

**CHIPPEWA FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 19, 2010**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lehmann at 7:00 p.m. with an announcement of a closed session per ss.19.85(1)(c) and (f) Stats.

Secretary Roll Call: The following members answered 'present': Mr. Steinmetz, Mr. Lehmann, Mr. Solberg, Mr. Rahn, and Mr. Schindler.

Approve Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Steinmetz / Mr. Solberg; motion passed by voice vote.

Public Comment: None

Old Business: **1) Review / Approve computer network upgrades** – Mr. Tom Krista, representing Krista Computers, presented and explained his proposal of two price quotes. The first was for reconfiguring wiring, in the amount of \$1,049.00; the second for software improvements, in the amount of \$2,365.95. Following discussion and questions, a motion to accept the two quotes for a total cost not to exceed \$3,500.00 was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Solberg; motion passed by voice vote. Also discussed was the need to purchase a document scanner for Sta. #3 EMS billing submittals. **2) Consider RFP for ambulance chassis** - Chief Neihart reported that Ford will not have any diesel chassis available until 2011, however, LifeLine has a number of 2009 units, and a few 2010 units available. LifeLine will have a demo unit at Sta. #1 on Jan. 20. No Board action taken. **3) Old Ladder 1 disposition** - Chief Neihart stated there has been no communications from the Bloomer Fire Department yet this year. **4) Consider the District joining MABAS agreement (hold until entity meetings are complete)** – Chief Neihart advised the Board that he has met with the Wheaton Town Board, but none of the other entities yet; the pending meetings should be completed during February. **5) Request to increase the total accrual of leave time allowed for 24-hr. personnel and 8-hr. personnel (hold for review in employee handbook)** - This item will remain tabled. **6) SAFER grant update** – Chief Neihart reported the only portion of the grant still available to the District is funding for recruitment, but with the current number of members, we most likely would not be awarded a grant. He also updated the 2009 Assistance for Firefighters Grant application, saying no agency has been notified of their grant's status yet.

New Business: **1) Wisconsin Fire Instructors' Conference at Wisconsin Rapids 2/5/10-2/7/10** - Chief Neihart advised the Board of the upcoming conference, and requested approval to attend, along with 4 – 6 of the District's instructors. He reminded the Board that the District would not be attending the FDIC in Indianapolis this year. Following discussion, a motion to have the Chief and up to 6 District instructors attend the Wisconsin Rapids conference was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Schindler; motion passed by voice vote. **2) Resolution for direct deposit of payroll check beginning 01/01/10 (hold)** – This item will remain tabled. **3) Consider part-time fire inspector position** - Chief Neihart reviewed the past inspector history, and pointed out the current lack of follow-up visits to businesses with compliance issues. He requested approval to create a part-time position to solve this problem, with the Fire Commission setting the qualifications and approving the appointment. Following discussion regarding the amount of annual wages, a motion to have Chief Neihart proceed was made by Mr. Schindler / Mr. Steinmetz; motion passed by voice vote. **4) Discuss process for new equipment purchases and donations** - The current issues surrounding station-purchased equipment was reviewed by Mr. Lehmann. He also pointed out the previous court decision may not be valid given the District has since reorganized. Subsequent Board discussion concerned vehicle design standards and procurement procedures, and the possibility of setting a maximum amount for station purchases without prior Board approval. No decisions made. **5) Discuss replacement of next fire engine** – No information was ready for presentation at this time. **6) Review contracts for 2010 special events** - Chief Neihart distributed a proposed contract for the Fests, a Fest work schedule, and an estimate of personnel wages paid at time and a half. He stated the District has received, to date, approximately 50% of the fees billed to patients at the 2009 Fests. He also mentioned that the non-career firefighters who work at the Fests would generate revenue for their stations. Following discussion, the Board requested a representative of the Fests organization be invited to the February Board meeting to offer input. No other action taken.

Secretary: A motion to approve the minutes, as received, of the December 15, 2009 meeting was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Solberg; the motion was approved by voice vote.

Financial Report: A motion to waive reading of all the checks since the last meeting was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Steinmetz; motion passed by voice vote. The financial report covering the period ending December 31, 2009 was presented by Chief Neihart. He advised the Board the Balance Sheet's Current Liabilities in line item 2205 – State Trust Loan has been paid, so the amount should read \$0.00, not the \$59,525.37 shown, and the Long Term Liabilities line item 2204 – Midwest Bankers Group for \$119,715.36 has also been paid, leaving total Long Term Liabilities and Total Liabilities at \$243,800.00. A motion to approve the monthly financial statement, pay claims, and issue checks was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Steinmetz; motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Account Adjustments: None

Convene to closed session, per s.19.85(1)(c), Stats. – A motion to enter closed session was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Steinmetz; motion passed by unanimous roll call vote at 8:42 p.m.

Reconvene to open session – A motion to reconvene to open session was made by Mr. Rahn / Mr. Steinmetz; motion passed by unanimous roll call vote at 10:35 p.m. Chairman Lehmann announced there will be no Board action or motion made regarding the closed session.

Training: Chief Neihart reported the Entry Level class started tonight at CVTC, with 3 District firefighters. A NIMS class will be presented at Sta. #6 on January 20, 2010; this class is three nights in length, and suitable for town or village officials also. An Instructor's class will be starting at CVTC, and District paramedics will be completing their refresher training at the Chippewa Falls Fire Dept., and will be able to respond to calls from there.

Chief's Report: **1)** - Chief Neihart reported the annual audit has begun. **2)** –The Fire Commission will be meeting at Sta. #2 on Monday, January 25; they will review the officer appointments for Sta. #2 and #6, new District members, and the new Inspector position. **3)** - Medic 4 is back in service. **4)** – New Medicare Fee Schedule for 2010 was distributed. **5)** - Insurance for local government property that may be provided by the State of Wisconsin would not include liability coverage, and with outside liability costs included, the total would be more than the District currently pays. **6)** - Two firefighters' gear bags have been stolen from Sta. #1; this will be turned over to the Hallie PD. **7)** - The North Central Fire Chiefs meeting will be Thursday, January 21 at Stevens Point; Chief Neihart and Randy Shervey will be attending.

Board Open Discussion: **1)** – Mr. Lehmann suggested the Fire Commission may wish to relocate their meeting from Sta. #2 to the Wheaton Town Hall, due to HVAC issues at the fire station.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Steinmetz / Mr. Schindler; motion passed by voice vote at 10:43 p.m.

Submitted for Approval,

Doug Matthews
Recording Clerk