

OWEN VALLEY FIRE TERRITORY
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Owen Valley Volunteer Fire Department
Walnut Street, Spencer, Indiana

March 10, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Dale Bush, Deputy Director Stephen Cradick, Tammy Day, Director Mike Spinks, Margaret Tucker, and Lois West.

Also present: Fire Chief Pete Hodge, Fire Territory Attorney Terry English, and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Hyde.

Meeting called to order by Director Mike Spinks at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 10, 2008.

Minutes of previous meeting: Margaret Tucker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Pending Legislation Involving the Transfer of Money to Fire Territories House Bill 1105: Director Mike Spinks and Fire Territory Attorney Terry English testified before the Legislative Committee regarding House Bill 1105. Mike Spinks also testified before the Senate Committee. Lois West presented written information, that she received from State Representative Vern Tincher, regarding specific wording contained in the legislation.

Review of Monthly Financials: Claims Register was approved as presented and signed by all board members.

Contract with Water Company: Discussion regarding signed contract for rental of the fire hydrants with regard to specifications for color coding, mapping, and maintenance of the hydrants.

Update on Pending Legal Action: Nothing new at this time.

Contract Negotiations with Owen Valley Volunteer Firefighters, Inc.: The Contract Negotiating Committee has met and drafted a preliminary proposal which provides some clarification in areas such as training and the payment of expenses involved with providing training materials. Budgets for 2008 have not received final approval from the state, and may not receive final approval for some time.

Fire Chief's Report: Chief Hodge Reporting:

1. Chief Hodge has been working on a matching grant from Wal-Mart for the purchase of fire boots. The matching portion of the Wal-Mart grant to be \$2,000.00. Chief Hodge is also pursuing a grant from REMC in the amount of \$3,000.00 with the matching portion being \$3,000.00. This grant is for the purchase of a parts/gear washer. Discussion followed regarding availability of funds to pay the matching portion of these grants.
2. Steve Cradick has spoken with Angie Lawson regarding the possibility of applying for a grant through the Department of Homeland Defense. She has agreed to write a grant application for submission to the Department of Homeland Defense to assist with the purchase of a new Pumper/Tanker truck. Fire Territory Board Members

agreed to pursue this option. Discussion followed regarding other grants which may be available.

3. Discussion regarding the passage of pending legislation which pertains to the transfer of cash balances and tangible property to Fire Territories by other governmental entities. If the legislation does not pass, the Fire Territory will be reliant on the pending legal suit to resolve these issues.
4. Chief Hodge arranged for Randal Vanarsdale with the DOT to inspect on the "Tanker". Firefighting vehicles are exempt from inspection by the DOT, however; the report serves as justification for removing the truck from service as several safety issues makes the truck unsafe. The report sites five safety violations. Station 7, Patricksburg, has volunteered to provide their tanker for mutual aid until the Fire Territory can make arrangements for a Pumper/Tanker truck.
5. Discussion regarding the need to plan for the future replacement of and/or purchase of additional large equipment.
6. Discussion regarding color-coding of fire hydrants and labeling those hydrants which are inoperable. Fire Territory Attorney Terry English will draft a letter to encourage the Water Company to begin the process of coding/labeling the hydrants.
7. John Wallace has arranged a meeting with Jack Padgett, a representative of Thunderbird Fire Territory, in Farmersburg, Curry Township, for the purpose of informative discussion with someone who has been involved, on a long-term basis, with an established Fire Territory. The meeting is to take place Thursday, March 13, 2008 at Chambers.
8. Chief Hodge presented two estimates for repair of the outside lighting. Discussion regarding the availability of funds to pay for the needed repairs. After discussion Steve Cradick made a motion to accept the low bid submitted by Billy Roberts of Live Wire. Motion passed unanimously.
9. Additional Fire House software and updates have been purchased. This should make it easier to track training hours and certifications, as well as maintenance of equipment.
10. Director Spinks and Daniel Browning will meet with insurance agent to resolve an issue regarding an unpaid medical bill.

Meeting adjourned at approximate 7:51 p.m. March 10, 2008.

Date Approved: April 14, 2008

Mike Spinks, Director

Stephen Cradick, Deputy Director

Margaret Tucker, Board Member

Lois West, Board Member

Dale Bush, Board Member

Tammy Day, Board Member