

MEETING MINUTES OF THE GREER FIRE DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Time/Date: 1900 Hours, 22 February 2012

Meeting Location: Greer Fire District Station 2, 38974 SR 373

I.) CALL TO ORDER

Dan Leeds called the meeting to order at 1859 hours. Dan expressed his appreciation to all for their continued contribution to the District and noted that we are, as of today, officially in fire season (Ranch Fire).

II.) ROLL CALL OF FIRE BOARD MEMBERS

Attendees: Leeds, Ted Diepstraten, Combs, Chief Wade, Jan Gabby, Rachel Geisler, R.J. Carnwright. Lee Smith arrived at 1930 hours.

III.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Board meeting of 18 January 2012)

Ted moved approval with correction on page 2 (grant expiration date of 2013), second by Page, unanimous approval.

IV.) SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES: None

- Website report – Chief is having some problems with PDF's. Ted will help him with this.
- Auxiliary Report - The Auxiliary volunteered to do the calling of the locals who are sensitive to smoke and they are wondering if there are any updates on burning schedule. Chief said he doesn't have anything definitive yet; it still depends on weather.
 - Jan wondered about mention of the new phone system in the minutes. Chief explained.
 - Jan requested sizes available for new shirts.
 - There was some discussion of logistics for the pancake breakfast – traffic flow, position of cooking apparatus, drinks, etc.
 - Discussion of Open House (May 26). Chief says a mini-muster is possible. He will talk to Springerville and Eagar about participation.
 - Pancake breakfast will be July 7, with a start time of 7 A.M.

Bob requested use of grill for Springerville fly-in in late June.

- Annual audit report - Smith not yet in attendance.

V.) CALL TO THE PUBLIC: None present

VI.) REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

A.) Chief's Report

- Chief reiterated that fire season is officially underway. Ranch Fire was approximately 1000 acres at containment. Forest Service had three Type 6, one dozer; Eagar had two Type 6, one Type 3; Springerville had two Type 6; St. Johns one Type 6. Howard Carlson was the I.C. until he turned it over to D.O.C. with Darrel Craig in charge. Cause is unknown.
- For month of January – 10 calls, 4 EMS, 3 MVA, 1 snowmobile accident with a fractured leg and a helicopter assist and 2 public assist calls. Chief was pleased with our response to the snowmobile accident. Matt and R.J. responded with the toboggan and equipment as well as Chief.
- No vehicle maintenance problems.
- Dan noted that R.J. serviced the pump engine on the pump on 1740. Dan serviced the engine on the pump on 1746. Safety checks on the fleet will be done next week.
- Dan expressed appreciation to those who put the overload springs on the new truck. All the work done by us is a dollar savings.
- Chief says turnouts are now in good shape.
- We do now have a UPS account. We will be purchasing a scale.
- Training:
 - Chris did the emergency driving training. This coming Tuesday he will do the driving portion of it. Rachel is doing her 130-190 class.
 - Eagar is doing a standard fire refresher March 8 – 10. The Show Low one is April 20 or 21 (two different ones). They do it as an actual incident. R. J. is signed up for several wildland classes over the next couple of months.
 - R.J. and Chief finished a computer course on E.M.S. charting. Chief does not think electronic charting will work well for us due to smaller staffing. Dave asked whether some of the agencies are not doing it and having success with it? Chief feels drop sheets work best for units which are non-transporting.
 - Chief will be taking a class for Combi-tube March 1. He will then train our personnel in the procedure.
 - Basic fire investigation class is coming up in March. R.J. will be attending an incident safety officer's class in Tucson March 1 and 2.
 - March 19 and 20 there will be a class by Jim Saunders on governmental accounting.
- A Google calendar has been set up to show the schedule of each individual.
- Rollers and hinges have been ordered for the main doors.
- Chief Sluiter will be out of town March 7 – 13.
- Rachael's wedding is scheduled for March 3 at 4 P.M. at the Greer Community Center.
- Chief feels that if all our fuels reduction money is not used at the end of the summer we should open it up to areas such as Green's Peak Hideaway.

