

## Minutes of June 12, 2023 meeting of Filer Rural Fire District

Attendance: President, Dennis Lutz; Chief Administrator, Bud Compher; Fire Chief, Steve Mullen; Commissioner, Gordon Lancaster; Commissioner, Blayne Wright; Assistant Chief, Travis Brewer and Clerk, Lori Schouten were all present.

President Dennis Lutz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm. There was a declaration of a quorum. There were no amendments to the agenda. There were 3 citizens present at this meeting. Megan Lewis, Austin Ray and Josh Chocker. Also present was Lori Bergsma from Balanced Rock Insurance. There was no correspondence for this meeting.

Dennis moved our New Business on the agenda to accommodate Lori Bergsma / Balanced Rock Insurance so she could present first.

### New Business

C: Lori brought us the top 3 quotes from VFIS supplemental insurance. This would replace our current policy with Colonial Insurance. She explained the benefits of the VFIS saying this policy would pay in addition to our workers' compensation policy. This quote is substantially less than the current policy we are paying Colonial Insurance. She explained that this is a mix and match type policy so we would be able to pick the coverages that will work best for the fire district.

Lori went on to address our workers' compensation policy with the State Insurance Fund. Everyone across the board was hit with substantial rate increases. We are looking at a \$2K increase in premiums for our ICRMP insurance this year. Lori hopes to remain our acting agent for all our insurance needs. The commissioners agreed that it is nice to be able to speak directly with our agent. Steve and I will work on getting this implemented.

A: Legacy Fields Firework permit.

Austin Ray spoke to the commissioners concerning the firework show he would like to present. He said the explosions will be 1.4 grade explosives. They are non-commercial. The program will last between 10 – 15 minutes. They have added 1,200 ft between the show and the neighbors. It will be held inside the south-west corner field, as far from the neighbors as possible. Less population, less fire risk and improved distance.

Megan Lewis spoke to the commissioners saying that she is a high-end performance horse breeder. Her property borders Legacy Fields. She lost 2 colts to crippling injuries last year. One colt still has issues. Megan said she has 7 mares and 4 colts less than 90 days old. She is concerned because this is how she makes her living. She can't afford to lose colts. Gordon asked if she felt they had moved the show far enough away from her horses? She said no. Austin asked Megan directly if there was anything they could do to appease her concerns.

Josh Chocker, from Legacy Fields Little League, asked about the law governing fireworks? Austin said they have been zoned commercial since 1994.

Austin said he is willing to add another 50 – 60 yards to the distance. He wants an acceptable solution. He has 650 athletes coming from 7 states. He has put a lot of time and effort into providing a great show.

Megan cited that she had a mare tear down a fence and a colt repeatedly run into the (stall) or fence last year.

Steve has asked questions and feels there is no right answer.

Austin is open to removing any fireworks that have a repercussion. They agree that the most detrimental thing is the noise. Austin said these are 3" fireworks that go approximately 300 ft. up. He said they would be much smaller than the ones the city just had in their show.

Megan said she is appreciative of Legacy Field trying to accommodate her. Travis seems to think they need to communicate a little better with each other. They should be able to work this out.

The final decision is that Steve will approve the permit for the firework show at Legacy Fields with restrictions on the report of the explosions.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

- A. The minutes of our previous meeting were read and approved as read by Blayne and Dennis. The clerk gave the treasurer's report. Dennis approved the treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Blayne.
- B. The bills and payroll for the month of May were presented and approved for signatures.
- C. Fire Report:

Assistant Chief, Travis Brewer presented the fire report for May. See the attached fire report.

Chief Steve Mullen reported on our unfinished business.

#### **In Unfinished Business:**

- a. New Fire Station
  - i. Grass on the front side of the station is starting to grow.
  - ii. Asphalt-parking lot. Travis will seal-coat parking lot for \$7,155.00. He gave Steve an estimate from ASI/GSB-88. All commissioners are in agreement to get this done as soon as possible.
- b. Galena Consulting: Nothing until the next meeting.
- c. Grant for communications at the fire station. Steve said almost all parts are here.
- d. IFC 2018 is getting close. They are hoping to amend Bill 262.

- e. Community use of the fire station: Our attorney is in the process of reworking the agreement.
- f. CISM/CIT: No discussion.
- g. Idaho Fire Chiefs Association Conference. No discussion.
- h.

There was a short discussion over the contract with St. Lukes for the Paramedics housing in the fire station. Steve said he had a conversation about their legal team coming up with a lease agreement with a new rate of \$1,900.00 per month instead of the old rate of \$1,500.00. He will wait to hear what they decided.

**New Business**

- a. Legacy Fields Firework Permit
- b. Preliminary Budget. Steve is hoping to have the first look at our new budget in July. He will be adding \$4,000 in plan reviews. There was some discussion over how the monies will flow from the city of Filer to the rural district. He is afraid that the way the county budgets work, that we will go from \$70,000 to \$40,000 in revenue.
- c. Lori Bergsma / Balanced Rock Insurance
- d.
- e.

SIRRCOM: Steve said our portion of this year's assessment will go to \$3,015.

Dennis adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Schouten, Clerk

Filer Rural Fire Protection District