

Present: President Scott Hutzenbiler, Vice President, Jon Klym, Secretary Treasurer Corey Simnioniw, board members Sandy Baertsch, Kasey Malkowski, Brian Buckman, Dwayne Shypkoski, Fire Chief Kyle Shockley. Also present: Julie Reis

Meeting called to order @ 7:30 PM

September, 2023 minutes were reviewed, Sandy Baertsch made a motion to approve as read, Jon Klym seconded, all present members were in favor.

Old Business:

- 3 last checks going out for the NDFA memorials, following these clearing, the Convention bank account can be closed out as discussed in September: After the last expenditure is made, \$1000 goes back to BCRFPD for the initial amount paid to open the account, then the remaining balance will be split 50% to Medora City FD and 50% to BCRFPD. The memorials are set to show up later in the week.
- Decals for the F450 truck from the Park Service are made up, just need to be applied.
- Fairfield radio tower has just been erected. The shack from District 1 Hwy Dept is going to be used and working toward moving it this week yet. With that in place, the electricians can get power ran. Lastly, antenna equipment will be placed at the top either next week or the following Wednesday.
- The updated burn ban alignment proposed for 2024 is still on track. Forest Service burn ban to go in effect following individual county burn bans.
- Forest Service Grant equipment all in except still awaiting the water tank. The check to supplier hasn't been cashed yet, Kyle reached out to Jared who said he'd get an update to us.
- Regarding the Fire Board's letter of Support Letter recommending a Fire Chief / Emergency Manager Assistant. Still being considered, currently tabled. It was included in the County Commissioner's approved budget for next year. However, there was some discussion about differing opinions on the wage for this position. Kyle recommended that others visit with the Commissioners about this.
- No further updates regarding Medora Tender inquiry from Heiman, Kyle still working toward presenting an updated idea to design the Tender to being very similar, same operation as the City of Medora FD's new water truck, scaled back on a few features we don't need. Price comparing between Midwest and Heiman would be considered. Lead time for either to build is currently estimated at 18 months.
- Kyle submitted the Farm Credit Grant application, due in October, slated to go toward Medora Tender in the works. Kyle has started on another grant application for Oneok and looking into another for Marathon Oil. Brian inquired about seeing if Petro Hunt did any grants, as they're increasing their oil activity in the area again.
- Kyle, Dean Rodne, EMS still set to meet with Paul Laney with Elevatus this week to review building options on existing County property for updating, removing, and/or replacing buildings for Medora DEM, Fire, EMS, Road/Hwy, Courthouse Records, and related departments.

Scott Hutzenbiler  
11-15-23  
Corey Simnioniw  
11-15-23

#### Old Business (Continued):

- Good turnout for Fairfield Station meeting September 21<sup>st</sup> for a tour at the Little Knife Gas Plant. West Dunn County FD joined.
- Medora Station meeting last month met with Presidential Library, contractors JE Dunn and Winn Construction regarding current phase of construction taking place. Board members again expressed concern about there being only the single main access road (amphitheater road) and how slow it is to get a large number of people down the hill. Kyle reported that various entities with the County and Community have repeatedly expressed this very concern to DOT and others involved with Presidential Library. There's some discussion going around about alternative access road options, but nothing reassuring or concrete at this time.
- • Further discussion amongst the board took place regarding the bylaws (Article XXI) require volunteer members to be 18 years of age. Lowering this age from 18 to 16 is gaining some favor by the board members with some special, additional guidelines in place. In order to change the bylaws, it requires station members to vote in favor of an update. It was proposed that Kyle present the board with guidelines from a past Fire Department he'd been associated with having a lower age limit. Once the guidelines were in place and board still in favor, a vote could be held either at a joint meeting or individually at each station. The next joint meeting is set for Fairfield in December.

#### New Business:

- 5 new calls since last board meeting, 54 year to date.

9/23: Kayak Rescue, 10/6: Color crayons Medora School (Not paged out), 10/7: AmericInn heating unit fire, 10/8 Flare pit NW of Fairfield, 10/13: Rope rescue Wind Canyon

- Fire Prevention Month visit to Medora School took place, Julie visiting Prairie School this coming Monday.
- Reminder that at November board meeting, need to set meeting dates for 2024.
- Sandy brought up that the exhaust fan used during the AmericInn call was very loud and possibly needs to be updated to battery operated. A large battery operated unit was purchased for Fairfield Station last year at \$5700. With this year's equipment purchases being considerably under budgeted amount, it was agreed that Medora Station should move forward to purchase a battery powered fan.
- Regarding ordering new gear, we haven't ordered until further input from Deputy Chiefs come in regarding sizes or specific members to order for. The stations do have existing used gear for initially issuing to new members, except low on normal boot sizes.
- Oscar Knudtson was inducted to the ND Firefighters Hall of Fame. The board expressed appreciation for all that Oscar has done for our departments and the other fire departments he's served.
- Kasey Malkowski made a motion to approve the financial statement and pay bills, Brian Buckman seconded, all present members all in favor.
- Jon made a motion to adjourn, Brian seconded, all present members all in favor.