

# CRAIG RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2017

## **Call the Meeting to Order**

John Forgay called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

## **Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence**

## **Approval of Agenda**

Chris Nichols made a motion to approve the Agenda. Alan Webber seconded. Motion passed. (5:0)

## **Approval of Minutes**

Rod Kowach moved to approve the September 21, 2017 minutes as presented. Tony Maneotis seconded. Motion passed. (5:0)

## **Approval of Bills**

Nichols moved to approve the bills for October 19, 2017 as presented (Fire Department bills in the amount of \$14,759.30, Haz-Mat bills in the amount of \$0.00 and Pension bills of \$0.00) for a total of \$14,759.30. Kowach seconded. Motion passed. (5:0)

## **Purchase Orders**

None

## **Budget Review**

Chris Nichols – As of October 19<sup>th</sup> we have received 98% of budgeted revenue. We are at 83.5% of our budgeted expenses in Admin, 49.5% for Operations, and 67.92% of our total budget for the year. For budget requirements, we will have to move our December meeting up one week to December 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **New Business**

Resolution to Support 2A – (Nichols stepped out to avoid potential conflict of interest) The City has asked several entities for a letter of support for 2A. Chief Hume said this creates unity with other government entities. The letters of support will give the City more documentation showing that people support 2A. Rod Kowach asked if we would also want to support 5A? Discussion followed. Alan Webber made a motion that the Craig Rural Fire Protection District supports 2A. Tony Maneotis seconded. Motion passed. (4:0) (Nichols re-entered the meeting) Rod Kowach made a motion that the Craig Rural Fire Protection District support 5A. Alan Webber seconded. Motion passed (5:0)

Request for Pension – Chief Hume read a request from a firefighter to draw pension. Chief Hume states that he has all of the proper documentation, and supports his request without reservation, and to please accept his retirement and reinstatement, that we have a need for his help and his leadership. The request to draw retirement was approved.

## **Correspondence**

Forgay read a thank you card from Sherry Lippard

Forgay read a thank you card from Carl and Fredonne Chapman

Forgay read a thank you card from Belinda Puente

Forgay read a thank you card from MCHS Student Council

## Reports from the Chief –

We had 48 calls in September, 8 EMS, 40 Fire and 0 HazMat. The Rescue 1 workgroup left after a busy afternoon today for a final inspection tomorrow at SVI. We are expecting that in the next week to week and a half we will have delivery of the new Rescue. Rookie academy has all passed, and are eagerly awaiting January. They are still performing great. We had the Driver/Operator Road Certification all day last Saturday. All of the Rookies, and some of last year's class are signed off. Retired Chief Nichols also came and signed off on two trucks. Recruitment is ongoing, we will be closing the application window at the end of the month. PR is an ever-ongoing endeavor. We have the cub scouts here tonight. Thank you for coming to see them tonight. The homecoming parade and bonfire went really well. We have a new LED light for E2. We are in the process of getting batteries for the Aerial on L1. All of the current sources for these batteries are in Europe. We are working with a local vendor to find some. Max Fire was here last week for the trucks annual service. T1 has a cracked tank. We are working with a local vendor to have it fixed. Max Fire will be coming to do replacement valves for E1 so that it will pass the pump test. They continue to bump open. We are working to see if we can get it warrantied. September 16, 2017 was "Fire Day" We were dispatched to a wildland fire, then a second one, and then a structure fire all within 30 minutes. This Fire Department has really good people, great leaders, great firefighters. We took care of life safety, and then property, and we took care of it. I'd like to recognize the whole the whole Fire Department, Chief Hampton, and all of the Officers that took care of it. Today we had a structure fire on County Road 200. We had a 2-story garage on fire. I expected it to be gone, but they took care of everything that needed to be taken care of. They continue to amaze me every single day. Today they handled the fire, the scouts, and a truck in Loudy Simpson pond. They make me proud. We had a group of firefighters and spouses attend a premiere of the movie Only the Brave about the Granite Mountain Hotshots. This was a red-carpet premier in Denver. They wore their class a's and represented us for that event.

