

# Mosier Fire District

## Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 12th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Held as in-person and Zoom Meeting

**Attendance:**

**Board Members:** Carol Goter, Kris McNall, Rob Miller, Todd Reeves, Joanne Rubin

**Staff:** Chief Michael Carlson

**Public:** Mayor Witt Anderson

**Call to order at 1800**

**Agenda additions or corrections:** None

**Comments from the public:** None

**Consent agenda** - Goter made **motion** to approve; Rubin seconded; approved by Goter, McNall, Reeves, and Rubin with **exception** of McNall abstaining from approval of minutes. Chief explained folder labeled "Previously Approved" for checks that had been signed between board meetings. McNall clarified that they still need board approval and are to be included in the the consent agenda approval.

**Business:**

1. **Volunteer Report** - None.

2. **Board**

**a. Board Representative to January drill:** McNall will go in January and Reeves will go in February.

**b. Volunteer Appreciation Dinner** - 12/16/24, 5pm - 9pm, about 30 expected. No firefighter or officer of the year due to no submissions. McNall stated it was an unusual year with two captains resigning and there being some turnover in firefighters this year.

3. **Financials:** Discussion about including a column in the Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual report that would show YTD budgeted amount for income and expenses rather than income and expenses budgeted for the full year. McNall and Chief Carlson stated that they rely on the final column, which is "% of Budget" and need to keep that column. Reeves assigned Goter to talk to First Business about modifications to this report.

Chief Carlson raised the possibility of needing a supplemental budget for the grantwriter and the new turnouts. McNall stated that grantwriter expenses can go to Contracted Services, and asked about board approval for the turnouts. It was explained that the estimate for the turnouts was approved at the last meeting. McNall will do research to see if that amount (about \$14K) will require a supplemental budget, and McNall and Chief Carlson will discuss which line items need to be examined. Chief Carlson stated that he expected funds from the Microwave Tower Fire cleanup reimbursements to cover the cost. He also stated that per emails that day, \$85K for those reimbursements was direct deposited to the MFD bank account.

4. **JUF Update:** Miller reported on a discussion with Mosier Mayor Anderson wherein the Mayor expressed his belief that the City and Fire District had a shot at supplemental budgeting from the state legislature for \$2.1M for the JUF. Miller suggested that the City and Fire Board use the

turnaround time for a decision on this funding by the state, likely 2-3 months, to make an alternative plan in case the state legislature does not provide the funding or only provides a portion of it. This plan would involve the Fire Board coming up with a "hard ceiling" for what the fire station portion of the JUF would cost. He suggested the City do the same for the rest of the JUF, and that the Committee propose a budget-based project with a hard maximum cost to either the existing design/construction team or an alternate design/construction team. Mayor Anderson was receptive and said he would discuss with the City, and suggested scheduling a JUF meeting in January. Chief Carlson heard from Colleen Coleman with Mosier City that the Mayor and Reeves had discussed postponing the meeting with the Fire Board and the City Council at this time.

Mayor Anderson joined the meeting. He discussed a bill proposed by Representative Gomberg providing support for rural infrastructure projects. He was told by Representative Helfrich's Chief of Staff that if this bill makes it that far, the committee work would be done late February/early March. Mayor Anderson discussed this path with the architect, Doug Minarik, and asked him to be thinking about options for cutting the cost of the project and saving as much of the design as they can so that we are not losing sunk costs. The Mayor will have Colleen Coleman schedule a JUF meeting. Mayor Witt added that switching architects would not bring significant savings at this point. Reeves requested that the Board get information (all the data going into the JUF budget) prior to the January JUF meeting so there can be better understanding of what the cost drivers. Previous revisions seemed to target a reduction in square feet, but did not reduce the cost per square foot.

- 5. Chief's report:** In addition to his submitted report, Chief Carlson stated that he's going to schedule the classroom type of training during the winter months. This would include mandatory HIPPA training and possible SDAO training on sexual harrasment and other EO types of training. Chief reported that we have four certified structure firefighters. We have many more wildland firefighters than structural firefighters. Chief Carlson spoke about the current staffing issues. Discussion regarding types of insurance on each vehicle -- a couple only have liability.

**a. Discussion and possible approval of having the grant writer add 2 lifepak 15 monitor/defibrillators on AFG Grant.** Chief Carlson stated that we now have Lifepak 12s and they can't be serviced anymore. Chief Carlson would like to have a total of three Lifepaks, and would now like the newly FDA approved Lifepak 35s which cost \$10K more than the 15s. McNall asked if it was necessary to have that many Lifepaks, considering how much they would be used and their maintenance/repair costs. Questions raised about how many AEDs we have. Chief Carlson has only seen one, but McNall thinks there are more. Rubin suggested having one AED in each vehicle and a Lifepak in a designated vehicle and asked what the value of additional Lifepaks would bring. Discussion ensued about who in our department can use the devices, what vehicles would respond and where, what someone can do with a Lifepak readout prior to arrival of ambulance. Reeves thanked the Chief for bringing this to the Board's attention, and stated that a motion is not needed to approve this, the Board agrees with his idea, and Chief Carlson can proceed.

**6. Correspondence:** None

**Comments from the public:** None

**Adjournment at 2024.**

*Next month's board meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2025.*