FIRE SERVICE BOARD MEETING
December 12, 2018, Pennington County EOC

Meeting called to order at 1900 by Chair Jeremy Walla.


Guests in Attendance: Chris Blair, State Wildland Fire; Caleb Dustman, New Underwood VFD; Jack Dustman, New Underwood VFD; Denny Gorton, North Haines VFD; Dan Harn, Rochford VFD; Damon Hartmann, Doty VFD; Bruce Jensen, Whispering Pines VFD; Brent Kolstad, North Haines VFD; Adam Kuenkel, Box Elder VFD; Chris Gleason, Box Elder VFD; Phil Schlief, Silver City VFD; Matt Burtz, Wall VFD; Jason White, North Haines VFD; Julie Webster, H&S Uniforms & Equipment, LLC.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: (see above)

PUBLIC COMMENT: Julie Webster, H&S Uniforms & Equipment, LLC, presented that she used to work for “Neves Uniforms”, and since its closing she’s started a new company and works on all major structure/bunker/turnout PPE.

AGENDA: Walla presented the agenda for comments. Motion to approve December 22, 2018 agenda by Ray Bubb and Jeremy Dalman seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Wal led presented the November 14, 2018 meeting minutes draft for review and feedback. Tim Kobes motioned to approve, Paul Johnson seconded. The motion carried.

BUDGET REPORT: Walla presented the Budget Report for review and comments. Motion by to approve by Tim Kobes and it was seconded by Paul Johnson. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FSB Training – Kunkel noted thirty-three (33) students signed up for this year’s PennCo Structure CERT class and thirty-one (31) attended the first session this week. Wall VFD is doing a hybrid version of the CERT class and Matt Burtz spoke about their “online/classroom” session currently underway – NOTE: the class size is currently fifteen (15). Chairman Walla noted the 2019 Mid-Winter Muster (www.midwintermuster.com), March 4-10, 2019, at Black Hills State University Center, 4300 Cheyenne Boulevard, Rapid City. Registration open now on the website address noted above.


C. Black Hills Fire Advisory Board – Tobin reported the State Cooperative Agreement final draft version from State Wildland Fire will be ready for review at the end of this week. The agreement will be emailed to VFD’s for review, and a meeting will be scheduled in January for any further action(s) prior to final approval.

D. Pennington County Fire Chiefs Association – Carlson noted the statewide effort from the fire service to work with legislators, the Chief’s Association, and other entities to address the State radio system funding and future upgrades. White noted the upcoming PennCo Fire Chiefs Association officer elections will be in January.
OLD BUSINESS

A. Workers Compensation – ACTION: departments need to approve their membership rosters in January for appropriate Workers Compensation Cover, letter will be sent to Jay Esperance of South Dakota Wildland Fire for 2019 work comp coverage. Departments using Pennington County coverage for Out-of-State deployments will be billed accordingly.

B. Mutual Aid Agreement Committee Report – The first reading of the proposed agreement is tonight, and the document will be sent out to the PennCo Fire Service members for review at their department levels to be brought back to upcoming FSB meetings for discussion and modifications – NOTE: there are minor changes in the proposed revision.

C. Hose Testing Update – White noted this item is to be removed from the agenda going forward.

D. City – County Meeting’s:
   a. Meade County Fire Association – Hofer noted the discussion of fire and ambulance coverage in Meade County; specifically, on the ambulance district exploration to establish one, West Central Meade County District Vote to be held December 18th.
   b. Custer County Fire Advisory Board – Harvey noted the recent meeting centered around use of funds will be used for communications and other related costs.
   c. Lawrence County Fire Chiefs Association – Bond submitted a message to Chairman Walla that there’s nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Commissioner’s Report – Commissioner Deb Hadcock noted the new Board of Commissioner members, Ron Rossknecht and Gary Drewes, will be sworn in to the Board of Commissioners in January 2019. She noted her continued support to the PennCo Fire Service going forward.

B. Emergency Management Report – Willet reported on recent FEMA reporting requirements are being completed at this time. There was a recent G-Course/HAZMAT FEMA class taught locally (at the State level) that was very successful and taught in-house for the first time. PennCo EM was able to procure additional equipment for a back-up EOC at Camp Rapid is being currently being installed. This provides a vital back-up location for major emergencies.

C. Seth Bullock Fire Tower – Harvey reported that both antennas have been replaced and repeater improvements/replacements are underway. Improved communications will result from these efforts. A special thanks to Hill City VFD who provided manpower to assist in the installation of the new antennas. (Seth Bullock Fire Tower serves as a communications site on Scruton Mountain, near Pactola Reservoir, so named in honor of Captain Bullock, December 12, 1938, as he was the first supervisor of the Black Hills National Forest)

D. Alarm Levels Update – Harvey noted an email will be arriving with updated information. PLEASE review and provide feedback. Call Jerome if you have any questions.

E. FSB Elections – Elections are two (2) year terms and will be held at the January FSB meeting. The EM Advisory Board (appointed position) currently doesn’t have a term-limit, and we need to address this going forward; Sortland currently is the FSB representative. There are other FSB elected positions for consideration that will be addressed next month.
   a. EM Advisory Board – Tim Kobes made the motion and Paul Johnson seconded to nominate Gary Sortland to continue as the FSB representative. Dustin Willet abstain from this vote; the motion carried.
   b. BHFAB – Craig Comer made the motion for Todd Tobin to continue as the FSB representative, and Paul Johnson seconded. The motion carried.
F. 2019 FSB Locations – FSB members determined their 2019 meeting location(s):
   a. January – Pennington County EOC
   b. February – Doty VFD
   c. March – Black Hawk VFD
   d. April – Wall VFD
   e. May – Hill City VFD
   f. June – Rapid Valley VFD
   g. July – Scenic VFD
   h. August – North Haines VFD
   i. September – Whispering Pines VFD
   j. October – Rapid City FD
   k. November – Rockerville VFD
   l. December – Pennington County EOC
   m. January (2020) – Pennington County EOC

NEW REQUESTS

REQUESTS TO BE ACTED ON

A. Battle Creek Fire District, Rockerville VFD, Whispering Pines VFD, Rapid Valley VFD 5-Year Plan – Chairperson Walla noted this has been addressed in previous meeting and will be removed from future agendas.

B. Same as “A”

C. Same as “A”

D. Same as “A”

E. BOP, Rapid Intervention – Kobes commented on the more effectively addressing command responsibilities to help alleviate additional responsibilities from the incident commander to help with overall incident process efficiencies. Others commented on the current draft version addresses having a RIT officer but didn’t want to overwhelm the incident with too much rigidity that might limit MAYDAY response capabilities. Kobes suggested adopting the current draft, and suggested amendments going forward that would achieve a very effective BOP IE: Mayday/Rapid Intervention should be treated as an “Incident within an Incident”, RIT/RIC team works for Operations Section Chief, should be more than two personnel on RIT/RIC, the RIT/RIC team should be dedicated to RIC/RIT and not assigned other duties. **Kobes made a motion to accept with amendment, Paul Johnson seconded. Motion carried.**

F. See “E”

G. Travel Request – Chairperson Walla noted this item is to approve travel expenses request from the PennCo Fire Administrator to go to Pierre for the South Dakota Fire Instructor Association recertification. **Tim Kobes made the motion to approve, Ray Bubb seconded, and the motion carried.**

NEXT MEETING: January 9, 2019, 1900 – Pennington County EOC (PennCo Administration Bldg., 1st Floor)

ADJOURNMENT