

## **CLVFD Business Meeting Minutes November 28, 2023**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 18:01 by Chief Evan Rau

**Attendees:** Brad Chiodo, Mike Clark, Marilyn David, Milo David, Anne Dirmeyer, Steve Dirmeyer, Jon Gessert, Sue Gessert, Marian Kelly, Jim Kubichek, Melanie Nelson, Doug Race, Evan Rau, Susan Rau, Jody Sandquist, Jay Smith and Karen Smith.

**Via Zoom:** Craig Mawle, Mark Weeks and Bobby Hill

**Approval of / Additions to the Agenda** - A request was made to add equipment and station maintenance signups under Equipment and Kate Kelly under Personnel. Marian made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Jody seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting** - Doug made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2023, meeting. Milo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

#### **Personnel**

- Doug explained that when someone retires, we present them with their helmet. Kate Kelly, who recently retired, started as a firefighter and was a founding pedestal for the SDR program. Her helmet was passed around for members to sign. The helmet will be presented to Kate at the holiday party.
- Vote on 2024 Officer Elections - Jody Sandquist, election officer, with the assistance of Jim Kubichek, distributed ballots to members. Jody counted the votes as the meeting progressed and reported that all unopposed positions were voted in, and Jim was voted in as Safety Officer.

#### **Operations**

- We're going to be very light on SDRs for a period of time this winter. Firefighters should be prepared to be assigned to traffic control/lead-in if not otherwise assigned. If we have available personnel anyone can be called on to do traffic control or lead in. This does not change protocol. Be sure you have your angel lights and safety vests and know where equipment is located. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jody or Jon.
- Incident reporting – We're working on making the Incident Reporting Spreadsheet available on the members-only part of the website so people can be more proactive about verifying that they've submitted run reports for all incidents. We need to improve our reporting, with run reports sent in within five days of the incident so the incident commander can complete their report while the memory is still fresh. Marian will monitor

this for now and will continue to send out reminders but be proactive and get the reports done within a couple of days. If you are in an apparatus decide who will be responsible for that report before you leave the station. If you are staging in the station, be sure to check in with whomever is doing the station report so they will know to include you.

- Goals for 2023 – updates
  - Website rebuild – Evan and Mike – Transition to Streamline completed with new site up and running. Still working out bugs, and the transition of email addresses to Google is still in the works. Invitations to the members-only part of the site have been sent to all current department members – let Evan know if you haven't received yours. Evan has created a Google form for submitting website updates and noting fixes that need to be made so they can be logged and addressed. A link to the form will be posted in the Members' Only part of the website. Some tweaking still needs to be done regarding function and design. Evan has put together a form to collect input about the website which will be posted on the members only section of the website. Please use this form to report any issues you may find.
  - Open house – Mark – Completed!
  - Rules and Regulations revision – Marian – working group: Anne, Karen & Mark – Target for completion: end of year. The next meeting is scheduled for November 29.
  - SOG revision – Jim – in the process of setting up working group - No update. Jim is working with Doug.
  - 5-Year Plan revision – Doug – working group: Jody Randol, Mike, Robin – Target date for completion: January 1, 2024. Doug told members to be on the lookout for an email in the next week asking for input on what activities you feel the department should engage in over the next five years.
  - Recruitment – Anne heading up the task force – investigating legal and insurance issues before proceeding with auxiliary positions. Officers have decided to table the exploration of adding auxiliary positions until February.

## **Safety**

- Jim will speak on safety topics - Jim went around the room and asked each member for a safety tip. These included: Yak Trax, extra pair of shoes, be aware of your surroundings at all times on the line, back out of the apparatus, be careful when you bend down and pick up things – pick up heavy objects close to your chest, make sure the inside of the windshield is clean, prepare fully before you leave house-dress warmly first, be careful in your POV and apparatus, remember the ABCs of an emergency - always be calm, rely on your training - this is not our emergency, if you are on scene and see potential safety risk, point it out to everyone else, radio communication, grab a buddy if possible, speed is a huge issue - remember the borrow ditches are very deep, take your half out of the middle, wear safety vests on the street, PPE for medical calls and immunization, hydrate, don't speed in your POV, be aware of traffic on the road and don't turn your back to traffic.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### Department Appreciation

- Holiday Party – Tuesday, December 12 in the Community Center, meeting at 5:00 for drinks and socializing, with dinner served at 6:00pm, catered by Brett Oberhammer. Lemonade and water will be provided; any other beverage attendees want, they'll need to bring themselves. If you are able to come early and help set up, please do. The SDRS are scheduled for a meeting that day. Jody asked that the SDRs come early at 4:30 to go over calendars and plan for absences. Meet at Basecamp.

### Equipment

- Boat shed
- Boat shed equipment – The following have been purchased:
  - Mustang ice rescue suit identical to those we have
  - Neoprene cold-water gloves
  - Pro-Tec water helmets (the first helmets ordered had to be returned; new ones are on order) - they have arrived.
  - Boat safety throw rings
  - Water rescue throw bag with 98 feet of rope
  - O'Neill Superlite USCG life vests
- We'll be getting a shelving unit with a closet rod for storing equipment in the shed, some of which should be hung up (especially after it's been used/gotten wet). Everything will be moved to the shed once it's been installed.
- Backup camera – A backup camera for Engine 1 has been ordered and it has arrived. Reminder: This is a secondary safety device – all drivers must use backers and pay attention to their directions.
- Squad 2 will be parked in one of the bays for the winter so the plow's ready to go when needed, with Brush 2 being drained and moved outside to make room for it. To ensure we don't take Brush 2 out of service while wildland fire is still a possibility, this transition will be made when it's time to put chains on the vehicles. - It is time to chain up the vehicles. Evan will find a date and communicate that it to members if they are able to help.
- Officers are discussing what to do about the plow, which is not fully functional right now. There was discussion about either replacing the power unit on it or possibly replacing it with a v-plow. Steve's suggested Squad 2 may not be able to handle a v-plow, and it depends on which manufacturer you ask. Evan asked anyone with input from plow experience to contact him. There's been some discussion about putting a plow on Squad 1, but when we purchased it, we decided that we wouldn't put a plow on it and put a bumper and winch on in a way that makes adding a plot difficult or impossible. This could be revisited.
- Extrication equipment – The engine has been repaired and works well now. The pump needs a gasket, which Anne is looking for. Doug will follow up on this.
- A lithium-ion jump pack about the size of a Kleenex box has been purchased and will be

