MESA COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 26, 2024

At 7:17 PM Murray Thiessen called the meeting to order. Murray Thiessen, Chuck Nelson, Eric Talley, Wayne DeGesualdo and Eric Brown (by phone) were present for the board.

Murray Thiessen said an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Murray Thiessen asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the last Board Meeting. Wayne DeGesualdo made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Eric Talley and Eric Brown both seconded the motion as the same time. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Handbook Update- Chief said received a copy of Central Orchard Mesa's handbook, is going through it but has no date on when will be finished.

EMTS Funding Program FY 2023 – Stacy Cox has submitted the reimbursement request a second time for the power cot and power lift system and is just waiting for reimbursement.

EMTS Funding Program FY 2024 –Stacy Cox has submitted the reimbursement request a second time for the Ambulance waiting on the reimbursement.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurers Report

Murray Thiessen presented the treasurer's report. Advised, as we have spoken about before, Line item 206- ambulance maintenance is already over budget for the year but it was necessary for maintenance. We are at 91.6% of the way through the year and income from tax revenue is at 106.38% from Lands Ends and 104.75% from Central Orchard Mesa. Along with the other revenue, our total is sitting at 65.23% as we are waiting on the reimbursements from the grants. Total expenses for year-to-date are at 85.58% for the year. Eric Talley made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Eric Brown seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Budget 2025

Murray Thiessen presented the proposed 2025 budget with an estimated income at $460,478 and total estimated expenses as $454,390, reviewed how the budget was allocated.

Eric Brown made that motion to approve the budget for 2025 as presented. Eric Talley seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Chiefs Report

Water fill station on Reeder Mesa Rd.

Hydrant fire flow reading for ISO on Central Orchard Mesa.

Paulina had a meeting with Chris and he approved her to apply for protocol so she can schedule her meeting with the Dr.

The two-truck sold and we made $8350.00, we should get the check in a week.

Breann needs one more call to schedule her meeting.

We are going to be sending letters out to inactive members, have about six members not active at all.

Dorie is writing two more grants, the SAFER grand and the AFG grant, the SAFER grant would be for hiring and retention funds, and the AFG grant would be for new 800 radios.

Chief got in touch with the lady in charge of the water line. It is a flow line not a pressured line. We may be able to create a sub line to a pump station to fill tenders on Reeder Mesa Road, Lands End/Divide Road and Kannah Creek/Divide Road. MCFA would have to help/cover the cost to create it.

Chief forgot to ask GJ Fire about ALS calls once we are fully staffed with EMTs but will not charge for fire calls. The agreement was not about fire calls, only abut EMS.

Sent the agreement with GJ Fire to the attorneys, had a couple of minor changes. Chuck does not think they will charge for ALS calls once we are able to run our BLS calls on our own.

Chief Watkins last day will be Dec 6th as he took a job with State. Interim Chief is Gus Hendricks. They will have a new city manager in Grand Junction on December 3rd.

Image Trend Call Reports

Stacy Cox went over the 4 normal Image Trend reports which included Mutal Aid (given and received), Time of Arrival, Area of Call, and Category of Call. Stacy also presented the two, two-week reports, since the last board meeting, of who worked, calls and who responded.

Image Trend Call Reports

Stacy Cox advised the annual Christmas Party for members, staff and board members is being held at MCFA on December 15, 2024 and to RVSP by 12/6 by 4pm.

Other Matters before the Board:

Charles Nelson made a motion to accepting the billing schedule proposal from Grand Junction Fire for Grand Junction EMS support as it was returned to MCFA from our attorney. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Chief position has had three applicants so far.

Wayne DeGesualdo meet with Chief Balke at the end November and looking at sharing resources. Also meet with Chief Cherveny of Clifton and Chief Watkins to talk about long term solutions.

Chief Cherveny is looking at building a station by Corn Lake for Clifton and would like to take over Central Orchard Mesa and all of its resources.

Chief Balke of Palisade has sent a proposal to the board, has not yet made it public, to share resources and help oversee MCFA. Chuck Nelson voiced concerns that it's 17.5 miles to station 53 from Palisade and 25 minutes. Palisade got a 1.3 million SAFER grant and may be able to send an EMT out to Station 51 to help cover calls.

Chuck Nelson spoke with Chris Rowland and found that 30 to 40% of Palisade calls needed mutual aid.

MCFA board asked that a special meeting be called for Sunday December 8th at 1:00 pm and lunch will be provided to talk about options for MCFA.

Chuck Nelson suggested that a thank you be sent to Mesa County Road and Bridge for the work that was done on the grade of our drive. Road and Bridge suggested that we cut down the weeds in the back and the ones coming up through the concrete. Stacy Cox will put together a grab-a-snack basket as a thank you and have a card here for everyone to sign at the special meeting.

Public Comment:

Rich Phillips has three things:
1. Wants to be here on December 8th
2. Only sees 10 active members if that is all from the working list
3. Wants the chief and working bodies to know that there are two dip sticks, one at each tank, so they can tell the water level. Had to remove the safety hatches to accomplish this but both tanks are holding water.

Wayne DeGesualdo thanked Rich for his help with water tanks.

Adjournment of meeting

Eric Talley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35.

Next Board Meeting is December 8, 2024 about 1 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Cox
Administrative Assistant

Mesa County Fire Authority

ATTEST

ATTEST