

Western Lakes Fire Board
Monthly Board Meeting
May 20, 2019

Call to Order

- Jeff Roemer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Board members present were Kent Lorenz, Mike Sauer, Mike Tompkins, Jimi Hall and Jeff Roemer. Also, in attendance were Chief Brad Bowen, Deputy Chief Tim Meyer, Oconomowoc Police Chief Ron Buerger and Administrative Assistant Michael Krug. Excused were Bill Riemenschneider and George Morris.

Proof of Notice

- Mike Krug announced that the notice was posted May 15th to the district web site, newspapers and at stations 1 and 2.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Jimi Hall led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

- Jeff Roemer opened the meeting to comments from the public, of which there was none.

Announcement of Closed Session

- Jeff Roemer announced that the District Fire Board will convene into closed session pursuant to section 19.85(1)(c), Wisconsin State Statutes, “To consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of the District’s part time and full-time employees, over which the Fire Board exercises responsibility”.
- The fire board will not convene into open session at the close of the closed session.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Mike Sauer and seconded by Kent Lorenz to approve the minutes of the April 22nd meeting as written. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Brad Bowen’s Report

- A copy of the monthly run report was included with the board packet. The district responded to 376 calls in April which is an increase of 4% increase year-to-date over last year.
- There was a training last month at county health regarding the PODS for mass inoculations that were talked about last month. There will be a table top exercise on June 3 at WCC. Sometime this summer will be a local table top exercise to plan on how to set up our facility. As part of the table top exercise, we will be working on what supplies we will need, what security will be required.
- On May 17th fire pre-alerts were implemented. The time saving on pre-alerts has been about 45 seconds. Jeff Roemer asked if we were using the same software for fire pre-alerts as EMS pre-alerts. Chief Bowen said that it is the same software with added determinants.
- Blue Card training was assigned to all officers, full-time and interns. Chief can check on the status of the training for each of the students which he plans to do on a monthly basis.
- One truck went to Appleton firefighter Lundgaard’s funeral. We also sent a ladder to Ashippun for former chief Jim Franke’s funeral.
- EMS Billing reports were distributed showing overall billing collection percentages for the last 18 months. We did have an extra part time person (Amy Meyer) reviewing our EMS bills that

are flagged as unbillable. With her reviewing them, we had zero bills that were not billable. We will be getting a report from Andres to show the return on the bills that Amy corrected to show that her time is being well spent.

Chief Officer Reports

- Assistant Chief Schuetz was at a vehicle fire/accident call, thus not at the meeting and there were no questions.
- Deputy Chief Meyer had nothing to add to his report and there were no questions.
- Deputy Chief Kami Warren was not at the meeting there were no questions.

Discussion – 5-year Capital Improvement Plan

- The plan in the packet was the same as that which was presented at the owners meeting on May 1st. It is on the agenda for discussion only and will be back on the agenda in June for discussion and action. From there, it will go to the Joint Owners Capital Budget meeting on June 26th for approval by each of the municipalities.
- The big change in this 5-year plan from what was presented last year is the moving of the roof repairs to station 3 to be done in next year and moved the purchase of a utility vehicle next year to be delayed until 2021.
- Each year we re-evaluate the needs for apparatus based on the current status of the apparatus and the district. Jeff Roemer asked about the replacement of the station 2 ladder. He does not feel that we need both a platform and ladder truck. The platform would be replaced and we should rely on mutual aid for additional ladders. Chief Bowen responded that for fires, we cover over 100 square miles. As part of the consolidation, we did eliminate one ladder, but the board at that time felt we needed to have one on the north and one on the south. The ladder that was at Summit (now at Dousman) was partially paid for by Aurora Hospital as it was needed for that facility. For residential structure fires, it could be impossible to get a platform near the residence due to the size of the platform, where a ladder truck could fit. We will also check on what going to one ladder would do to our ISO rating. There was no question on the replacing of the platform, and our current ladder truck is good for another 8 to 10 years, so we can re-address this later. Mike Sauer asked for statistics on our ladder's usage and the mutual aid use of ladders both coming into the district and going out. Mike Tompkins asked for more information on when we use a ladder truck, what facilities require a ladder, both on the north and south. Jeff Roemer asked to get the number of ladders / platforms in the surrounding area. Jimi Hall said that following that discussion, if we determine that the ladder currently at Dousman is not needed, we should look at selling it now while it is worth more. Chief said he would have more information for the July board meeting on ladder operations and usage.
- Mike Sauer asked about the cost of the ATV 2 replacement in 2021 increasing by \$15,000. Chief Bowen stated the cost was updated following seeing units at FDIC. The cost of \$40,000 is for the ATV, pump and tank. The tank and pump are removable and could be moved to another ATV when the ATV needs replacement.

Discussion/Action – Ambulance & Highway Refunds

- A motion was made by Mike Tompkins and seconded by Mike Sauer to pay the ambulance refunds totaling \$30.00. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action - Payment of Bills

- A motion was made by Mike Tompkins and seconded by Kent Lorenz to pay the bills totaling \$574,263.16. Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items and Meeting

- The June meeting will be held on June 24th at Station 1 (Pabst).
- The Joint Owners Capital Budget meeting will be held on June 26th at the Summit Village Hall starting at 6:00 pm

Closed Session

- The Fire Board convened into closed session at 5:30 pm and did not reconvene into open session.