



LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



74 E Commercial Street
Willits, California 95490
(707)459-6271

William Carter
Fire Chief

MINUTES

June 13th, 2023

- OPENING:** The regular meeting of the Little Lake Fire Protection District Board of Directors was called to order by Tony Madrigal at 5:02 PM.
- ROLL CALL:** Present: Nancy Stipe, Arnie Mello, Tony Madrigal, Tom Herman and Skip Lucier.
- MINUTES:** Motion to accept the May 9th, 2023 minutes: Tom Herman 1st, Skip Lucier 2nd. Motion to accept the June 6th, 2023: Tom Herman 1st, Skip Lucier 2nd.
- TREASURER'S REPORT:** Motion to accept the June Treasurer's Report: Arnie Mello 1st, Nancy Stipe 2nd.
- CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No correspondence. In Public comment, multiple firefighters showed support for Chief Bill Carter. Aaron Branscomb, Association President, spoke in support of Chief Carter. Dion Beckmann spoke of his history with Chief Carter; his ability as a leader, and the department is better with him. Brian Bartholomew felt Chief Carter is a good supervisor. Tim Caldwell spoke about Chief Carter as family and brother. Harry So informed the room he does not want to lose Chief Carter as a Chief, and he felt Chief Carter was honorable. Mike Frahm has spent 30 years in this department and does not want to lose Chief Carter as a chief. He is hoping for a different way to mitigate this. Manny Orozco feels Chief Carter is a solid asset, and he returned to the fire service because of Bill.
- OLD BUSINESS:** **FIREHOUSE:** Michelle updated the board about the gate and side gate. The gate will not open, and currently working with Mendo Metals to come up and look at it. The training room door still does not have the hardware, and currently waiting for Marty to fix it.



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NEW ENGINE 5469: Deputy Chief Thomen was supposed to be in Idaho at this time to approve the new engine, but there was an issue, so the walk-thru was delayed. Deputy Chief Thomen is hoping to receive the engine by July 7, 2023.

USDA EQUIPMENT GRANT: Deputy Chief Thomen announced to the board that Type 6 has been delivered, and he is currently working on outfitting the vehicle. Once outfitted, it will be ready for training. Michelle emailed Reef from USDA for a new date for a final inspection.

SOLAR FUNDING: The staff is still waiting on PGE for a final.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2023-2024: Michelle reviewed the preliminary budget. Motion to adopt the preliminary budget Tom Herman 1st, Arnie Mello 2nd. All Ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

BILLS: Motion to pay bills: Tom Herman 1st; Skip Lucier 2nd.

TRAINING REPORT: Training Officer Jeff Donaldson informed the board on June 6th, there were about 20 firefighters for the ladder drill. Training Chief Jeff Donaldson announced he earned a certificate for the Instructor 1 class on communication. He and Abe Lozoff are signed up for the building construction class at Mendocino College.

FIRE MARSHAL: Fire Marshal Eric Alvarez announced he had 1 hotel and 3 schools left for inspections. Fire Marshall Alvarez has been busy with business licenses and plan checks. Alvarez also informed the board The City of Willits has taken over the weed abatement letters in the city limits.

FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOC. REPORT: Association president Aaron Branscomb reported firefighters will be volunteering medic standby for the Jr Rodeo and the both of the Frontier Days rodeos. The association fundraiser will be this Saturday June 17th, 2023. Skip Lucier stated he is working on



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the ABC permit. Nancy Stipe inquired about the water fight. Aaron reported there will be a water fight this year in front of the museum. Arnie Mello inquired if tickets were mailed. Harry So informed the board they were only mailed to certain routes but may change next year.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Thomen announced the cylinders on the ladder truck were rebuilt and received back today. Thomen also reported the front tires need to be replaced on the ladder truck as they are 34 years old. Thomen also added that Engine 5485 has a battery issue as one of the batteries blew. Thomen announced Abe Lozoff has completed the engineer requirements and received his license to drive the engine. In May there were 39 calls which will add up to 277 for the year so far.

The regular meeting adjourned at 5:44 PM to a closed session.

Closed session meeting adjourned: 7:31 PM

Tony Madrigal, Chairman

Michelle Schnitzius, Secretary/Treasurer

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Report out:

Discussed personnel issue