

BIGFORK FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEE

March 30th, 2021

5:30pm

Trustees: Dan Elwell, Andrew Sliter, Seth Price, Gary Wilson, Robert Borges

Absent Trustees:

Guests: Interim Chief-Jeremy Patton, Cindy Norred, Michael Hingiss, Bethany Martiny, Ashton Folkman, Sean Kehl, Peach & Gary Graeffs, Tom Pauley, Fletcher Anderson

1. **Call Meeting to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:** 17:31
2. **General Public Comment:** Thank you for the pizza.
3. **Review/Approval of meeting minutes February 23rd, 2021:**
A motion to approve the minutes from February 23rd, 2021, Wilson (1st), Borges (2nd), no comments, all in favor, none opposed.
4. **Review/Approval of Purchase Orders:** No purchase orders were presented.
5. **Review/Approval of Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid:** Wilson questioned when the ambulance was coming out of FUND#7254 line for apparatus. It was explained that reconciliation was done to end of month and just last week the flathead county issued check for the ambulance and it would show on this month, reports presented were up to the end of February. A motion to accept the financial statements and bills paid, Wilson (1st), Price (2nd), no comments, all in favor, none opposed.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Hiring Committee:** Wilson explained that, Ben Devall Big Mountain Chief, Gary Mahaugh and himself interviewed Jeremy Patton. It went well and he was 100% behind the recommendation to hire Jeremy Patton as Chief. Hiring committee was Thanked by Elwell and he also thanked Price for use of facility.
7. **Interim Fire Chief's Report:** See attached report. All reviews for full time staff have been done, except for Cindy. Auction little over four thousand dollars, Auction money will go into general fund. White truck is scheduled to be wrapped and lights, Bigfork Fire Friends purchased traffic LED Reader board, academy will be wrapping up soon. 911 call ice dog rescue went well, Traffic pucks, safety vest and about half helmets received from Round up for Safety.

8. **Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to MCA 2-3-203 (3):** *Did not go into close session.*
9. **Reconvene into Open Session:** *Did not go into close session.*
10. **Old Business:** Borges explained that logging was going on at Echo Lake Hall, they were close to being done with the trees.
11. **New Business:** The dedication for Doug Smith went fantastic, Doug was blown away, a lot of family and friends were there. It was ok to give Mackenzie Doug's number for the paper.
 - A. **Hiring Fire Chief's Position:** Recommendation for Jeremy Patton, things have been going well, morale, volunteerism, training up. A motion on recommendation of the hiring committee to hire Jeremy Patton as the new Chief for Bigfork Fire, Price (1st), Borges (2nd), a motion to set salary the initial Fire Chiefs salary at \$55,500.00, Sliter (1st), Price (2nd), no comments, all in favor, none opposed. Benefit package to stay the same as previous Chief
12. **General Public Comment:** Peach explained they went to the Bigfork Land Use Advisory Committee meeting, keeping them up to date with property access off 35 and how important it is. Discussion property access, they will keep on trying. Jeremy or Borges will be on a spot of the April's meeting for BLUAC. Thank you note to Friends of Bigfork Fire for their continue support.
13. **Motion to Adjourn:** Borges (1st), Wilson (2nd) all in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned: 18:08

Minutes Approved: _____, Trustee

_____, Recorder