

**WIGGINS RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
Board Meeting  
8 February 2024**

Those present for the monthly board meeting of the Wiggins Rural Fire Protection District Board Meeting were board members Leroy Dilka, Pat Rogers, Jo Rogers, John Kopetzky and Nathan Troudt.

Also present were: Val Loose, Assistant Fire Chief John Pachek, Lieutenants Dylan Bender, Michael Siedelberg and Jake Lira. Firemen present were: Ed Moore, Tim Walker, Rob Mayer and Nick Randel. Community members attending were Macey Pachek and guests from High Plains Bank Esther Lingo, Gayle Stencil, Debbie Gross and Caleb Cardwell.

Board President Nathan Troudt called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Everyone then said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with all board members present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Troudt asked if there was anyone that wished to speak during the public comment and Fireman Ed Moore did. Mr. Moore told the board that things needed to change and it should start with the board. He felt people were going around the command staff and not following the chain of command and no one calling the Assistant Fire Chief, John Pachek. Pat Rogers told everyone that the chain of command needs followed.

**MINUTES JANUARY 11 AND 25, 2024**

Mrs. Rogers moved to accept the minutes as printed and this motion was seconded by Mr. Dilka. Roll call was taken.

Leroy Dilka – Yes      Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to approve minutes as printed.

**HIGH PLAINS BANK**

Esther Lingo from High Plains Bank reviewed options that the District could take with the money that is invested at High Plains Bank. Currently the District has 10 accounts, there are 2 sweep accounts and 2 money market accounts. These are for the General Fund and Capital Fund. The current interest rate is 4.13% and the bank will inform the District when the interest rate changes. Mrs. Lingo told the board that Option 3 of their proposal was the same as the accounts are now – there would be no changes. Mr. Kopetsky moved to continue the way it is now and go with Option 3. This motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers. Roll call was taken.

Leroy – Dilka – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Pat Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to have accounts remain the same at High Plains Bank.

**BUILDING DESIGN**

Ray Keefe was not present for this. Mrs. Rogers suggested that after a chief is selected the board work on a 5 year plan for additions to Wiggins, Hoyt and Goodrich. Mr. Dilka agreed with that. Mr. Kopetzky moved to go with a 5 year plan and formulate a building committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dilka. Roll call was taken.

Leroy Dilka – Yes      Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to have a 5 year plan for construction of additions.

**SOLAR ENERGY UPDATE**

Mr. Troudt updated the board on the Solar Energy. Mr. Henderson was not able to attend tonight, but in March he will be here. John Pachek and Tim Walker represent the fire department with the solar company.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Dilka moved and Mr. Kopetzky seconded the motion to go into executive session regarding the Rosenbauer pumper and to consider personnel matters, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session, specifically to interview candidates for the Fire Chief position and to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, develop a strategy for negotiations, and/or instruct negotiators, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e), regarding making an offer of employment to the successful candidate. Motion carried to go into executive session. The board, command staff, Nick Randel and Ed Moore were in attendance for the Rosenbauer meeting which started at 7:18 and concluded at 7:35 at which time the board had the executive session for the other matter. The board was out of executive session at 7:47.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Truck Committee**

It was decided to have the Truck Committee report at each meeting, so it will be on the agenda.

Mr. Dilka moved to have Firemen Ed Moors be in charge of the Rosenbauer pumper that is on order. This motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers roll call was taken.

Jo Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Leroy Dilka – Yes      Pat Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt - Yes

Motion carried to have Ed Moore in charge of the Rosenbauer pumper that is on order.

A question arose about 910 light rescue and it was decided to let the new chief be involved in also looking at units.

Website

Mr. Troudt told the board that he had talked with Hope Becker with the Town of Wiggins. She has information on grants to help with the website. This grant would cover instructions on running the website as well. This item was tabled until March.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Room Agreement

Mrs. Rogers voiced her concerns regarding the use of the bay by people using the community room. She felt children shouldn't be around the trucks and the racks of gear. Mr. Troudt felt it would be more of a liability. Mr. Kopetzky stated that if it wasn't supervised, there was no need to use it. Mrs. Rogers moved to take the usage of the bay off the community room agreement. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dilka. Roll call was taken.

Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetsky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes      Leroy Dilka – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to remove use of bay from policy.

It was noted that this does not include family or activities that involve firemen and their families.

