

Fire District 16 Minutes

Meeting Date- April 2, 2007

Attendance

Commissioners- Sam Wright, Tim Kenyon

Absent- Roger Prater

Fire Chief- Jim Wheeler

Secretary/Treasurer- Ken Thompson

George Warter

Linda Warter

Mike Woelke

6:00 PM As chair, Sam brought the meeting to order.

Previous Minutes-

- Sam read the minutes of the March 26, 2007 meeting. Sam made a motion to approve the minutes and Tim seconded the motion.

Web Page- Mike Woelke

- Mike suggested people could sign up for several things using an email link on the web page.
- Mike suggested that although the information needed for the web page may look like a lot, the web page its self will look quite simple.
- Several aspects of the proposed web page were discussed.
- Earlier, Mike sent out a draft web page content form that needed specific information to be filled in. Sam went through this document and assignments were made to provide the needed information to Mike.
- Information for the web page should be sent to Mike as soon as possible.

Fire Chief- Jim Wheeler

- AFG now open until May 4th. Jim discussed possibilities for this grant. Jim will have information available for the next meeting.
- Republic Trip- Fifteen fire shelters, two-200 gallon tanks, one-50 gallon tank and pump, hose reels, and other equipment donations were picked up.
- Training- the Field Day was completed on Saturday.
- Soap Lake Trip- A 2,500 gallon tender was inspected during the trip. What would be needed if the tender was accepted into the Fire District was discussed briefly. Additional discussions occurred later in the meeting.
- A work party to get folks together for Fire District needs was discussed.
- Jim spoke to the assessor's office about the budget. It could go up 1%/year plus new construction at the same levy rate. The Budget isn't set until December.
- Labor and Industries was discussed.
- Fire call on Friday- Jim heard a fire call via radio. He called the dispatcher to try to clarify considerable misinformation he identified as a result of this fire call.

The assessor's office and planning office need better coordination as their future functions mature and become better defined.

- Burn permit applications- After reviewing several fire calls in the area Jim saw the value of fire permits. As a safety tool, they provide considerable useful information that could prevent unnecessary code runs to false alarms. Jim emphasized there should be no charge associated with issuing fire permits. An article in the paper and possibly a public meeting could be held to discuss the safety needs of Fire Permits. Jim will write a press release. Fire Permits will be placed on next weeks agenda and a resolution will be considered at this meeting.
- The communications plan is close to being completed. Jim may have it ready to review at our next meeting.
- A check list, attached to the Fire Protection Contracts for Aeneas Valley, is needed. It will be a fluid document with changes made to improve it over time. This check list will be used in discussions with property owners when a contract for fire service is being considered.

Okanogan County Fire Protection District #16 (Aeneas Valley Fire) Contract Fire Protection Program Membership Certificate-

- A motion to accept this document was made by Tim and then seconded by Sam.
- A policy to determine when it is used and under what circumstances will be determined at a later date.
- Jim will write a "Standard Operating Procedure" for contract services.

Land for the Fire District- George Warter

- Several pieces of private land that were proposed for the Fire District have been inspected. Most of this land had difficulties that would need to be addressed before it could be useful for the Fire District.
- The County has some acreage that could be available. George has several questions about this land that need to be resolved before he can make a recommendation.
- State Game Department land cannot be donated or leased, it must be sold. George is investigating the feasibility of this option.
- George discovered the Fire District unfortunately doesn't qualify for several grants that provide money for land purchases.
- George will investigate county tax defaults. This option may require payments.
- A grange or community center within the Fire District was discussed.

General Discussion-

- A possible source of water for the Fire District was discussed. Sam and George may to take a look at it.

Aeneas Valley Community Fire Association-

- Tim Kenyon- The horse cart has been moved and will be cleaned up. It then will be put under a protective tent-like structure. Pictures of the horse cart will be taken to help promote a pending sale, most likely in eBay.

- Linda Warter- The second day at the bank went well. About \$75-\$100 was collected. The Wildwood cafe is helping with the raffle baskets.

Action Items-

- Sam will email Mike a copy of Policies and Procedures.
- Information for the web page should be sent to Mike as soon as possible.
- Jim will write a press release about the Fire Permits.
- Sam will update sections of Policies and Procedures.
- Tim will work on contracts for land grants.

Further Discussions about the Soap Lake Truck-

- The truck, located in Grant County District 7, is an XM 813 5-ton all wheel drive truck.
- The truck will require monies to configure it for Aeneas Fire District needs.
- It could help with water when fighting fires.

Vote on the Soap Lake Truck-

- Sam made a motion to try to get the truck.
- Tim seconded this motion.

8:50 PM- Sam moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded the motion.

Ken Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer, April 3, 2007

