

**POLSON RURAL FIRE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – MAY 9, 2007**

Board trustee members present: Ross Hoyt, Alison Meslin, Fred Nelson.

Board trustee members absent: Steve Lozar.

Staff Present Fire Chief John Fairchild, Assistant Fire Chief Pete Bishop.

Guests: Jim Manley, Jeff Meslin, Kara Bishop

Meeting called to order by Chairman Hoyt at 7:01 p.m.

**Rural Fire Board Meeting Minutes April 10, 2007:** Chairman Hoyt noted a change on page one the last sentence the trustee term of appointment should be to April 30, 2008. **Motion Chairman Hoyt, seconded Trustee Nelson to approve April 10, 2007 minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

Chairman Hoyt noted the financials did not include the check from the Wolf Point Fire Department for the purchase of the slide-in. The check was deposited with Lake County Treasurer and will appear on the May 2007 financial report prepared by Lake County Treasurer. Additional expenditures for approval and included in the report Check #3412 Conoco Phillips \$99.82; Check #3413 St. Luke Community Healthcare Network \$122.00; Check #3414 G & M. Auto Tech \$420.41.

Operating Fund Balance	\$ 7,111.26
Capital Improvement Fund Balance	\$ 44,406.16
Voted Levy	\$ 1,457.03

Paid bills in the amount of 5-09-07      \$ 15,627.69

Check numbers 3398 – 3414, both inclusive  
(paid May 9, 2007)

Energy Partners propane contract is complete with a \$160.10 credit for savings. The prepay amount in the fall 2006 was \$800.00 for 500 gallons at \$1.60 per gallon. The quantity used was 286.90 gallons at \$1.43 and \$1.48 per gallon.

Trustee Meslin noted the payment for supplies to L. N. Curtis in the amount of \$14,020.40. The equipment is for the newly purchased apparatus and a portion of the original \$17,000 supply budget.

**Motion Trustee Meslin, seconded Trustee Nelson to pay bills and approve treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Correspondence:**

The board formally accepted the resignation of Trustee Steve Lozar. Two vacancies exist on the board. Trustee Nelson questioned if the second appointment needs to be advertised. Chairman Hoyt will contact the Lake County Commissioners regarding appointment of the two applicants, James Manley and David Ottun .

**Old Business:**

**IRVINE FLATS ANNEXATION** - Trustee Meslin reported a public hearing was conducted April 24, 2007 to hear public comments. Lake County Resolution 07-11 was passed and adopted that the Irvine Flats area shall become a part of the Polson Rural Fire District. (Note: A copy of the resolution was received after the board meeting).

**DNRC TRUCK FOR IRVINE FLATS** - Fire Chief Fairchild reported Mr Poukish, local DNRC representative indicated an updated chassis will be housed at the Big Arm Station next month. If that engine is needed elsewhere, it will be pulled. Volunteer firemen responding must be a member of the fire department with standard wildland training. Lake County and the board are accountable for use of the equipment. Trustee Meslin suggested someone needs to talk with the Irvine Flats residents regarding training, use and housing of the chassis.

**SUBDIVISION REVIEW FEES** – Trustee Nelson suggested the board send a letter to the Lake County Commissioners requesting a reasonable increase in the present \$100 per lot subdivision review fee. An increase to \$200 per lot with the assurance the funds would be deposited in the capital improvement fund seems reasonable. Trustee Meslin volunteered to write a letter.

**BIG ARM RENOVATIONS** – Trustee Meslin reported the landscaping with a gravel road, grass, trees and irrigation system will be completed soon.

**New Business:**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS** – Chairman Hoyt suggested the election tabled to the June meeting when a full board should be present. **Motion Chairman Hoyt, seconded Trustee Meslin to table election to the June meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

**APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES** - Chairman Hoyt reported James Manley and Dave Ottun are the applicants to serve on the board. Mr. Manley is present and volunteered to assist with projects. Pending projects include formulate a FY '07-'08 budget, review the current interlocal agreement between the City and Rural, current by-laws, and tribal lease. Mr. Manley is an attorney and will provide guidance. He resides in the rural fire district on Back Road near the Valley View area. **Motion Trustee Nelson, seconded Trustee Meslin to advise Lake County Commissioners to appoint James Manley as trustee. Motion carried unanimously.**

**BOARD MEETINGS IN BIG ARM** – Chairman Hoyt suggested the same months August, November, and March. The board is in agreement.

**REVIEW OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT** - Chairman Hoyt would like to review the document with a full board and proceed when a city manager is hired.

**BIG ARM ASSOCIATION CELEBRATION** - Trustee Meslin presented preliminary plans for the June 30<sup>th</sup> celebration. The Big Arm Association asked to be on the Tribal Council agenda to thank the council for the extended lease and water upgrades for the fire hall, extend an invitation to the event, and lease land on the east side of fire hall for the day. With the board's approval Trustee Meslin would also like to thank the council on behalf of the board. The event will include a ribbon cutting ceremony with representatives from the tribe council, board of trustees, fire chief, and Big Arm Association. Chairman Hoyt will be the representative from the board of trustees since he has been involved with the Big Arm Station for many years. Other plans include bagpipes, tribal drummers, tribal blessing, public thank you to tribe, new Big Arm firemen, and residents who volunteered labor and donations. The fireman will also provide a hamburger fry and display the new apparatus. A committee is organizing a craft show, bake sale, carnival of family games, and water balloon tournament.

**STONE RIDGE SUBDIVISION** - Chairman Hoyt requested Fire Chief Fairchild locate correspondence regarding the donation of land for a rural fire station.

**STAFF APPOINTMENTS** – Chief Fairchild introduced Assistant Fire Chief Pete Bishop, Captain Terry Gembala, and Captain Martin Glasson. The position of engineer is open.

Meeting adjourned 7:53 p.m.

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Ross Hoyt, Chairman

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Alison W. Meslin, Secretary-Treasurer