

**MICA KIDD ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING  
September 22, 2015 6:00 PM**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Mundt  
Commissioner Smith  
Commissioner Lindsay  
Chief Blubaum  
Treasurer Swendig  
Admin Asst. Saranto

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Mundt called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Terry Montanye; Presented an article from the Coeur d Alene Press written by Brent Regan, Kootenai County on "at-will" or "for cause" policy. "At-will" policy implies that an employee can be terminated "because I said so" while the "for cause" policy requires a reason. Any employee needs to be aware of what is expected of them and what is in written policy. Chief is adhering to policy and if this is not the will of the Commissioners then they need to change the written policy. He believes that in spite of rumors Chief Blubaum is not working towards a paid department. Our call volume and population would have to increase significantly.

Jim King; Wanted to emphasize that the budget has in the past had wages for a part time employee; he is concerned about adding paid personnel. What are the MKI standards for our Facebook page? Do we have a policy? Last year the volunteers were doing our Facebook site and some stuff that was posted during the recall was removed; this year Facebook is being maintained by the Fire Chief. Commissioner Lindsay suggested Yelp.com to post on. Facebook is not a political platform.

Martha Cook; is very concerned about the Brewster subdivision going through. Chief Blubaum stated that he has not heard anything yet.

Lynette Arhutick; had a copy of the minutes and thought a lot of things about the budget were left out; she had a copy of the prior draft. We gave her a current copy. She also emailed to ask for the Chief's report and was told that she could not get it. Chief informed her that Admin does not have access to the Chief's computer. Chief will give her a copy after the meeting.

Gretchen Hauser; She wanted to thank Terry Montanye for his letter, but he had already left the meeting. She thinks that the Chief is a really smart guy, but using it in a different direction than some of us would like. She believes that good behavior should be rewarded; you do not reward bad behavior. If he is doing what is ask, then he should be given a raise. She also did not get the revised draft minutes. Volunteer BBQ was good, she enjoyed it but is still concerned with all the training hours for the volunteer positions. She goes back to when Mr. King who was refused as a

volunteer with all his haz-mat/pathogens training and he flies an airplane with 200 people on it and yet he cannot drive a fire truck. She thinks that is ridiculous.

Devon Riske; Mr. King is a really smart man, but there are other things that go into being a firefighter. There are a significant number of deaths in rural fire districts due to not having the training to drive a fire truck. Compromise in training would be irresponsible with people's lives.

Gretchen Houser; believes in compromise, there has to be a way to make it so people in the community that want to serve can do so.

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve the minutes from September 22, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion: **Motion carried**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Swendig provided bills and financial reports. Chief Blubaum explained the large payment to CDA Fire Cache is mostly the equipment for the new brush truck. Treasurer explained there are some double payments for utilities and visa cards; these were to pay all receipts and invoices for the 9/30/15 FYE closing date. This will decrease the amount of FYE journal entries that have to be made. Chairman Mundt moved to pay the bills. Commissioner Lindsay 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion: **Motion Carried**

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual. Chief explained that Quick Books does not show the retained earnings forward so we really are under budget. If we decrease the retained earnings forward (the carry over) then we have to show the expense side again which would be inaccurate. Chairman Mundt would like an easier to understand report to look at. Commissioner Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion: **Motion Carried**

Chairman Mundt moved to approve the Balance Sheet, Commissioner Lindsay 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion: **Motion Carried**

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Blubaum submitted his report in advance; no discussion. Chairmen Mundt thanked the Chief for his reports.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1) Fleet: Chief Blubaum advised the Commissioners that Utility 299 was purchased in 2003 for \$16,250, has 101,534 miles on it and has a burned and damaged cylinder #1. Reliable Auto's recommendation is a new motor; estimated cost of repairs to be greater than the value of the vehicle. Chairman Mundt; no need to keep it. Chief Blubaum recommended a resolution to dispose of personal property and put it on Craig's list for \$1,500.00. Commissioner Lindsay moved that we adopt Res No. 2015-02 Authorizing the Disposal of Personal Property, Chairman Mundt 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Motion Carried**

Water Tender: Option 1 Used 4X4 Tender with low miles for \$139,000; have within 30 days  
Option 2 Bid spec an new 4X4 Tender for 230,000 - 280,000; have in approx. 6-8 months  
Option 3 FFP program; paper work for M916A3 truck has been submitted to IDL; this has an unknown delivery date  
Option 4 send it to the voters on a bond issue and see what they say. The tender committee had a difference of opinion on how much the Fire District should spend on a vehicle; the spec for the vehicle were agreed upon. Chairman Mundt stated that governmentplanet.com would be selling 7 - 916A1 trucks, 35,000-65,000 miles selling for \$11,000-\$25,000 at auction tomorrow. He drove Worley's tender (916A3)

because he was concerned about the turning radius; he thought it turned very well even though it is huge; its hauling capacity is good. Yes the money is an issue, but he is also concerned about having enough personnel to operate our equipment. Adding another apparatus doesn't provide us with the people to do it. Commissioner Lindsay; thinks we have enough to operate, we don't take all the trucks to every call. You don't take a brush truck to a structure fire. Negligence is failure to mitigate foreseeable consequences, I am very nervous about the "let's just wait and see". Chairman Mundt; reality is we do need 3 tenders, this is not new but when? Commissioner Smith; we need to worry about public safety and we do have mutual aid with Worley Fire District.

