

**HYALITE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
PUBLIC MEETING  
MINUTES**

DATE: October 18, 2016      TIME: 7:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Sourdough Fire Station, 4541 S. 3rd.  
BY: Hyalite Fire District Board of Trustees

Call to Order of Hyalite Rural Fire District by Chairman Kraft at 7:02pm  
Members Present: Kraft, Tate, Zidack, Wyman  
Members Absent: Geddes

Staff Members present: Fire Chief-Jason Revisky, Assistant Fire Chief-Brian Nickolay Bookkeeper/Office  
Administrator-Rebeka Godfrey

Public Present: Steve White, Larkin Scott, Chris Eaton, Betty McCoy, Sandy Taylor

Public Comment:

**Consent Agenda**

- A motion to approve the consent Agenda items was called by Trustee Zidack and seconded by Trustee Wyman. Vote was approved unanimously.

**Regular Agenda**

- 1) Discussion and Decision on Hyalite Fire Recommendations for developers
  - a) Chief Revisky was asked to create a list of recommendations, not requirements to give to developers in conjunction with the county subdivision fire regulations. Attached is Article I, the county sub division requirements, Chief Revisky's recommendations and Appendix B the Fire Codes chart of recommended water supply as adopted by the state of Montana.
  - b) Trustee Zidack wanted to make sure that the final draft of our recommendations was clear that they were recommendations and did not leave anything open to interpretation.
- 2) Discussion and Decision on the Review of the Board of Trustees including Chief input
  - a) Trustee Wyman added this to our agenda. He stated that it was once in the Sourdough By-laws and asked the chief for the input of the staff and volunteers.
  - b) Chief Revisky stated that he was unable to give a review tonight, that if the board wanted true input from the staff and volunteers that he would need time to put it together. Trustee Wyman asked for any input that he could provide now. Chief Revisky added that everyone on the board is doing a great job doing everything that has happened so far as it pertains to the consolidation. It has been a great effort and hoped that the board, staff and volunteers would continue to move forward on the same team.
  - c) Chairman Kraft asked Chief Revisky if he wanted to table the agenda item to gather more information. Chief Revisky agreed it would be the best idea. He also suggested that due to the honesty of some individuals he asked if the board would want a closed meeting.
  - d) PUBLIC COMMENT:

- i) Steve White added that as an elected official and not paid personnel, he did not think there would be an option for a closed meeting. He also thought it would be best that the public had an opportunity to provide feedback.
  - ii) Sandy Taylor agreed with Mr. White
  - iii) Chief Revisky wanted a form with metrics and criteria to rate on.
  - iv) Larkin Scott, President of the Sourdough Firefighters Association thanked the board for the opportunity for volunteer involvement on the review and added that it would help to allow for the board, staff and volunteers to work together as a team.
- 3) Discussion and Decision on Staff Health Insurance
- a) Trustee Wyman noted that the renewal period for Staff Health Insurance is in March of 2017. He wanted to make sure the board was prepared this year for the renewal period by looking over all options.
    - i) What is the best we can do?
    - ii) What are other options that are cheaper and may provide better coverage?
    - iii) Have a committee find and put together all options for discussion
  - b) Sandy Taylor asked the board if the staff could be included in the city governments coverage plans.
  - c) Chief Revisky added that although we are a different government group than city workers, there could be a possible way to create a larger district with other departments to create a larger group that could provide a savings.
  - d) Trustee Wyman suggested that he and Chief Revisky form the committee and start by gathering the information from the insurance rep.
  - e) Trustee Zidack asked Trustee Wyman if the coverage would be par, or above par moving forward, or would the changes result in a reduction of benefits.
    - i) Trustee Wyman stated that he would be unable to answer that at the current time, that there could be a reduction in unneeded benefits and that he just wanted to be proactive and see what was out there.
  - f) Trustee Zidack asked to be a part of the committee to help assist.
- 4) Discussion and Decision on Workers Comp coverage of Chief (SRT activities)
- a) A motion was made to allow Chief Revisky to sign the memorandum stating that the fire station would be responsible to cover his WC when attending SRT activities and we will follow up with our WC coverage carrier to make sure that Chief Revisky is covered while performing those duties. Trustee Zidack seconded the motion; all present board members voted unanimously in favor.
- 5) Chief Revisky's Report
- a) Wanted to take a moment to recognize Larkin Scott on a great pancake breakfast. There was a record number of people that attended. He also wanted to recognize Chris Branting on being able to get more grills which helped in the smoothness of the event.
  - b) Also added that the old command suburban has been sold.
  - c) The fall recruit class has started. They did have one individual drop out, but since it was early they were able to replace very quickly. Chris Eaton is doing a great job. Recruit classes are going very smoothly. Each new recruit class Chris brings forward recommendations and makes it better. In the beginning the recruit classes would take 14-18 months to complete. Chris has been able to devote enough time to make the class complete in about 3 months!
  - d) Chief Revisky received a text from residents at the Rae house stating that the driveway is becoming a mud pit. Trustee Wyman suggested dropping some gravel off in the driveway to help. Chairman Kraft even offered his truck to transport the gravel.

- e) Chief Revisky asked if there would be any reason to not allow volunteers to use the lot adjacent to the Rae house to store boats, trailers and campers. Trustee Wyman thought as long as they are being parked in a nice organized manor and we as the station would be free from liability, that there should not be a problem. He asked Chief Revisky to follow-up with our insurance agent to make sure we were not liable and to create a policy.
- 6) Trustee Activities
  - a) Chairman Kraft and Trustee Wyman attended the MFTA Conference the past weekend. Chairman Kraft added that it was very interesting, enlightening and educational.
  - b) Some of the highlights included:
    - i) There may be a mandate that would require all departments to cover volunteers under Workers Comp. Since we already do, we are ahead of the curve.
    - ii) Some agencies bill insurance companies for Vehicle Emergency Response. This could be something we can do for added revenue.
    - iii) Create a policy for Hyalite Fire to have a \$ threshold on what can/should go out for personal bid.
    - iv) Chairman Kraft added that he thought the conference was time well spent. He still thought that the board should hold off on registering with the group and would like to know when the Fire School Trustee Meetings are so that they could attend.
- 7) Announcements
  - a) Next Joint Board Meeting is Tuesday November 15, 2016
- 8) Adjourn
  - a) Meeting adjourned at 9:42pm