

**POLSON RURAL FIRE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – JUNE 11, 2008**

Board trustee members present: Ross Hoyt, Fred Nelson, Alison Meslin, Jim Manley, and Dave Ottun

Board trustee member absent: None

Staff Present: Fire Chief John Fairchild

Guests: Polson City Councilwoman Elsa Duford, Lester Johnson, Volunteer Fire Personnel Paul Bishop, Jack Konitz, Jeff Meslin, and Arnold Gomke.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Hoyt at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes May 14, 2008 Rural Fire Board Meeting: Trustee Meslin requested the following changes Page 2 correspondence ~~The volunteers wish to state ...~~The volunteers wrote “we want to go on record as stating that we do not feel that such a separation would ultimately be of benefit to anyone: the City Council; the Rural Board; the Fire Chief; the volunteers of the Department; and most importantly the community we serve”. Page 3 Building comparisons: Charlo fire will be constructing a 70’x100’ building borrowing \$150,000 for 30 years with an annual payment of \$10,000. Fisher River Valley constructed a 72’x80’ building for \$142,000. Smith Valley built a 158’x80’ building for \$1.5 million with a 20 year loan. **Motion Trustee Ottun, seconded Trustee Manley to approve minutes of May 14, 2008 as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasury Report:

Operating Fund Balance	\$ 63,107.55
Capital Improvement Fund Balance	\$ 97,894.06
Voted Levy Fund Balance	\$ 39,889.77

Paid bills in the amount of \$ 17,014.48

Check numbers 3670- 3682, both inclusive
(paid June 11, 2008)

Additional bills paid \$955.54 included in revised report presented at meeting.

Trustee Nelson indicated second half real property tax collections \$41,000 is included in the operating fund balance. Motion Chairman Hoyt, seconded Trustee Nelson accepted the treasury report as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Bills: Trustee Meslin noted the \$15,000 payment to the City of Polson for the FY ’07-’08 interlocal agreement is paid at the end of June. The bill for the SCBA hydrostatic testing is split with the City; the rural share is \$465.00 expensed as a purchased service item. Trustee Nelson questioned the fuel card with TransMontaigne Montana Fleet card. TransMontaigne is an additional fuel card source with a discount applied at the time of billing. **Motion Chairman Hoyt, seconded Trustee Ottun to pay bills. Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business:

WESTERN STATES INSURANCE POLICY – Trustee Meslin questioned workers’ compensation coverage when the fireboat patrol is on the lake since the lake is not in the fire district. Volunteer fireman Paul Bishop indicated the membership owns the fireboat. Paul also reported this summer the volunteers plan to attack fires from the lake. The fireboat will then serve as a type 6 engine on the lake. Fire Chief Fairchild reported workers’ compensation insurance becomes effective with mutual aid calls. Trustee Manley will review the workers’ compensation coverage and report findings at the July meeting.

AUDIT FY '07-'08 – The documents pertaining to the audit were received at the office of Ronald P. Foltz, CPA in Missoula. Trustee Meslin noted former Fire Chief Tom Maloney established a capital expenditure form for purchases over \$500.00. Currently the form is not used. Auditors generally analyze procedure, therefore, the board may want to do some housekeeping.

ANNEXED RURAL PROPERTY BY CITY – Trustee Meslin reported City Councilman Tom Jones indicated City Attorney James Raymond and City Manager Jay Henry will create a form to notify the property owner at the time of annexation of the rural fire bond obligation. The form will be designed to notify the district board and tax department that payment is due in one lump sum at the time of annexation.

ENGINE 319 – Trustee Meslin requested a list of the loose parts removed from engine 319 for inventory purposes. Trustee Meslin reported St. Ignatius fire department refurbished and repaired a similar tanker at a cost of \$52,000. Ronan fire chief contacted Trustee Meslin regarding purchase of engine 319 with the intent the volunteers will upgrade and repair the unit. Volunteer Fireman Paul Bishop indicated volunteers working on trucks create a liability. Fire Chief Fairchild reported the following were contacted for sale of 319 Northwest Peterbilt stated \$18,000 - \$22,000; Hughes Fire no quote; Mahugh Fire \$2,000 - \$10,000; Missoula Rural suggested an open consignment auction. **Motion Trustee Nelson, seconded Trustee Meslin engine 319 inspected for cost of repairs. Motion carried unanimously.**

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – Trustee Manley redrafted the agreement with one addition to be completed by City Attorney James Raymond. The revisions were agreeable with the city. The interlocal agreement will be reviewed at the regular scheduled council meeting, June 16, 2008. Trustee Meslin will attend the city council meeting.

LEASE WITH LAKE COUNTY – Trustee Meslin congratulated Chairman Hoyt for the negotiations and signing the lease with Lake County Commissioners. The lease is for a ten (10) year period with a ten (10) year renewal on a parcel on land 200' X 200' at the Lake County Fairgrounds. (Copy of lease attached to file minutes). Regarding the fence Chairman Hoyt suggested the fence installed when a building is constructed. **Motion Trustee Nelson, seconded Trustee Meslin the county remove the trees and Polson Rural replace barbed wire and install metal posts. Motion carried unanimously.** Trustee Ottun reported approximate cost to construct a bare bones building. Slab on grade basic shell \$20-\$22 square foot under \$80,000; finish \$15 square foot. \$54,000; approximate total cost \$130,000 - \$145,000. Trustee Ottun will report on architectural proposals at July meeting. Trustee Meslin will inform Stonehorse and Jette Meadows of the board's decision to construct a fire station at the Lake County Fairgrounds and thank the area subdivisions for their generous land offer.

BIG ARM DOOR INSTALLED – Trustee Meslin reported the Big Arm Association installed the screen door to the meeting room at Station #2. Trustee Meslin presented a bill to reimburse Arnold Gomke for PVC pipe for the hamburger grill at Station 2. **Motion Trustee Nelson, seconded Trustee Ottun to pay bill in the amount \$26.94 to extend PVC pipe for hamburger grill on one side of building. Motion carried unanimously.**

New Business:

WEBSITE FOR RURAL FIRE DISTRICT – Trustee Meslin will inquire and report to the board regarding a website for the rural fire district. The website will streamline data application of agendas, minutes, etc.

CONTRACT – Trustee Meslin referred the June 11, 2003 minutes indicate each time the rural equipment is used at Mission Valley Speedway the fee is \$125.00. Currently the city engine #315 is utilized at the speedway. **Motion Trustee Meslin, seconded Trustee Manley to rescind motion to use rural equipment at speedway. Motion carried unanimously.**

FIRE CODES – Trustee Meslin noted the city recently adopted fire codes. Therefore does the rural fire have applicable fire codes? Fire Chief Fairchild indicated the rural should have fire codes enforced by the state. Fire codes will be discussed at the Montana Fire Chiefs conference in September. Chairman Hoyt suggested the board review fire codes following the conference.

STAFF REPORT – Fire Chief Fairchild informed the board wildland suppression costs are estimated at \$15,000 per foam application. Deannexation of the forest land is recommended. Fire Chief Fairchild presented an invoice from Home Town Plumbing for installation of air lines at Station 2 in the amount of \$442.98. Home Town Plumbing is donating materials and labor, therefore, a thank you letter should be sent. **Motion Trustee Meslin, seconded Trustee Manley to send a thank you letter to Home Town Plumbing. Motion carried unanimously.**

FY '08-'09 BUDGET – Board discussed preliminary budget line items presented by Fire Chief Fairchild. A special workshop budget meeting is scheduled in Polson city council chambers June 25, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Comments from public: None

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Ross Hoyt, Chairman

Alison W. Meslin Secretary-Treasurer