

BCRFPD Monthly Board Meeting

April 19th, 2023

Fairfield Rural Hall

Present: President Scott Hutzenbiler, Vice President Jon Klym, Secretary Treasurer Corey Simnioniw, board members Sandy Baertsch, Dwayne Shypkoski, Kasey Malkowski, Fire Chief Kyle Shockley, acting Fire Chief Cody Armbrust

Also present: Julie Reis, Rochelle Simnioniw

Meeting called to order @ 7:30 PM

March 15, 2023 minutes were reviewed, Jon Klym made a motion to approve as read, Kasey Malkowski seconded, all present members were in favor.

Old Business:

- 2023 NDFA convention Update. Rochelle Simnioniw gave an update on the convention booklet and handed out several paper copies showing progress to date, asking the board for review and input. She is working with Service Printers to make a proof for final review at the May board meeting. Soon after this proof is reviewed at the meeting any final changes will need to be made to print on time.

Kyle Shockley gave a report on the approximate Money In vs Money Out, currently about \$16,000 on the plus side. Belfield Fire Department is set to handle the Friday AM Breakfast and Sentinel Butte Fire Department the Saturday AM, with free will donations at each meal. Kyle proposed to the board that \$1000 for each of these departments be considered to help cover costs of those meals and show appreciation for their support. Jon Klym made a motion to approve \$1000 each for Belfield and Sentinel Butte Fire Departments, Corey Simnioniw seconded, all present members were in favor.

Thursday Evening and Friday Evening meals were discussed and need to be finalized. Kyle will check to see if Beach/Golva has any interest in handling the Thursday Evening meal, which is traditionally for NDFA convention is burgers or similar main dish. Friday evening is typically steak meal which a caterer is likely needed. Kyle had initial with Jim Bridger at Little Missouri, estimating \$30 per plate, but was concerned about finding enough helpers for serving 300. Other local caterers were discussed and Mulligans was mentioned worth checking with. Scott Hutzenbiler brought up that API events have handled steak meals for large amounts of people and that he'd make a call to see if they have any interest or can offer insight what they do.

A good number of sponsors have been donating. Scott mentioned dropping off brochures at Industrial Electric and Scout Energy, however, we haven't heard anything yet.

Completed registrations are coming into Kyle. Out of 364 envelopes sent out, only 4 were not delivered which is nice low percentage.

Support from station volunteers for assisting the convention was discussed. Kyle and Cody Armbrust will begin reaching out with more specifics on what's needed. 10 helpers expected starting Friday AM, 6 for Memorial Service.

- Forest Service Grant equipment coming in little bit at a time.
- Park Service truck (2000 F450 7.3 liter with 33,000 miles) being possibly available at no cost is being sent up their chain of command for approvals.

Corey Simnioniw
Jonath Klym 5-17-23
05/17/23

Old Business (Continued)

- Tower Bid for 180' Tower at Fairfield Station has been awarded to Mesquite Valley out of Havre, MT. The top of the antenna will be at 200'. There State won't be co-funding. It is expected that the tower will be equivalent or better than the previous Gorham tower. The NW part of the county is expected to be about the same coverage as before with improvement to the NE around the Gas Plant area. Target completion date is the end of July 2023, dependent though on the tower manufacturer delivery.

New Business

- 5 new calls, 16 so far this year.
- 3/23: I-94 MM 26, Truck with hot brakes, 3/30: Medora School alarm, 4/11 Roger Myers grass fire, 4/16 Shawn Gawryluk pit (not paged out), 4/16 West Dunn Fire department assist grass fire.
- Cody Armbrust gave update on meeting with Forest Service regarding Burn Ban restrictions, working toward further consistency. Specific areas included 2 track trail travel and contained/non-contained fire pits. County is currently more stringent during Burn Bans.
- ND Firefighter's Association sent out form again this year for donations. Last year, the board donated \$50. Kasey Malkowski made a motion to approve \$50 donation again, Sandy Baertsch seconded, all present members were in favor.
- Cody Armbrust met with Park Service. They intend to perform a control burn in the SE corner of the park just South of the buffalo corrals. They are targeting 300 to 400 acres of the flat on top. They may begin as soon as next week. They've assured they will have enough of their personnel for the control burn. They will alert residents within 2-3 mile radius and a notice to station volunteers will go out.
- All 3 pumper pumps were serviced over the past week. All checked out with Fryburg's requiring a valve repair.
- Kyle explained several legislature updates regarding Insurance Premium updates in the next biennium. Ours is expected to increase by approximately \$794. Results from reorganizing State Fire Marshal Office from Attorney General to Insurance Department. Still resolving Fire Marshall Office receiving more employees. Fire Department full audit threshold increased to \$750,000 or above. Below this threshold requires just end of year report. Clarification was given that any accounts operating under a public Tax ID # will be considered public. The means of keeping donations separate from public funds when applicable, would require setting up a separate association with a different Tax ID #. Kyle proposed that following the convention, look into streamlining the various accounts with the board and stations, and look into the need or lack of need for setting up separate associations.
- A signer is needed to stop by Choice Bank in Belfield to get a Debit Card for convention. Scott offered he could on his way home from work tomorrow.
- Julie is still looking into alternative programming software, finding most new offerings are cloud-based.
- Sandy made a motion to approve the financial statement and pay bills, Dwayne seconded, all present members all in favor. Kasey made a motion to adjourn at 8:30PM, Dwayne seconded, all present members all in favor.