

October 18, 2023 PMVFD Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:39pm.

Roll call/quorum of board members confirmed. Present were Roy Golightly, Jim Miller, Carole Peterson, Jennifer Golightly, Doug Hagee, Judy Miller, John Parr, Mike Peterson, Melissa Costa, Chris Lavine, Ralph Sparks, Mike Williams and Mary Beauchamp. Absent was Gerri Parr.

Pledge and Prayer were given by Roy Golightly at the Annual Members Meeting.

Roy stated that the minutes of the July 19, 2023 Board Meeting had previously been presented to the board. Jim Miller moved we accept the minutes of the July 19, 2023 meeting as submitted, second by Mike Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report was given by Carol Peterson. Beginning balance of \$51,596.85 as of 6/30/23, deposits of \$21,020.85, disbursements of \$10,407.53 for a balance of \$62,210.17 as of 9/30/23. Carole stated that at the beginning of the 3rd quarter both the mower and the truck fund beginning balances were \$0.00 on the Funds chart. The mower fund raised \$4500 thanks to the donations of the board of directors, firefighters and the first responders. The new mower cost us \$6300 so the fire department's share was \$1800 from the general fund. The truck fund was at \$3450 at the end of October. Most of the money for the truck has come after the close of the 3rd quarter and will be reported in the 4th. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Judy Miller, second by Mary Beauchamp. Motion passed unanimously.

The Events Committee Report was given by Melissa Costa. We are on schedule for the Chili Supper on Saturday, October 28 from 5pm to 7pm. Doug and Chris are going to make the chili but we have a new person from Cotter who also wants to make some vegetarian chili and possibly serve. Her name is Kammi Nazarenko and her husband, Jason is running for a state representative position. It was decided it was okay as long as they're here to help out and not to "take the podium" to campaign. He can introduce himself and even pass out cards as long as he does not turn it into a campaign event. Melissa has cornbread covered but is still looking for people to make desserts and help serve. Mike and Barbara Cull will be collecting money again. Monday, October 23 she is having a planning meeting at 10am if anyone is interested in attending. There will be a silent auction for desserts at the Chili Supper. Also, there will be a Mug Club gathering that Melissa has opened up to the community held here in the TEC on Saturday, December 9th from 9am to 11:30am. Motion to accept the Events Committee Report by Mike Williams, second by Mike Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

The Fire Report was given by Doug Hagee during the Annual Members Meeting as was the EMR Report. Motion to accept the Fire Report and EMR Report by Mike Peterson, second by Melissa Costa. Motion passed unanimously.

The Webmaster Report was given by Mike Williams. He has purchased a new domain, PineMountainVFD.org and also PineMountainVFDAR.org just in case we wanted it. They are both good for a year. He's starting building out the new website and it's about 3/4 done but he's still working on it. He needs pictures also for the website. He would like to have photos of the all fire stations, the TEC and each piece of equipment. Mike needs current pictures but historical ones would be nice too. Carole has some older photos that came from the original auxiliary. He would like for everybody on the board and every fire fighter to have pinemountainvfd.org email addresses on the website. He recommended it to be structured something like mike.williams@pinemountainvfd.org. He will put together instructions if you want to set it up with your email and send it out to everyone. He can also set it up where the pine mountain emails are forwarded to your personal email address. The emails would only be used for pine mountain VFD only. Mike will put that together and send it out. Motion to accept the Webmaster Report by Mary Beauchamp, second by Jim Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

The newsletter flyers are now printed along with the labels. They will be put together and mailed out by November 15. Our costs went up a little bit because we could not use the Post Office's "Every door direct mail service". Our total expenditure of this mailing with first class postage was \$257 as opposed to almost \$800 for the mailing of the 350 newsletters. The flyers are ready to go and we'll see how many requests we get back for the newsletters.

The bank account signatures have all been taken care of. We have Jim Miller, Chris Lavine and Carole Peterson on the signature list.

The TEC floor painting went very smoothly. Ken Walker and Ira Miller came to help out and moved the really heavy things into a trailer. Melissa Costa and Jim Miller moved the smaller stuff so we could scrub, tape, and paint. Jack and Melissa Costa and Jim Miller got everything done and moved all the stuff back. The chair legs have all new protectors on them to prevent scratching on the floor. Jack did all of them himself which was over 100 chairs. Jim also received some free leg protectors for the tables from Lifetime and most of those were replaced too.

Jim will check on the status of the new S1 tank cover on October 26.

