



CRYSTAL LAKES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

237 Blackfoot rd., Red Feather Lakes, CO 80545
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-- Business Meeting Minutes-- *July 25, 2024*

Meeting called to order at 1800 by Chief Clark.

Attendees: Mike Clark, Evan Rau, Brad Chiodo, Doug Race, Jody Sandquist, Jon Gessert, Sue Gessert, Susan Rau, Marian Kelly, Harold Alexander, Jay Smith, Craig Mawle, Amelia Vann, Milo David, Marilyn David, and Keenan Boswell. Via Zoom: Mark Weeks

Approval of the Agenda – Jody Sandquist moved to approve the agenda as written, Brad Chiodo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting – Evan Rau moved to approve the minutes as submitted, Doug Race seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Topics

Personnel:

- Nothing new this month

Operations:

- Incident reporting update – Marian that we're doing well, with most outstanding reports being from the surge of incidents this last week (plus a few older outliers). She's added a new option to the forms, requesting that the CLVFD run reports email be added along with your personal email so she'll receive a copy of the report and the link to access it. That way, she can correct small errors in the reports without needing to go back to the person who submitted the report for corrections.
- Incident review – 9 incidents since last meeting
 - Lessons learned and/or comments to share – Mike shared kudos, especially for the Search and Rescue call at Lost Lake and the lengthy traffic control call for the downed powerline and apologized for how long that second call was.
- Chain of command overview

- Station Quartermaster – Jay has agreed to be the single point of contact for station needs, including repairs and materials.
 - Craig asked about taking apparatus out and whether we should notify Jay if we're taking something out for tasks such as HIZ assessments. Mike said that using the group text to let everyone know would be appropriate. Also, he reminded everyone that anyone taking apparatus out should take the appropriate PPE for that apparatus with them.
 - Susan asked about whether Jay should be notified (by dept members or Water & Sewer) when the fuel tanks are out so we can arrange to have them refilled asap. Mike agreed that that would be appropriate. Brad noted that the fuel tanks had been refilled.
- Communications – Alex has accepted the role of managing our communications equipment (radios and pagers).

Equipment:

- Apparatus
 - Monthly check updates
 - Squad 1 – As noted in the Information Items in the Agenda, insurance has paid to replace the rear bumper. We're going to use the funds to buy a heavy-duty rear bumper matching the front bumper and install it ourselves.
 - Squad 2 – Jim asked that Squad 2 be added to the vehicles going to Beck's for annual checks. He noted during the discussion about Brush 2's chainsaw that the chainsaw in Squad 2 is also very hard to start.
 - Tender 1 – Airhorn still not working. As noted in the Information Items, we're still working on replacing the intake valve (and having some difficulties due to the size of the intake, which is making it difficult for Mark to find a replacement part). Evan noted that it sometimes stops unexpectedly when idling, and Doug said that's been an ongoing issue that we've tried fixing in the past. Jim said that it took three attempts to start it for a recent call. There's also a seal leaking on the axle. Jay will contact TransWest about taking it in and having all these issues worked on, having the annual apparatus check done at the same time. Mark noted that having the airhorn fixed by them may be very expensive and we should get a quote but may have to fix it ourselves. Taking it there will result in it being out of service for at least a week. Mike will check with RFLVFD about whether we could host one of their tenders in our station during that time. Mark also mentioned that Tender is overdue for new tires and suggested that if we're taking it down, it would be good to do that at the same time.
 - Brush 1 – Craig reported that the truck checked out well and he's been working on updating the inventory.
 - Engine 1 – Doug reported that it's in good shape but missing a few nozzles. Jay said they were on the workbench, waiting to be fixed; Alex will take a look at

them. Doug suggested getting a couple of chainsaw helmets with built-in ear protection and face shields for this apparatus and others (we have helmets and earplugs but purpose-made helmets would be better). He noted that Engine will eventually need front tires because the chains have chewed them up. Mark mentioned that the “check A/C” light keeps coming on, and while we don’t need air conditioning, we don’t want the pump failing in the middle of a call, so we should ask Beck to take a look at it.

