

GENESEE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes of January 20, 2021

Board of Directors' Meeting

via Zoom conference

Board Members in Attendance: Nancy Balter, JP Brewer, Susan Eagle, Patti Harris, Scott Mefford

Board Members Excused: none

Also Attending: Chief Puffett, Training Chief Babcock, Deputy Chief Neil Frame, Wildland Specialist Dorie Dalton, Bob Dalton, Christina Shea, Gary Anderson, Gary Rauchenecker

Call to Order: 18:00 by Scott Mefford

Minutes of Prior Meetings:

- A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously, to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2020 Board meeting.

Public Comment and Announcements: none

Financial Reports

- **Review of August Financials**
 - The December, 2020 financial report, presented by Christina Shea. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the financials as presented.

(The update on the CWPP and discussion of Fee Proposal from Baseline Engineering (new business) were taken out of order)

Reports of Officers, Committees, Professional Consultants

- **Wildland Specialist Dorie Dalton's Report**
 - Began position January 4, 2021
 - Has begun various training courses, met with stakeholders and shadowed peers doing home evaluations
- **Training Chief Ryan Babcock's Report**
 - Presented the training program to the membership
 - Have 4 members enrolled in EMT school
- **Deputy Chief Neil Frame's Report**
 - Call volume for 2020 was about 20 calls more than in 2019.
 - Chief Frame is meeting with each new coordinator to discuss their job description and will present proposed changes, if any, to Chief Puffett.
 - Events: Planning is underway for an event in June to celebrate the previous 2 recruit classes and present awards. There may be a zoom presentation toward the end of February by a former CDC employee with wildland experience about the effects of wildland fire on firefighters.
 - Recruiting: of 3 possible recruits, one has dropped out and one application has been received.
 - Apparatus (Bob Dalton): all performing well.
 - Facilities: Routine maintenance, installation of a vent system is underway.
 - Medical: New coordinator, Doug Barenburg is getting up to speed.

Old Business

- **Rotary Wildfire Ready**
 - Nancy Balter reported that the Safety committee is in communication with the new Emergency Manager for Jefferson County. He is receptive to feedback about concerns about the CodeRED system.
 - The RWR website will be updated to include the GFR logo.
- **Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update**

- Scott Mefford and Nancy Balter reported on progress to date. The Core Group has reviewed drafts of the first four sections and is pleased with the science-based analyses that have been presented. The analyses and findings starkly illustrate the risks that residents of the District face living in the WUI.
- The tentative timetable is that the findings of the CWPP will be presented to stakeholders (i.e., HOA representatives) toward the of February prior to the draft report being made public.
- A communication plan will be developed anticipating resident concerns about the findings of the CWPP.
- **COVID-19 Update**
 - All members should have received both doses of the vaccine shortly. Three members have opted out of receiving the vaccine and have signed waivers.
 - Chief Puffett asked for guidance on a re-entry plan noting the importance of in-person interactions for morale. It was recommended that re-entry can occur two weeks after the second vaccine injection, but that masks, hand washing and social distancing should still be practiced.

New Business

- **Fee Proposal from Baseline Engineering**
 - Chief Puffett described the importance of evaluating the feasibility of an egress route from the south side of the District and the basis for the selection of the particular route that is being evaluated. Additional routes can be evaluated at a nominal increase in cost and will provide a basis for comparison.
 - A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to authorize Chief Puffett to seek and execute a contract with Baseline Engineering to evaluate the routes in their proposal plus an additional two alternatives, for a total cost not exceed \$10,000 (without further Board approval), with the understanding that Genesee Foundation has agreed to reimburse the District 50% of the total cost upon receipt of Baseline's final report.
- **Disaster Declaration**
 - A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously, to approve the continuation of the disaster resolution, RESOLUTION NO. 2020-0324-01, for one month.

There being no further business, the Board meeting was adjourned at 19:25 hours.