

# North Bench Volunteer Fire District, Inc.

## Monthly Board Meeting

Date: February 13, 2017

### Minutes

**Present:** Burrow, Kirby, Mead, Kralik, Cossette, Pine, Fioravanti, Douglas (board attorney), Jackson (Chief), Wheeler (Deputy Chief)

#### Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Burrow called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Elections

President Burrow called for nominations for the office of President. Greg Mead nominated Lynda Fioravanti. Len Pine moved that nominations cease and a white ballot be cast for Lynda Fioravanti. 2/passed.

##### 1. President

The new president assumed the chair, with thanks to Walt Burrow for his service this past year. He then called for nominations for the office of Vice President.

##### 2. Vice President

President Fioravanti called for nominations for the office of Treasurer. Walt Kirby nominated Marciavee Cossette. Len Pine moved that nominations cease and a white ballot be cast for Ms. Cossette. 2/passed.

##### 3. Treasurer

President called for nominations for the office of Secretary. Walt Kirby nominated Greg Mead. Len Pine moved that nominations cease and white ballot be cast, 2/passed.

##### 4. Secretary

President Fioravanti called for nominations for the office secretary. Walt Kirby nominated Len Pine. Greg Mead moved that nominations cease and a white ballot be cast. 2/passed.

#### Approval of Previous Minutes

Secretary read the minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting. By consent, the minutes were approved as distributed, 2/passed.

#### Treasurer's Report

Greg Mead presented the treasurer's report, a copy of which will be included with the minutes. Questions were raised about some apparent discrepancies, Marlayna will be consulted for clarification. A number of the firefighters are not cashing checks in a timely manner. Gus will inform the firefighters that checks not cashed in 90 days will be voided. Gus will also ask the firefighters about the option of cutting checks on a quarterly basis to save the department money. Gus will bring a report on this matter at the next regular meeting. Received and filed.

#### Chief's Report

Gus Jackson presented the chief's report, a copy of which will be included with the minutes. Among the other items, an extended discussion took place regarding logistical shortcomings on the county level of recent response to the snow event. Also discussed ways to build ties with and hear concerns from the firefighters. Quarterly informal Q&A sessions will be scheduled, and firefighters are encouraged to submit concerns in writing for board consideration. Thirtieth anniversary activities were discussed, including an open house tentatively schedule for June 24. Received and filed.

#### Old Business

Planning for outreach activities to constituents: (from December minutes – see attached worksheet) OPEN

#### New Business

1. Review Annual Meeting Minutes. The minutes were reviewed for the purpose of potential corrections while memories were fresh. No action taken. CLOSED
2. Review of suggestions for action arising out of the annual meeting (see attached worksheet). OPEN

3. Suggested changes to by-laws (for discussion only: will have to be acted upon at the next meeting as per Article XII, By-Laws, Section 3, ¶12)
  - Change Article II, Section 5, Voting Restrictions? Currently allows for only one vote per household (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph), which we have not been following. Also, final paragraph only allows for voting in person and no other arrangements. Do we wish to change (so as to provide mail in ballots as suggested at annual meeting)?

The board consensus was to leave the by-laws as they are on voting restrictions.
  - Change Article VI, Section 1, Fiscal Year. Do we wish to change the fiscal year dates?

No motion arising from the floor, the suggestion failed.
  - Change Article VII, Section 1, Annual Meeting by striking the words “2:00, o’clock p.m.” and replacing them with “10:00 A.M.”

The board agreed that we could change the time. To be considered at the next month’s meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

Walt Kirby moved to adjourn, 2/passed

# North Bench Development Worksheet

Action Item	Lead Person	Est. Cost	Priority	Target Date
Table at Sharon's, grocery stores, etc.				
Community BBQ.				
Informational banners in front of Station 1 (& 2?).				
Preparing a video for posting online about the department.				
Radio spot with JoJo Baker.				
Utilize county PIO more often.				
Restructure outreach at county fair.				
Community events "vendor."				
Insert in title company packets for new property owners.				
Informational piece of comparison between taxation districts and subscription based services.				
Phone calling to thank constituents for their support. Phone # on enrollment form?				
Survey Monkey				
Social media				
Town halls				

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