

GENESEE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes of October 18, 2023

Board of Directors' Meeting

Board Members in Attendance: Nancy Balter (by Zoom), JP Brewer, Susan Eagle, Patti Harris (by Zoom), Scott Mefford

Board Members Excused: none

Also Attending: Jason Puffett, Max Herte, Joe Auster, Christina Jantzeff (by Zoom)

Call to Order: 18:02 by Director Mefford

Minutes of Prior Meetings:

- A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2023 Board meeting and the October 3, 2023 Board special meeting.

Public Comment and Announcements: none

Financial Reports

- **Review of September Financials**
 - The September, 2023 financial report was presented by Christina Jantzeff.
 - A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the year-to-date financials as presented.
- **Review of Notable Payables:**
 - none

Reports of Officers, Committees, Professional Consultants

- **Wildland Specialist Dorie Dalton's Report** (by Volunteer Chief, Joe Auster)
 - The FRWRM and COSWAP grant applications have been submitted. The AIM grant will be submitted later this month. November.
 - The Ambassador program will be revamped in association with Evergreen Fire's program.
- **Administrator/Training Coordinator Max Herte's Report**
 - The joint Fire Academy is continuing. Four GFR recruits will be graduating soon.
 - The 2024 Training calendar has been completed except for coordination with HRT and FFPD.
 - Agreement with St Anthony's to be able to have more in-house training.
 - An S131 class is planned.
- **Deputy Chief Joe Auster's Report**
 - 248 calls to date. Time to arrive on scene is up a little from last year due to the increased mutual aid in the FFPD.
 - Apparatus Coordinator:
 - 954 is in the shop for significant repairs.
 - Dan Hammock is able to make small repairs to apparatus in house.
 - Recruiting Coordinator: The website is being revamped to allow easier access for potential recruits.
 - Facilities Coordinator: All good. The new engine fits in the bay.
 - Medical Coordinator: Trainings continue.
 - Wildland Coordinator: Working on equipping the new brush truck.
 - Branding Coordinator: Nothing new.
 - Mental Health Coordinator: provides a useful tool that members take advantage of.

- Auxiliary: Working on the Halloween event. GFR will have a truck at Jeffcom911.
- Community Liaison: Autism trainings continue and are getting a lot of traction.
- **Old Business**
 - **Emergency Access Route**
 - Chief Puffett is working with Zak Dirt (contractor for GWSD reservoir expansion) and Will Quimby
 - **Joint Training Officer IGA**
 - Chief Cameron of FFPD reported that his Board was enthusiastic about sharing a Training Officer.
 - No action will be taken until after the first of the year and then will proceed carefully.
- **New Business**
 - **Public Alignment Proposal**
 - Director Balter discussed the meeting with Public Alignment and reviewed their proposal.
 - Board discussion focused on the line between education and advocacy, timing of educational outreach to occur after the first of year when we expect to have a better cost estimate, and how much money to put in the 2024 budget for community outreach/education.
 - A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to add \$20,000 to the 2024 budget for community outreach related to the SEAR.
 - Chief Puffett will get back to Public Alignment.

Old Business (discussed at the beginning of the meeting)

- **Emergency Access Route Easement**
 - A final Easement, approved by lawyers for both Genesee Foundation and GFPD was presented.
 - A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to authorize Chief Puffett to sign the easement as presented with two changes: one in 3.b.ii and one in paragraph 7.
 - The attorneys for GFPD and GWSD are working on an easement patterned after the one with Genesee Foundation. Once drafted, the Board agreed to a special meeting, if necessary, to approve the easement.

New Business:

- **Joint Training Officer IGA – GFPD and FFPD** (discussed at the beginning of the meeting)
 - Chiefs Puffett and Cameron discussed the benefits of having a joint training officer and joint trainings to better align and increase cooperation between the two departments.
 - The Board expressed its support for the concept, but wants to get input from the FFPD Board.
- **GFR Volunteer Appreciation:**
 - Director Balter suggested the Board write an article for Genescene describing the extent to which volunteer firefighters support the department.
 - Residents who wish to recognize their efforts can make a donation to the Volunteer Firefighter Fund.
 - Director Balter will draft the article. Volunteer Chief Auster will provide statistics about volunteer training, hours, etc.

There being no further business, the Board meeting was adjourned at 20:43.