, none opposed

12. **General Public Comment:** None
13. **Motion to Adjourn:** Borges (1st), Sliter (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned: 19:10

Minutes Approved:


_____, Chairman-Dan Elwell


_____, Recorder-Cindy Norred