



Lawson Fire & Rescue Protection District

Directors Meeting Minutes

03/11/2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Lawson Fire & Rescue Protection District was called to order at 6:30 PM on 03/11/2021 at Lawson Mo Fire Department by President Vester Cates with the pledge.

Present: President Vester Cates, Secretary Faydonna Heath, Directors Dean Craig, Beryl Speiser, Kris Walker, Chief Gene Nolker, Deputy Chief Rodney Cates, and substitute, on behalf of the District Clerk, Candace McClain.

Approval of Minutes & Bills: Minutes not approved for clerical revision and will be resubmitted at the next meeting. Bills were approved. Kris Walker motioned to approved, Dean Craig second the motion. Unanimous approval.

New Business: Speaker, **Richard Wharton** regarding property damage coverage. Renewal February 1st. Delayed due to personal surgery. Presented coverage for ST 1 & 2. There is a change regarding how liability is offered, 1 million & 2 million. Covered in excess liability, still have 2 million totals.

Community member, Jerri Ann Arnold inquired if prevailing wage cost was factored in? Mr. Wharton responded, its better to be over insured then under.

A new company is quoting about \$4000.00 cheaper for identical coverage. Based out of Bermuda, specializing in public service entities, primarily on the east coast. Mr. Wharton worked as sub agent for Mike Keith and will pursue further data. Going with Continental this year. Chief Nolker will review and update equipment and vehicles and presented at next meeting.

Phone Systems: The current system is no longer maintained or supplied by communications companies. Bare minimum actions were taken to make minor changes, such as the voice message and extension. Informed by our IT group as well as CenturyLink an upgrade was imminent. In addition, a fiber plan was most effective with current phone systems. District Clerk to pursue bids and present at the next meeting.

Uniforms: District Clerk initiated and created an inventory document with proposed process pertaining to supplying uniform items to personnel. A question pertaining to EMS pant allowance was suggested and denied. Some EMS personnel purchase their own pants with cargo pockets to hold adequate medical items for on scene activity.

Discussion regarding the new Excelsior Springs alterations shop and new ownership as well as cost analysis for future items. Determined each new hire should receive an



adequate fitting t-shirt. District Clerk is to submit an email to personnel to utilize the new boot program. District Clerk and part-time Deputy Chief to collaborate on uniform matters. Deputy Chief Cates encouraged communication to employees that they can communicate with him via phone or email at any time for uniform needs.

Old Business: Health insurance renewal. Policy increased at 8%, still the most viable option for the budget with no changes to coverage. Moved to Principal for disability coverage. Motion to approve initiated by Kris Walker, second by Faydonna Heath. Unanimous approval.

Handbook: Workshop to be scheduled finalizing copy for distribution prior next months meeting.

Chiefs Report: New air packs arrived. Company coming to install and fit for proper function. Purple wave website an option for resale of used equipment. Chief initiated communication regarding property maintenance and mowing. He will receive quotes and provide at next meeting. Hose is being purchased through Leo M. Ellebrecht after review and consideration of all quotes provided. Motion to approve purchase by Dean Craig, second by Kris Walker, unanimous approval. Chief proposed a need for rock at Station 1 & 2. Dean Craig motioned to approve rock purchase, Beryl Speiser second, Faydonna Heath vetoed, Vester Cates approved. Rock purchase is approved. President Vester Cates will be hauling the rock for current costs.

Other Business: Community member, Jerri Ann Arnold requested an explanation for the Lawson Fire & Rescue Protection Districts need for closed session. Per board, pursuant to RSMo 610.021 closed session is in regard to a personnel matter.

Pursuant to RSMo 610.021 Board Director Faydonna Heath motioned, for closed session. Board President Vester Cates asked for roll call. Faydonna Heath, yea. Dean Craig, yea. Beryl Speiser, yea. Kris Walker, yea. Roll call vote determined unanimous approval to end closed session. Board President Vester Cates asked for roll call. Faydonna Heath, yea. Dean Craig, yea. Beryl Speiser, yea. Kris Walker, yea.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM by Vester Cates. The next general meeting will be at 6:30PM on 04.08.2021, at LFD.

Minutes taken by Candace McClain.
Submitted by District Clerk, Rebecca Stieh
Approved by:

All minutes and contents pertaining are provided to The Lawson Review as well as available through the District Clerk's Office. Minutes are not official until approved at the proceeding Directors meeting.

