

**POLSON RURAL FIRE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OCTOBER 8, 2008**

Board trustee members present: Ross Hoyt, Fred Nelson, Alison Meslin, Jim Manley, and Dave Ottun
Board trustee member absent: None
Staff Present: Fire Chief John Fairchild
Guests: Lester Johnson, Paul Mauer, Polson City Commissioner Elsa Duford, Volunteer Firemen Paul Bishop, Jeff Meslin, Jack Clapp, Ron Swope, Steve Doll, Terry Gembala.

Meeting called to order at Polson Council Chambers by Chairman Hoyt at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes September 10, 2008 Rural Fire Board Meeting: Motion Trustee Ottun, seconded Trustee Nelson to approve minutes of September 10, 2008 as presented.. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasury Report:

Operating Fund Balance	\$	40,655.22
Capital Improvement Fund Balance	\$	136,587.22
Capital Improvement Fund Balance includes 2008 DNRC payment for wildland fire suppression in the amount of \$24,626.25.		
Voted Levy	\$	2,922.05
Paid bills in the amount of	\$	5,206.48

Check numbers 3768 - 3782 , both inclusive
(Paid October 08, 2008)

Chairman Hoyt accepted treasury report as presented.

Bills: Discussion on following bills: 1) Check #3773 payable to L.N. Curtis \$135.74 for a sensor on Engine #328; 2) Check #3772 payable to G & M Auto Tech \$230.56 to replace airbag in #314 brush truck; 3) Check #3762 payable to Western States \$3,047.00 3rd installment for accident policy. **Motion Trustee Nelson, seconded Trustee Meslin to pay bills. Motion carried unanimously.**

Correspondence: Trustee Meslin reported an audit reply letter regarding the FY '07 audit findings was sent to the State Department of Administration. An audit publication notice was also sent to the Lake County Leader.

Staff Report: Fire Chief Fairchild plans to set up training sessions for November, December and into next year. Calls are minimal following the wildland fire season.

Old Business:

REFINANCE EQUIPMENT NOTE – Clerk Bonnie Manicke reported a local bank will provide an interest rate quote following their board meeting October 15th. All the refinancing loan interest rate bids will be presented at the November 12th rural fire board meeting.

REPLACEMENT OF TENDER #319 – Fire Chief Fairchild presented two options to replace tender #319. 1). A 1994 Peterbuilt with 2700 gallon capacity similar to the pumper taken out of service and 2). A 1982 Pierce Autocar with 2500 gallon capacity and 1250 pump. The 1982 Pierce truck is universal for fire suppression as a first response truck and similar to engine #326. The records indicate 1200 hours and 31,000 miles. The loose equipment does not come with the truck, hose will be removed; ladders will remain on the truck. The list price is \$65,000. Central Valley Fire District, Belgrade, Montana will accept \$55,000. The truck will fit in the Polson Station and will be housed in Polson. Trustee Meslin

suggested the used equipment listed in fire magazines explored. **Motion Trustee Nelson, seconded Trustee Ottun offer \$55,000 for the 1982 Pierce truck.** Trustee Meslin questioned the age and past use of the truck and Trustee Manley suggested a mechanic inspect the truck. **Trustee Nelson amended the motion to include a mechanic accompany Fire Chief Fairchild to inspect the truck. Trustee Ottun seconded the amended motion. Motion carried unanimously.** Fire Chief Fairchild thanked the board for the consideration to purchase the 1982 Pierce truck offered by Central Valley Fire District, Belgrade, Montana.

LAND AND BUILDING UPDATE – Trustee Ottun contacted the state building department regarding the building construction and codes. The proposed building will house a meeting room with the primary function a fire station. The building site at the Lake County Fairgrounds is within the City of Polson jurisdiction. The proposed site plan and building concept presents no red flags. City building inspector Ron Melvin was also contacted regarding building plans. A building sprinkler system is not required for buildings less than 12,000 square feet. The city building inspector will review the plans and inspect the foundation and construction. A state inspector will inspect the electrical and plumbing installation. Ron suggested an architect would be helpful to formalize building plans. Trustee Meslin noted FEMA grant funds are available with applications due March or April. Chairman Hoyt suggested a decision regarding a consultant and the cost for a report. Trustee Ottun would like to approach the city regarding the consultant. Trustee Meslin noted potential grant funds should be sought. The department of transportation plans bridge closure for repairs urging a need for a fire station across the bridge. Trustee Manley suggested additional consultants should be contacted for alternatives. During a prior work session, Commissioner Agrella questioned the consultant's charge for which question regarding location of an additional fire station. Trustee Nelson indicated the board should move forward with the issue. **Motion Trustee Ottun obtain bids from consultants regarding location of proposed rural fire station, seconded Trustee Manley. Trustees Ottun, Manley and Hoyt in favor; Trustees Meslin and Nelson opposed. Motion carried.** Trustee Ottun will continue with building plans. Jack Clapp indicated Trustee Meslin's research would be helpful to the consultant. Jack asked how does the board plan to pay for the station. Funds are budgeted in the FY '09 operating budget for building loan and maintenance. Trustee Meslin will research the cost of an architect and report back to the board.

New Business:

STATION #2 PHONE – A phone was installed at station #2 in Big Arm. The number is 849-5666.

Comments from public: None

Meeting adjourned 8:06 p.m.

Ross Hoyt, Chairman

Alison W. Meslin Secretary-Treasurer