

**FORT LEWIS MESA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD of DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 2024**

Attendance:

Directors:

Ginny DeJong
Ted Stahl
Debbie Lee
Brent Van Den Berg

Others: John Lee (Fire Chief)

Jeannine Glasby (District Off. Mgr.)

Absent: Paul Richardson

Debbie Called the meeting to order at 6:36

Minutes Approval: The Minutes of October 8, 2024, Board meeting was made available for review by the Board members. Ginny **motioned** to approve; Ted **seconded**. They were **approved** with the correction to October minutes to reflect the Board's decision to roll the funds in the Edward Jones CD (which is maturing December 12th) back into a CD, length of time, TBD.

Treasurer's Report:

- The October financial reports were reviewed by the Board members
- Checks were signed. A donation letter will be sent to Sara Kincheloe, for her donation to FLMFPD.

Public Comment:

- Debbie met with Chuck Stevens, County Manager, regarding the MOU for ambulance transport. Due to not being signed (which MOU was deemed insufficient with potential negative affects to FLMFPD by the Board last Board meeting and also having not been received in time for concerns to be addressed) the MOU will be revisited at a future time. Chuck gave Debbie a letter informing her that FLMFPD was not authorized as an official transport. Which would mean FLMFPD would continue to function as it has been. Debbie asked the representatives that county communication be sent to her, Chief, and Admin emails.
- The Chief received a text message from Tristan Greer, wanting to see the report from insurance deeming him unable to remain as a responder after his accident. Debbie will follow up with Tristan. Jeannine will communicate with Samba Safety (insurance monitoring).
- Debbie asked the Chief if he would arrange for someone to go and represent FLMFPD at the CWPP Meeting. It is being held on December 5th at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) from 9am to 11:30. He said he would.

Office Managers Report:

- Jeannine reported on the Quickbooks education she received.
- Jeannine will be gone November 28th - December 6th.

Chief's Report:

- Chief informed the Board of repairs done to the roof by himself and Michael O'Donnell. Also, rain gutters and Station 1 sign being installed.
- The chief reported on training which included 3 Rural FF grads. 2 FF are scheduled to attend the Winter Academy in Colorado Springs; DFR training has 3 slots in Feb.; 1 seat in the EMT course in Bayfield in January; EMT's moving forwarding toward IV certification; Luke finished FFI JPRs in Pagosa Springs. and will be doing HazMat training; Iesha will be testing for EMT. Department Jeopardy will be happening December 5th, and Dec. 19th - Reindeer Games.
- They will be doing the new year training meeting between Christmas and New Years.
- Chief noted that Pay Per Call checks would be going out. He expressed the "Great Performance given" by the responders.
- Firehouse Subs Grant payment is incoming.
- Chief reported from a recent meeting communication with DOLA, they are getting away from grants for apparatus. The Board approved Chief applying for a type 3 Brush truck through AFG. The application window opened today and closes December 20th.
- The SAFER grant will open in February. The Board authorized the Chief to apply. He will be giving the Board more specifics soon.
- Debbie asked about DOLA funds possibly for Station 6?
- Chief, after approval already given by the Board, to utilize Erin Samsa, the grant writer, for some specific grants.
- Chief reported on FLMFPD supporting community Halloween activities. Members will be participating in serving Thanksgiving lunch at FLM Elementary.

Unfinished Business:

Action Item Review:

Action Item # 382 was created.

- Jeannine had the 2025 budget noticed for public review, in the Durango Herald.
- The Budget Hearing will be held in December.
- After discussion of Solar possibilities, the Board felt a back up generator might be more beneficial to work toward as a Capital Outlay project in the Long-Range Plan. The Chief will get cost information. It will be added as an Action Item.

New Business:

- Mill Levy was adjusted at the September meeting and is waiting on the final valuation document from La Plata County Assessor, for final adjustment, if needed.
- There were no new Member Packets.

- The Annual Banquet will be hosted by Ted and Donna Stahl along with the Auxiliary on December 7th beginning at 5:30

Executive Session: Executive Session was opted out of by Chief Lee who chose an open meeting. The Board had discussion regarding optional Contracts and Severance packages for employees. The Board discussed different uses of and options for contracts and severance.

Ginny **motioned** to approve a Severance package for Chief Lee, if ever needed. Brent **seconded** the motion. Debbie recused herself. Otherwise, unanimously **approved**. The MOU for Chief Lee's package, will be drawn up and signed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannine Glasby
Secretary to the Board
Fort Lewis Mesa Fire Protection District