Gear Cleaning

Firemen Nick Randel presented a proposal for gear cleaning done by Becker Safety. There are 55 sets of gear at \$135 per set. Becker safety would come to the station and clean where other companies the gear would have to be sent out to clean. Becker would to a full inspection of the gear. Becker would make a list of damaged gear. Becker would inspect the gear by the end of the month. Lieutenant Lira told the board that the firemen don't know what to look for when their gear is damaged. NFPA has regulations regarding bunker gear. Mr. Dilka told the group that there is a certified class for cleaning bunker gear and wildland gear. He also said that he would like to see the gear cleaned but he would also like to see firemen take a class for cleaning the gear. Lieutenant Bender had called previous Fire Chief Travis Bailey and he had said there is no class for this. Mr. Kopetzky moved to have the gear cleaned for the safety of the volunteers. Mr. Dilka seconded the motion and added that the command staff try and find a class that would tach how to clean bunker gear. Discussion followed. Mr. Rogers asked the gear would be cleaned and what gear would be cleaned. Nick Randel responded that each seam on each set of gear is checked. He also thought that the primary set of gear and those that run 35-40 calls should be checked. Mr. Dilka thought 1 set to be cleaned was good, but Mr. Rogers thought it best to do them all. Roll call was then taken.

Pat Rogers – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Leroy Dilka – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to have gear cleaned.

Mr. Randel will call Becker Safety in the morning.

#### Truck Repair

Lieutenant Bender reported to the board that truck repair “kicked butt” this month. The E-1 (Unit 1201) had over heated. The pump cooler circulates in the heater and circulates antifreeze. The unit needs an EGR cooler at a cost of \$9,251.85. Mr. Kopetzky moved to get the truck fixed, this was seconded by Mr. Rogers. Roll call was taken.

Leroy Dilka – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes      Pat Rogers – Ye  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to get an EGR cooler.

Lieutenant Bender then told the group that this unit needed new cylinders. Mr. Kopetzky moved to get cylinders fixed and this motion was seconded by Mr. Dilka. Roll call was taken.

Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Leroy Dilka- Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to repair cylinders.

The Hulk (Unit 9301) did not pass DOT inspection. The running lights aren't working. Fireman Richard Snow will look at the lights. An estimate on the cost will be gotten.

Unit 921 – Rosenbauer has a pressure regulation valve not working. Unit 920 the command unit backup camera is not working and the part that's needed is not made now.

Unit 951 broke off bleed line, but this is warranty work.

Unit 940 the DEF sensor is not working.

#### Building Maintenance

Lieutenant Bender reported to the board that Aaron from Wiggins Electric had been to the Wiggins Station looking at lights. Some of the LED lights had burned out. Does the board want motion sensors or not in the lights. The REA has a deal on LED lights, so everything will be looked at. Mrs. Rogers asked what to do with the old bulbs.

#### FINANCIALS

It was reported that \$29,784.69 had been received during January. This amount included property taxes, Community Room donation and REA Capital Credit. Total amount at High Plains Bank as of January 31, 2024 amounted to \$6,958,970.67.

Accounts Payables were then reviewed with the board. Total amount of payables amounted to \$20,069.76. Utilities amounted to \$2,066.49, regular invoices amounted \$16,667.45 and

debit card charges amounted to \$1,335.82. Mr. Rogers moved to pay the monthly invoices, this motion was seconded by Mr. Kopetzky. Roll call was taken.

Jo Rogers – Yes      Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Leroy Dilka – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to pay the bills.

**SECRETARY REPORT**

The board was given a hand out regarding the Special District Association and the workshop that they were hosting regarding Property Tax. The board was also told that 1099's had been sent to Vendors in January. The board had also reviewed an email stating that the 2024 Budget had been accepted.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT**

Assistant Chief John Pachek reminded the board that the Crisis Intervention Class would be held next week and 4 members of the Wiggins Department had signed up for the class. He fee for the class is \$345 and they will waive \$345 for allowing the class to be held at the Wiggins Station. Three member to attend this class would be \$1,035. Mr. Kopetzky moved to pay for the class for the 3 members. Mr. Dilka seconded the motion and roll call was taken.

Leroy Dilka – Yes      Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to pay for the Crisis Class.

Assistant Chief Pachek told the board that the Lieutenant position had been voted on. Tim Walker received 4 votes and Sam Belmonte had received 7 votes. Mr. Kopetzky moved to have Sam Belmonte as Lieutenant, this was seconded by Mr. Rogers. Roll call was taken.

Leroy Dilka – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Abstain      Pat Rogers – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to approve Sam Belmonte as lieutenant.

Assistant Chief Pachek reviewed the calls the firemen made as well as other happenings with the Department.

Lieutenant Siedelberg presented a letter from Wiggins After Prom requesting a donation. Mrs. Rogers moved to donate \$100 each to the Wiggins After Prom Party as well as the Weldona After Prom Party. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dilka. Roll call was taken.

Pat Rogers – Yes      Leroy Dilka – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Motion carried to donate \$100 to Wiggins and Weldona for After Prom.

A thank you note from the Busch family was read. Mrs. Rogers also told the board that she had ordered flowers for Mildred Walker's funeral.

Mr. Dilka moved to adjourn the meeting and tis was seconded by Mrs. Rogers. Roll call was taken.

Pat Rogers – Yes      John Kopetzky – Yes      Jo Rogers – Yes      Leroy Dilka – Yes  
Nathan Troudt – Yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Val Loose  
Secretary to the Board