available either at the station (location TBD) or in Squad 1 for jump-starting vehicles. It should be able to jump-start any apparatus we have but is only for 12-volt batteries. Evan will double-check with Mark Weeks about whether the Engine and Tender are, in fact, 12-volt systems, even though they have multiple batteries and have dedicated jump-start posts that are not on the batteries for that reason. Mark confirmed that it could be used on these trucks. Do not leave it plugged in - charge and then unplug. The station is the best place for it due to the issue of cold weakening the battery.

- Apparatus maintenance –
  - Tender 1 – Will be taken to TransWest for electrical issues in the next week or so, Brad organizing. Mark asked about some non-electrical issues we are having as well and recommended getting those serviced at the same time.
  - Squad 2 – Back from Beck's after annual maintenance checks and repairs. Per Jim, it's driving very smoothly now.
  - Brush 2 – Needs to be taken down for realignment. The rear tires also need to be replaced.
- Marian will be sending out the apparatus maintenance checklist and station cleaning form within the next couple of days. Please sign up for an apparatus that you have not been responsible for previously and also sign up for a month to clean the station. The SDRs can help if available.
- Bobby Hill stated that Red Feather Engine 1 is currently out of service. They are not sure what is wrong. If there is a structure fire in RF bring Crystal's engine before the Tender. RF will send out a page when their Engine is back in service.

## Training

- Fire training – December subject: radio communications
  - CLVFD – Thursday 12/7 at 1800
  - RFLVFD – Tuesday 12/5 at 1800
- Joint – Saturday 12/9 at 0900. Location: Crystal Lakes station. This training will be canceled.
- Water Rescue Training – Evan and Brad are in contact with the county about whether the dive team can help train CLVFD on stillwater rescue. Other feelers are out as well for professional training in the safe, effective use of the boat.
- 2024 training plans
  - CPR certification/recertification – Doug taught a CPR class on 11/18, which was attended by Karen, Jay, Jody, and Jon. Recertification classes for all other members will be scheduled before current certifications expire mid-summer 2024.
  - First aid certification – Evan's been in contact with LCES about holding a class next year, which they're on board with. Evan stated that there is a possibility of the sheriff's department providing continuing medical education for the mountain volunteer departments.

## Grants

- Direct Distribution of PPE Grant – We've been awarded a grant of equipment worth \$20,204. Update on ordering/receipt of grant items:

- Structure PPE – We'll be getting three sets (paying for the third set out of our own budget), which won't look exactly like our current ones but are close. Jay, Karen, and Mike have all been measured, but delivery probably won't be for four months.
- Wildland shirts and pants – Order submitted.
- SCBA – Order submitted.
- Leather structure boots & wildland boots – The sales rep will be coming up on December 7th during our training to fit everyone. For those who can't make it, Jim will provide sizing information from the manufacturer, and we'll order the boots based on that (we can exchange them if they don't fit properly). For those firefighters who will not be at the training please get your boot size to Jim.
- Fire shelters, pack, helmets – No info yet on distribution.
- Jim stated that the Firefighter Safety and Disease Prevention Grant guidelines have come out, but he does not see anything that we need. Their guidelines now include a statement that wildland PPE include a respirator, but there aren't any yet approved by NFPA. The only thing he saw on the list was a Respiratory Fit Tester, although it would need to be a regional grant with other mountain chiefs. The deadline to submit an application is the end of January.

## **Miscellaneous**

- Parking safety – We're adding posts with reflectors along the edge of the parking area down from the station. We've had difficulty finding reflectors for these particular posts, so we're going to get lengths of PVC pipe to put over the posts and put reflective tape on those to ensure the posts are visible. Evan has installed the posts and will talk with the R&R road crew about finding a way to keep that area clear and not to pile snow there.
- The new owner orientation will be held on December 9th. Jim will do the presentation. He requested six copies of the recruiting handbook. Anne will provide those to him.
- Air Curtain burner training. The county is holding a two-day class on 12/5 and 12/6 if anyone is interested in attending.
- AFG grants will be announced soon, but we don't know what we can apply for.

## **As the Membership Desires**

- Doug completed the CRRF registration today and it is up-to-date for apparatus that might be used in a wildland fire or emergency. This allows the department to be reimbursed if our apparatus are used on a county-run incident past the initial response period.
- Santa will be at the cookie exchange on Saturday at Basecamp. Brush 1 will be decorated on Friday at 4:15 pm. There will be candy and a Polaroid camera available for photos with Santa.
- Doug let the members know that Harmony Fields will be giving a concert on December 22nd at the Chapel of the Pines at 7:00 pm. Come as you are. Their theme is The Light of Christmas, and the show will run for 1-1/2 hours or so.

- Milo recommended watching a story on 60 Minutes regarding the fire on Maui if you haven't seen it. You should be able to find it on YouTube.
- Jim thanked Marian for all the years she's lead the department as chief or assistant chief.

**Adjournment** - Milo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jody seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 19:33.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Dirmeyer, Secretary