Fireworks – Chief Hume has been the middleman for the fireworks show for the last 2-3 years. There has been a transition from where the fireworks display was a City/County sponsored event with Craig Fire Rescue as the contractor, to where now Chief Hume has had to go to these entities and beg for funding for the show. He has reached a point where he no longer wishes to do this. Historically it has always been a City/County funded event. He would like the City and County to budget for it, or not, but he will no longer scramble for funds at the last minute to try to put it on. We have deadlines that have to be met, or we cannot get fireworks in time for a 4<sup>th</sup> of July display. At this point the City has removed fireworks from the budget, but the County has still budgeted it. The fireworks have to be ordered by the end of March, and we have to know if there is money available. Nichols said it would be hard to say if the community would want to donate to fund it. Maneotis said that the Fire Department has always supplied the manpower, supplies, etc. The firefighters are not paid for what they do. They take time away from their homes to come put on the display for the community, and he does not blame the Chief for not wanting to scramble for funds. Alan said there are some tough decisions for the City and County to make. Agrees with Maneotis – Support the Chief 100% Forgay offered to pen a letter explaining the situation.

Next month we will have a petition into district for John Goldsmith. They live by the Mercer's across the highway. The property is accessible, and would have the same response time as other homes in the area. Chief Hume read a recognition email received from Justin Doubrava from MRH EMS highlighting a job well done from Lt Olsen, FF Hammer, FF Scheller, and Cpt Willems. Good job, we have a strong relationship with EMS. A quick update on the 2018 proposed budget, it was recently updated with more current numbers to better reflect our current year to date. #4030 Specific Ownership has been updated to \$35,000 to bring in line with the last few years. #6170 Firefighter Wages increased to \$60,000 because historical data shows this to be more in range. #6180 Board Fees increased from \$3000 to \$4200 to reflect what would be paid if all board members attended all meetings. We will continue to update and make current. Nichols asked about 7400 Firefighter Clothing. Chief Hume said that the current gear is 5 years old, going on 6. NFPA suggests replacement at 5 years, and mandates it at 10. The plan is to phase it in over a few years, to avoid having to replace all at once.

We have also been working with a light gear to minimize the wear on the current and future gear. It does not have the same laundering requirements, and keeps us from wearing full bunker gear into people's homes when there is not a fire. Chief Hume also said that being fiscally responsible helps, but the volunteers keep the budget down every time they show up for a call.

**Board Member Reports**

Rod Kowach – It’s been a really busy month. Hats off to the rookies. Glad everybody stayed safe. Thank you.

Chris Nichols – Showed up for a couple of trainings to learn. It’s amazing how positive the attitude is. The commitment that this department has to making sure things are right. It would be nice to get the word out on how we operate on the budget that we do. There is a great cooperation among the entities in our community. There are great relationships built on scene.

Tony Maneotis — Along the same lines, great job. I have an opportunity for us to try out some gear at a discount, excited to try that. You guys save so much. You have had some huge fires this year and you are doing so much. Hats off to you.

Alan Webber— Sincerely congratulate Troy on his retirement. You have pride in the district and organization. Leaders and leadership, we have a team. It is good to foster that here. It helps us give you the tools you need. Thank you, guys. Your leadership is top notch and is reflected in the team. Hopefully the City can help support the fireworks. Thank you.

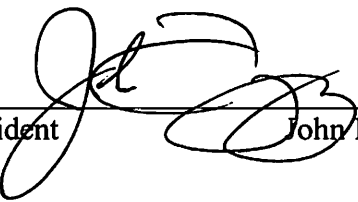
John Forgay— Troy, congratulations. You are such an asset to the department and the Chief. It’s tremendous what you guys do. Thank you to the unsung hero – Tonya for keeping up with everything here and all that you do.


**Audience Comments**

Doug Slaight – I agree with K.C., it is time to get out of begging for firework money. Let someone else find the money. If it doesn’t happen, it doesn’t happen. The Fire Department should just set it up and shoot it.

**Adjournment**

Forgay entertained a motion to adjourn. Maneotis moved. Webber seconded. Motion passed. (5:0) Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

  
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President John Forgay

  
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Secretary/Treasurer Chris Nichols