

CLVFD Business Meeting Minutes October 26, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 19:18 by Chief Evan Rau.

Attendees: Harold Alexander, Brad Chiodo, Mike Clark, Marilyn David, Milo David, Anne Dirmeyer, Steve Dirmeyer, Jon Gessert, Sue Gessert, Marian Kelly, Jim Kubichek, Craig Mawle, Melanie Nelson, Doug Race, Evan Rau, Susan Rau, Jody Sandquist, Jay Smith, Karen Smith and Fire Board member Robin Lauric.

Approval of / Additions to the Agenda: Sharon Fessler was added to the agenda under "As the Membership Desires." Jim moved to approve the agenda as amended. Milo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: Doug moved to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2023, business meeting as written. Alex seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Personnel

- Vote on approving Jay Smith as a full member of the department. Jay has met all the probationary requirements, and a vote was taken by written ballot. He was voted in as a full member of the department.
- Nominations for 2024 Officer Elections will be taken tonight and voted on at the November/December meeting. All officer positions are held for one year. The chief and assistant chiefs are elected by the members. The chief is confirmed by the Fire Board. The assistant chiefs are confirmed by the chief. All officer positions are held for one year beginning in January. Nominations can be made tonight or later, but email Jody to let her know.

Nominations for officers were taken as follows:

Elected Officers – Chief, Assistant Chiefs

Chief: Marian nominated Evan Rau.

Assistant Chiefs: Marian is not running again. Evan nominated Mike Clark, Marian and Evan nominated Doug Race.

Appointed Officers – Safety, Training, Traffic Control, Public Information, Secretary/Admin

Public Information Officer: This is a new officer position; however, the PIO is not expected to attend officer meetings unless specifically invited or if there is something the PIO needs to discuss. This officer position can be held in conjunction with another officer position. Evan nominated Marian Kelly

Traffic Control Officer(s): Evan nominated Jody Sandquist and Jon Gessert as co-leads.

Safety Officer: Jim is not running again and nominated Mike Clark. Jody nominated Harold Alexander, who declined.

Secretary/Administrative Officer: Steve will stand down as secretary. Doug nominated Melanie Nelson, but she is ineligible as she has not been off probation for a full year. No other nominations.

Training Officer: Evan nominated Brad Chiodo.

- Appointment of Election Official for 2024 Officer Elections. Doug moved to establish Jody Sandquist as our elections officer for the 2024 positions. Alex seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Department Appreciation

- Holiday Party – Tentatively planned for Tuesday, December 12th in the Community Center, meeting at 5:00 with dinner served at 6:00pm, catered by Brett Oberhammer. Members chose December 12th as the date for the holiday party and members were asked to make their dinner selections and return them to Steve. CLFIRES, CLFPD members and the Red Feather chief and assistant chiefs will be invited to attend.

Operations

- November and December business meetings – As the meetings for each of the next two months will either fall on a holiday or very near to one, we're going to combine them and hold the combined meeting on a date in between the original meeting dates. By a vote of hands Tuesday, November 28th at 18:00 was selected as the combined business meeting date.
- Goals for 2023 – updates
 - Website rebuild – Marian and Mike – along with Evan, Anne, and Jody Randol – Transition to Streamline in progress. The target date to have the website up and running is November 9th.
 - 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 late November and the group hopes to have a draft by the end of the year for the officer's review.

- SOG revision – Jim – in the process of setting up a working group. The new SOGs are completed, but revisions to the old ones still need to be done.
- 5-Year Plan revision – Doug – working group: Jody Randol, Mike, Robin – Target date for completion: January 1, 2024. A meeting is scheduled for next Monday and they are hoping to have this completed by Thanksgiving.
- 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 reminded the members that now would be the time to get your flu vaccine and COVID booster.
- At this time of year be careful when driving into the sun as it is lower. Keep your windshields clean.
- Wear your seatbelt.
- Get out your Crampons or Yaktrax.
- Check the batteries on your Angel Lights.
- Structure gear should be laundered at least once a year and after every incident. This is important for your health. The washing machine at the station can do two sets of gear at a time. Start with the inners then the outers. Instructions are posted next to the washing machine.
- Do not put any apparatus in reverse until your backer is in position and you see them in the mirror. There is no reason to do it any sooner.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Community Outreach

- Chili Cookoff – By the numbers...
 - 10 chili contestants (12 registered, 2 backed out at the last minute but said to keep the registration fee)
 - 5 bread contestants
 - 85-100 "Tasters" (counting all helpers and all the folks counted at the door)
 - Donated prizes for contestants: \$269.45
 - All door prizes donated by vendors at the Labor Day Craft Fair.
 - Contestant Registration fees: \$425
 - Entry fees for Tasters (most as boot donations with 7 tickets sold online ahead of time): \$556.72
 - Dessert Sales: \$93.00
 - Total Income: 1074.72
 - Total expenses: \$477.27 (This Includes decorations, serving supplies, beverages,

- and awards plaques made by Alex.)
 - All said and done, we made \$597.45 for the fire department. Well done, all!!
- Red Feather Elementary School Fire Prevention Week event, Wednesday, 10/18 – Our attendance and assistance was requested by Red Feather Lakes VFD. Brad organized our response, which included Karen, Jay, Brad, and Anne in Engine 1 and Steve and Mel in Brush 1.