New Business

Roy talked to Amber and she's willing to put together the newsletter again this year. The newsletter submissions are due by November 15. Roy will send out a reminder on November 7. Please copy everyone else on your submissions and he'll give you an advance copy of the president's letter. Amber will turn it around very quickly and hopefully, we'll put it up on the website by December 1. We need pictures for the newsletter. We'll also figure out once the flyers go out how many newsletters we need to print. We may be able to print them ourselves if it's a small amount of requests.

Chris Lavine said the 2024 Roadside Cleanup is scheduled for March 30, the weekend after sow bug weekend. The only thing that may be a little challenging is needing the trailer for 10 days and where the sorting stations are going to be. A rain date will be played by ear.

The 2024 Appreciation/Community Breakfast is scheduled for May 4th which is the first weekend in May.

We discovered the air conditioner wasn't keeping up with cooling the TEC while the floors were being painted. A repairman was called out and said there may be a leak in the core because it's an old unit. He put in 3 pounds of refrigerant and added a sealant for \$503.36. The TEC uses propane for heat and for the stove. We may be able to find a good used air conditioner unit through Tony at Ozark Air and Heat in Flippin. Carole will contact him to have him come out and check out our heat and air and give us his recommendations.

Judy said several people had asked about online member donations to the fire department. A part-time resident who is a member of the fire department had talked to her at the last event we had about asking for donations. When Judy sent her an email about it she then commented about how nice it would be to have something online for those unable to make all the events. Mike Williams set up a Go Fund Me for the new truck but it only raised around \$650. Mike says there are a few other options he can look at such as a nonprofit version of Paypal. Fees are significantly reduced for nonprofits so Paypal may be a good option since a lot of people are familiar with it. Go Fund Me is designed more for one particular event. Mike will get with Carole to shut down the Go Fund Me for the truck but he has to "jump through several hoops" to get the money from Go Fund Me for the nonprofit version to us. Mike said he could also set up an E-commerce account that's plugged in to our bank account. He also thought it might be a good idea to have a quarterly newsletter to go out to keep PMVFD in front of people instead of just once a year. Maybe send something out once a quarter via email talking about what we're going to be doing that quarter. However, per Carole it takes too long via our current email system and is an enormous amount of work for her since she does not have Microsoft Office on her computer. She did not know if the new email system being set up by Mike Williams would work better or not. Melissa also said that our Pine Mountain Facebook page reaches a lot of people too. Mike said he would do some research and come up with a recommendation for sending out mass emails to members.

Steve Gibson has mowed the grass for PMVFD by himself since 2015 (about 8 years). Steve really contributed a lot to the fire department by donating his time and expenses to keep the grass mowed for us. Melissa and Jack Costa have taken over the mowing since Steve can no longer do it. We do need some backup teams for them in case they are unavailable to do the mowing. Jack has offered to teach anyone who wants to learn how to operate the zero turn mower next Spring. He will teach you how to mow and how to clean it but he can only train 1 or 2 people at a time. It takes 2 hours to do the

mowing while Melissa does the weed eating. They've mowed 6 times for a total of 21 hours. Volunteer mowers also need to be a member of the PMVFD. Roy suggested we put a message on Facebook and the Community Board asking for volunteers to help with the mowing. We will also talk about it at the fire department meeting.

We would like to take all the equipment off of the boat Ron Dana donated to the fire department and sell it. It has to be run frequently to keep the motor in good shape and Bull Shoals actually has a fire boat. The PMVFD boat has an 85 horse Evinrude 2 stroke motor and is 15 to 17 foot long. It's an old boat but it would be nice to get a couple of thousand for it. We can put it on Facebook Marketplace and try to sell it. Ralph Sparks made a motion to sell the boat, second by Judy Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

The little brush truck (B2) was returned to Forestry on Monday. It had to be returned at minimum the same way we received it. We took the radio off but left some equipment on it that was no longer needed when they came to pick it up.

The ambulance does have an issue with the paperwork. Doug was also told it was donated to us from Baxter Regional; however, Baxter Regional had transferred the title over to ASU. According to Little Rock, it still belongs to Baxter Regional but according to the title it belongs to ASU. It was never officially transferred over to ASU nor to us since we have had the original title for 20 years. Doug Hagee says we are not required to register our PMVFD vehicles even though we have titles for them. Jim Miller spoke to the chief financial officer at ASU and he will be meeting with her and their attorney to decide whether or not the ambulance belongs to them or us. We will just give it back to them if they decide it belongs to ASU.

There is a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024 and Mountain Home, AR is directly in the path so we could have many more visitors to our area to see it.

Motion to adjourn by Ralph Sparks, second by Mike Williams. Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.