- Brush 2 – Jay reported that it’s doing fine, aside from the wipers needing replacing and the chainsaw being very hard to start. That unit has been recently worked on, but it’s been difficult to start from the beginning. Evan suggested that we may be keeping fuel in the chainsaws too long, given how rarely they get used. The cans of premixed fuels we use have a life expectancy of 5-10 years unopened but only 2 years after they’re opened. We need to get more and dispose of what we have.
- Support 1 – Mark recommended not driving it until we figure out and fix the cause of the fluid leaks.
- SCBAs – Marian reported that they were all testing good.
- All apparatus teams need to take a new inventory and get the results to Doug to update the sheets for each apparatus.
- Jim recommended we pick a month each year for apparatus teams to check the snacks in their vehicles to make sure they’re not getting too old and replace out things that are out of date.
- Maintenance schedule update – The vehicle appointments are set and Jay needs assistance in getting the vehicles to Beck’s and back. The appointment dates are on the white board near Brush 1 – please sign up to help.
- Station
 - Monthly cleaning reminder – Everyone was reminded to help keep the station clean, and the cleaning schedule was reviewed. Please clean the vacuum filter after using it. Also, please clean out and replace the filter in the water purification system; spare filters are in the blue cabinet with the kitchen supplies. Jim reminded everyone that anyone can restock the refrigerator, so if you notice anything getting low, please refill it.
 - Update on faulty light sensor outside station – Jay’s got a call in to an electrician to get that fixed, hopefully within the next two weeks. Mark suggested wiring around the sensor to see whether it’s really the problem.
 - Mezzanine stairs don’t have a safety system – Evan will be working on that.

Training:

- Department training – August will be Low-Angle Rescue – CLVFD training will be the evening of August 1st with Joint Training with RFLVFD on Saturday, August 10th.

- Evacuation training will be Saturday, August 3rd starting at 0900. We'll do a tabletop discussion in the morning, break for lunch, then go out and do a hands-on, door-to-door training. Marian and Jody will run the training. Marian will use the group email and Nextdoor to notify the community about the training in advance in an effort to avoid having our work cause any concerns.

Safety:

- Jim reminded everyone that many of the local wildlife have babies and we need to watch out for deer, moose, and elk mamas protecting their young.
- Don't forget to hydrate – Put a bottle of water with both your structure and wildland gear and drink it on the way to the call.
- Powerline reminders – Keep your distance from downed powerlines and treat all downed lines as if they're charged until you can use the Hotstick to find out if they're live. There was a discussion about getting a Hotstick into Squad 1, as it's most likely to reach the scene first.

CL Fires:

- July 4th Events
 - Jody and Susan thanked everyone for all the hard work in creating a successful weekend! Many many thanks to Marilyn, who offered to help with the cooking but instead ended up running the kitchen and did a great job.
 - We had a lower attendance than usual, thanks to the weather and the timing of the holiday, but still served 291 meals and collected \$1614 in donations (\$1000 of it in a single, very generous donation!), adopted out all the ducks, and made approximately \$1000 for CL FIRES via the silent auction.
 - We're considering organizing parade line-up in a new location next year, where it doesn't interfere with access to the fire station, trash enclosure, sewage dump, and Water & Sewer building. As Safety Officer, Jim strongly endorsed moving it.
- Rummage Sale – Donation collections will be held every Saturday in August from 10:00 to 2:00 with the sale held on September 1st. Brush 2 will be moved out so donations can be stored in that bay. Please plan on coming during donation times to help out when available.
- The CL FIRES Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, August 11th at 1:00 pm in the fire station with the Quarterly Meeting to follow. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be two open positions on the board; please encourage anyone interested to contact Jody.
- The bricks have been ordered and Doug will help lay them once they arrive. The reveal will take place the morning of the Rummage Sale before it starts.

Department:

- Mill Levy Campaign update – Doug passed around an “elevator speech” for the campaign, which includes the information we may wish to use in responding to any questions from the community. There is one more community meeting scheduled for August 17th at 10:00 to answer community questions. There will be more information shared with the community once we’ve received an update from the county about what information will be showing up on the ballot and in the blue book. There was a discussion about who’s legally allowed to vote on the ballot issue. There are links to answers to this and other questions on the website.

As the Membership Desires:

- Doug’s looking for the packing for the Tender – If you find a container of long white cotton tubes, let him know asap.
- Beaver Meadows has been burning some slash, but it’s in a fire ring/enclosure and there are no county regulations about that kind of slash burning (only about pile burning). We can only legally address it if it’s either an unattended fire or it spreads beyond where they’re burning. Doug’s spoken to them about burning safely and will keep an eye on it.

Marian Kelly moved to adjourn, Evan Rau seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1944.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian Kelly, PIO