- Lee mentioned that a Post Fire Mitigation grant is coming up in March which will be administered by the County and the U of A extension. This is to provide relief to individuals who have suffered loss in the Wallow Fire.
- Lee gave update on the recent community meeting regarding proposed burning on the west side of the Valley.
- Turnout racks should be done the first week of March.
- Nutrioso would like any turnouts we have available. This would require a release of liability waiver.
- Rachel's last day will be May 31.
- Matt's last day will be March 4.
- Testing will be set up for new hires soon.
- Dave asked whether there will be advanced testing for the people we have now.
- There was discussion of the moving of NPX out of Greer.
- Communications generally working good.
- Chief was not at all happy about us not being requested to respond to the Ranch Fire.

B.) Chairman's Report

- Thanked all for good safety effort. Dan was pleased with the emergency driving training last night. It was a good refresher for all of us. He emphasized "buy local and buy American" for the sake of both our local and national economies. Dan asked whether we ever got the smoke masks for Wildland fires?
- Discussion of ordering F500. Chief wants to order 100 gallons at \$25 per gallon.
- Dan asked whether we have any way of charging the new radios in the field.

C.) Treasurer's Report

- Lee will be printing out a page to go to the secretary with the account amounts rather than calling them out because we now have seven accounts.
- Lee reviewed the procedures he proposes to move over to the new accounts.
- Lee then reviewed the budget printout.
- We are at 65% of the year.
- Bob suggested that for purposes of having the account amounts on the record they probably should be called out in the meeting. There was discussion of whether Bellinger Springs was paid. There was discussion of delinquent property taxes and all agreed that Greer has an outstanding record in comparison to the rest of the County.
- Lee then read account balances.

General Fund (4 accounts):

Apache County Treasurer	\$104,245
Payroll	\$15,050

Special Revenue	\$130,961
Capital	\$11,790
Non-General Fund Accounts:	
GFD Auxiliary	\$5,817
GFD Pension	\$11,268
Bellinger Springs	\$1,021

- Dan asked whether everyone had taken their draw from the pension fund for last year? Lee said one individual has not cashed his check yet.
- Dan moved adoption of the Treasurer’s report as reported. Second by Ted. Unanimous approval.
- Chief gave a property tax oversight commission update. Our assessed value decreased roughly three million dollars from FY 2011-12 to 2012-13 and the tax rate increased from \$1.09 to \$1.32. If your assessed value drops more than 20% for two consecutive years you have the right to override the 8% cap without a vote. So, next year, based on an 8% cap we will be looking at a tax levy of \$351,291. Chief said that if there are no questions he will send it in. There were none.

D.) Committee Reports –None scheduled

E.) Correspondence Received:

- Dan had a letter from the Greer Civic Association advising of the dates of Greer Days – June 15, 16, 17.

VII.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CALENDAR

A.) Personnel Issues

- Brian Struble will try to test out of the EMT course to get his certification.
- Shift coverage has been good with good cooperation.
- Brian has not made his 75% in his 90 days probation. The only time he seems to come to training is when Chris is teaching.

B.) Volunteer/Hiring

- Robbie Sutherland – new reserve.

C.) Auxiliary Activities - none

D.) Standard Operating and Administrative Procedures

- No S.O.P.’s. Chief and Chief Sluiter are working on shift rate (060).

G.) Bumper / Winch – Lee moved to table – Bob, second, unanimous

H.) Storage Container Box - Lee moved to table Ted, second, unanimous

I.) Revised Budget 2011 – 2012

- Revised budget posted on 19 January. Lee moved approval of revised budget of 2011-2012 as posted, second by Dave. Unanimous approval.

J.) Training Room Roof

- There was discussion of the type of truss to use and various contractors to contact. General consensus was that an attic truss would be desirable with 2 foot extensions over sides and end. Lee moved to table. Second by Ted. Unanimous approval.

K.) Proposed budget 2012-2013

- Budget meeting will be March 2, 9 A.M. We are hoping to carry over about \$150,000.
- Lee moved to table until we have budget meeting. Second by Ted. Unanimous approval.

VIII.) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Lee reviewed new agenda items. Next regular meeting will be March 21.

IX.) ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment occurred at 2050 hours.

By: _____

Robert L Combs

Clerk of the Board

Board Members:

Dan Leeds, Chairman _____

Ted Diepstraten _____

Dave Page _____

Bob Combs _____

Lee Smith _____