Equipment

- Boat shed – The boat and some equipment have been moved to the shed.
 - Boat storage and cold weather – After researching the issue, the officers have decided to keep the boat in the shed all winter this year and carefully inspect it in the spring to determine if it's suffered any damage from cold temperatures. Based on research, we expect little to no degradation and/or the degradation to be slow enough that the tradeoff of having to purchase a new boat on a more escalated timeframe than originally planned is worth the positive of having the boat on site if it's needed.
 - Boat shed equipment – Officers have determined to purchase the following:
 - Mustang ice rescue suit identical to those we have
 - Neoprene cold-water gloves
 - Pro-Tec water helmet
 - Boat safety throw rings
 - Water rescue throw bag with 98 feet of rope
 - O'Neill Superlite USCG life vest
- Boat shed equipment additional – We will also be moving the telescoping recovery pole from Support into the boat shed and will look into purchasing a second recovery pole set when funds allow.
- Backup camera – The backup camera for Tender 1 has been installed by Doug and Jay. Reminder: This is a secondary safety device – all drivers must use backer and pay attention to their directions. Doug requested feedback from members. If it is successful, we will order a backup camera for Engine.
- SDR cubbyholes – Installed by Alex and labelled with SDRs' call numbers and names. People may now leave items for SDRs in their cubbyholes. SDRs, please get in the habit of checking your cubbyhole periodically.
- Apparatus maintenance –
 - Tender 1 – Will be taken to TransWest for electrical issues in the next week or so, Brad organizing.
 - Squad 2 – Taken to Beck's for annual maintenance checks and repair of exhaust. It's in need of some moderately significant repairs, consistent with the heavy use it gets as a plow vehicle. Squad 2 is now back in service.

Training

- Fire training – October subject: SCBAs
 - CLVFD – Thursday 11/2 at 1800
 - RFLVFD – Tuesday 11/7 at 1800
 - Joint – Saturday 11/11 at 0900. Location: Crystal Station
 - Due to the inclement weather forecast for this weekend the auto extrication training at Poudre Canyon is being rescheduled. Evan will share the new date once it is available.
- Water Rescue Training – Evan and Brad are in contact with the county about possibly involving their dive team in training 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 – Will be scheduled before mid-summer 2024, when members' certification expires, and will be run by Doug, who is a certified trainer. Certification is also being offered on November 18th at Chapel of the Pines.
 - First aid certification – Officers are working on arranging for next year, either by encouraging LCES to organize training for the mountain or hiring a trainer to come to Crystal.

Grants

- Direct Distribution of PPE Grant – We've been awarded a grant for equipment worth \$20,204. We'll be receiving new leather structure boots for all firefighters, two sets of structure PPE, six wildland shirts, two pairs of wildland pants, three fire shelters, five pairs of wildland boots, one fire pack, three wildland helmets, and one SCBA pack with a mask and two cylinders.

Miscellaneous

- Parking safety – Adding posts (donated by Evan) with reflectors along the edge of the parking area down from the station. We were waiting until after mitigation was finished to get the posts set, which we'll do soon using a post driver lent by Jody. Reflectors have been purchased and will be installed once the posts are driven.
- Mitigation and clean-up efforts around the station October 13th and 14th. Members put in 99 hours of labor cleaning around the station and on the neighboring CLWSA property and transported nine loads of slash to the Slash Depot. Many thanks to everyone who helped and to Robin and Mel for lunch.
- New CLVFD apparel will be received next week. Brad will email department members when it arrives so they can pick it up at the station.

As the Membership Desires

- Alex has rewired Tender's fill level lights to not come on until the pump is engaged. Squad 1 is now on a different trickle charger so do not plug it in.
- Sharon Fessler memorial service will be held on Friday, October 27th at Allnut Mortuary in Fort Collins. For those members attending, meet at the funeral home at 12:15 pm.
- Doug reported that the extrication equipment was serviced yesterday. The lines, tools and pump are fine. The lines are longer than recommended but are not a big problem. The issue is that the engine that drives the pump needs work. Doug will be taking it down for service on Friday. One of our three rams has a leak in the line, so it is out of service and won't be replaced.
- Jody reminded members that the next board meeting of CLFIRES is set for Sunday, November 12th, at 1:00 pm at the station.

Adjournment

Marian made a motion to adjourn. Alex seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:04.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Dirmeyer, Secretary