After a brief discussion it was decided that Chairman Mundt would find a truck at auction and then provide the other commissioners with a link to it; special meeting would be called if necessary. Commissioner Lindsay moved to authorize immediate spending up to \$24,999.00 for a water tender chassis at auction. Chairman Mundt 2<sup>nd</sup>: Motion Carried. Chairman Mundt will check on the stainless steel tanks (make at Texas Correctional Industries) and get current prices.

- 2) Support Services/Recruiting Volunteers: Commissioner Lindsay; we had a great BBQ with a good turnout; 6 new applicants. Would like to make written policy that not everyone has to be FF1 or have blood borne pathogens training. Chairman Mundt; we need to work with peoples strengths. Marketing is in the budget; we need a volunteer. Chief Blubaum; we did have several new residents in the area show up.

### 3) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Mundt moved to go into Executive session to discuss personnel per Idaho Code 74-206(B), Commissioner Lindsay 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Roll call vote:

Chairman Mundt: Aye  
Commissioner Lindsay: Aye  
Commissioner Smith: Aye

Commissioner adjourned to Executive session at 7:28 p.m.

Roll call vote:

Chairman Mundt: Aye  
Commissioner Lindsay: Aye  
Commissioner Smith: Aye

Commissioners returned to regular session at 7:56 p.m.

Commissioner Lindsay: Chief there is a list of things that people have said you have done wrong and there is a list of things that people have said you have done right. I do not expect anyone to be perfect. You are being compensated very well compared to other departments. When we gave you 3-4 tasks, you did them. This district does not have an official evaluation process for the Chief's position.

Chairman Mundt: I do appreciate the weekly reports they are of great value to me, and your willingness to listen to all the issues on the water tender.

Commissioner Smith: I feel the Chief is doing a good job, his training is helping out the district. The guys that he is working with are becoming great firefighters. The Chief is a

little one way, his way but that is the way it should be in the Fire Department.

Commissioner Lindsay: My first strong opinion of you is you are very bull headed and inflexible, but in the last 3-4 months you have shown your ability to compromise and work with anybody. In the spirit of compromise I have decided to forgo your performance evaluation issue; it's too muddy the board needs to develop a better policy for performance evaluations. Looking at the consumer price inflation index [inflationcalculator.com](http://inflationcalculator.com) there is a cost of living increase in 2012-2.1%, 2013-1.5%, 2014 1.6%, and 2015-2%. Based on the cost of living increase Commissioner Lindsay moved to increase Chief's annual base salary by \$2,500.00. Commissioner Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Motion Carried**

Roll call vote:

Chairman Mundt: Abstained  
Commissioner Lindsay: Aye  
Commissioner Smith: Aye

- 4) Policy for Financial Segregation of Duties; Chief presented a few changes after going to a fraud prevention training. These changes have been approved by our CPA and Auditor's. Chairman Mundt moved to approve Policy #216 Financial Segregation of Duties and Timelines, Commissioner Lindsay 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion: **Motion Carried**

Roll call vote:

Chairman Mundt: Aye  
Commissioner Lindsay: Aye  
Commissioner Smith: Aye

## NEW BUSINESS

None

## PUBLIC INPUT

Martha Cook: she had to attend an Open Meeting Law update and was wondering if any of the Commissioners had been asked to attend; no they had not heard about it. One of the issues discussed was emailing, if someone emailed one commissioner about a topic and then email another commissioner about the same topic it's then called a serial meeting. That is deliberating on a topic by email without the public being involved. This is a concern.

Lynette Arhutick: wanted to let Commissioner Lindsay know that 6 volunteers is good, don't be disappointed. Chief's comment that our recruiting is ongoing is true, but maybe we should put it on the agenda quarterly.

Martha Cook: Workshop this Thursday 24th 9:30-1:30 at the Best Western; The Coeur d Alene Tribe has laid senior claim to all the water rights; this affects all those who draw water from a well or the lake.

Gretchen Houser: Thank you for using both sides of the paper. That is great.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS AND/OR CORRESPONDENCE**

Chief Blubaum: we have received 2 donations this month, 1 from Russ & Carol Varney for \$100.00 and 1 from Happy Family Club for \$100.00. Thank you cards have been sent out.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Commissioner Lindsay moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **Motion carried 08:20 P.M.**


Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Administrative Assistant Saranto

Approved,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Larry Mundt

Approved,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner J. Kelso Lindsay

Approved,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Jim Smith