

PENNINGTON COUNTY FIRE SERVICE BOARD

Wednesday, May 8, 2024
Rochford VFD – 11696 Rochford Rd., Hill City, SD 57745

The Pennington County Fire Service Board met at 7:00pm on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at the Rochford VFD, Hill City, South Dakota. Chair D. Lindblom called the meeting to order with the following voting board members present: E. Chase, T. Kobes, J. White, D. Harn, C. Maude, T. Deml, B. Povandra, R. Rossknecht, D. Willett

Others in Attendance: J. Harvey, V. Newman, J. Dalman, C. Dustman, D. Hartmann, P. Schlieff, A. Scott, M. Thompson, E. Ferris, J. Wolff, S. Schwaneke, Fred Schwaneke, Bonnie Olson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a) D. Lindblom thanked the Rockerville VFD for wonderful dinner.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA:

MOVED by T. Deml and seconded by C. Maude to approve the May 8, 2024 agenda as presented. Vote: Unanimous.

- a) T. Kobes requested the addition of “Particle Generator” under New Business.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES:

MOVED by J. White and seconded by E. Chase to approve the March 13, 2024 minutes as presented. Vote: Unanimous.

REVIEW AND APPROVE FINANCIALS:

MOVED by D. Willett and seconded by T. Deml to approve the financials as presented. Vote: Unanimous.

- a) 2024 – 2030 Budget – FSB Budget Committee:
 - i) J. Harvey explained the Budget Hearings have been moved to July 8 and 9th due to the Compensation Committee needing additional time to complete the Wage Study.
 - ii) D. Hartmann and D. Lindblom shared the following information: the Budget Committee met April 17th. C. Bancroft, HR Director, discussed the Wage Study process being used and the rationale behind the job descriptions and progress being made, job description clarifications and titles for both Fire Administration positions will be coming forward and these will help with recruitment and expansion of the office in the future, the Workers’ Compensation line-item in the proposed 2025 budget was increased, the Creighton Tower addition added to our utilities line-item, and the Capital Asset sheet included with the narrative presented to the Commission will be changed from 2030 to 2032.
 - ii) The group discussed the increases in Work Comp and the Wage Study and how the increases will affect salaries and benefits.
- b) 2025 Budget: MOVED by D. Harn and seconded by T. Kobes to approve the proposed 2025 Budget as presented. Vote: Unanimous.
- c) D. Harn thanked the Budget Committee for their work.



PENNINGTON COUNTY FIRE SERVICE BOARD

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Rochford VFD – 11696 Rochford Rd., Hill City, SD 57745

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) FSB Training – B. Povandra announced the new Training Tower is up and ready for use. They are currently in the process of training people how to use the facility. He clarified the tower is available for use by other agencies. He read the agreement for clarification. There may be costs associated with its' use, especially if there are burns. Coordinate with Hunter Harlan if you would like to use it. Tours can be arranged as well. D. Hartmann shared the Certified FF course was successfully completed by all participants. There is an RT-130 at North Haines tomorrow.
- b) Emergency Management Report – D. Willett handed out the updated 2024 ERG books and explained how they are being dispersed. Departments are encouraged to use Salamander by entering and updating their rosters and apparatus for mutual aid. This is also how they determine the number of ERG disseminated to each department. Each agency is responsible to have a member update and enter information into the system, at a minimum, annually. Photos are required to print cards.
- c) Emergency Management Users Board – G. Sortland state their last meeting was held in Apr. with project updates given. Their next meeting will be held in July.
- d) Pennington County Fire Chiefs Association – M. Thompson shared their next meeting will be in July at Rapid Valley before the FSB meeting. A special meeting was held in March to discuss the request brought to them from the FSB Budget Committee to purchase a Particle Generator. The final decision was not to assist with the purchase. M. Thompson submitted a letter to the Fire Admin office regarding the decision. The Rushmore Fire Conference Committee has been meeting to make plans. V. Newman shared their next meeting is May 13th. M. Thompson stated they need to keep the Chief's Association updated if they want funds to continue to support the conference. J. White also requested a budget be submitted.
- e) Black Hills Fire Advisory Board – B. Povandra: There will be a meeting coming up this summer.
- f) SD Fire Chiefs Association – J. White: The conference will again be held the first weekend in December and they are working to line up speakers. They are looking into having hands-on classes with virtual speakers to save costs.
- g) Communications – A. Scott shared they are continuing with the SmartZone visits. Scenic and Keystone Ambulance still need to be completed. If you have old P25 radios that need programed, let A. Scott know.
- h) County Commission Report – Commissioner Rossknecht thanked the FSB for the invitation to the meeting. He offered the following updates: information about the stages and progress of the Wage Study, June 4th elections, taxation meetings being held with good attendance regarding assessed values, Rochford and Mystic road updates, 900 Concourse Rd. and department moves to this location as well at the move for Public Defender office and Buildings and Ground, the addition to the jail. He also addressed a letter he received from Chief D. Harn, Rochford VFD regarding Mystic Rd. and the need for guard rails for several of the turns. Contact him with any questions and or concerns.

OLD BUSINESS: None



PENNINGTON COUNTY FIRE SERVICE BOARD

Wednesday, May 8, 2024
Rochford VFD – 11696 Rochford Rd., Hill City, SD 57745

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Particle generator – The purchase was brought forth by T. Kobes based on Chief’s Association previous meeting. V. Newman clarified that based on the vote for the Association, a new generator was purchased with Fire Administration 2024 funds. E. Chase volunteered to help write instructions on how to use it. They will have these completed in the coming weeks. V. Newman added the current FIT Tester will be discontinued in the next two or three years so a replacement will be added to the 2027 budget at a minimum of \$15,000.
- b) B. Povandra reminded everyone pump testing starts next week. Contact A. Kuenkel, Box Elder Fire, to get on schedule.

REQUESTS TO BE ACTED ON: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

- a) J. Harvey offered a detailed update and overview of the Fire Administration office covering meetings, events, response guides, road construction updates, BOC topics, on-going projects, operation highlights, and other items of importance and interest.
- b) J. Harvey thanked the Commission for their support with Sage Creek and Creighton.
- c) A. Scott thanked the FSB for the new climbing ladder at Sage Creek. It will be a huge help with safety. He stated Vikor did an exceptionally excellent job on the installation with a large cost savings to the County. He added Creighton Tower has been active since last December. A new Zone has been added for various departments related to the new tower. Contact A. Scott if you want added to this paging terminal.
- D) T. Kobes asked why “All Call” is not being used. M. Thompson explained it has to do with the paging in Central Square and a 15 min. lock up it causes. J. Harvey said this would be looked into further.

NEXT MEETING: July 10, 2024 @ 7:00pm | Rapid Valley VFD, 3760 Reservoir Rd., Rapid City, SD – Meal Served @ 6:30pm

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by C. Maude and seconded by T. Kobes to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. Vote: Unanimous.

Pennington County fully subscribes to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you desire to attend this public meeting and need special accommodation, please notify the Fire Administration Office at 605-394-5367 so that appropriate auxiliary aids and/or services are available.

