

Wasatch County Fire Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday September 8, 2020

Meeting held at the Wasatch County Administration Building located at 25 N Main, Heber City.

Those in Attendance:

Steve Farrell

Jeff Wade

Spencer Park

Kendall Crittenden

Danny Goode

Mark Nelson

Chief Ernie Giles

EMS Battalion Chief Clair Provost

Dustin Grabau

Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2020 fire board meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Park and the motion passed all in favor.

Warrants

The listing of warrants totaled \$708,125.45. This total included the added warrants and the payroll transmittals.

Councilman Farrell: I had one question on the warrants, we did a medical assessment for Kristian Kemp.

Chief Giles: He's our medical director, Kris Kemp. Just for clarification we started a physical program through the district. Dr. Kemp had everyone go and have their blood drawn. He then met with each employee and if there was any concerns, he would refer them to their physician. We are just trying to see where everybody is health wise.

Councilman Farrell: I didn't realize that. Thank you. Any other questions?

A motion was made by Councilman Wade to approve the warrants as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Park and the motion passed all in favor.

Chiefs Report

Chief Giles: Just a few explanations on these warrants. We ordered a truck about 18 months ago and it finally came last week. We are going to try and get it out to the press next week or so. We had a couple little issues with labeling, but we are working through those. It's a structure/wildland all wheel drive pumper. Also, if you see what was added to those warrants, I added one today for a chassis ambulance. We are going to try and do a rebuild. Basically, we are going to buy a new cab and chassis and have the ambulance box mounted on it. Its going to save us roughly \$70,000.00 to \$90,000.00 depending on what they have to do to the box. We are going to try one of these. We have not done one yet. It is a place in Las Vegas. Also, on the crashed ambulance it's been delivered to Florida, the wheel coach repair shop. We will hopefully have it back around the first part of December. Just another item on the CARES money, we have contacted all the towns and met with Heber, Midway, and Charleston. It seems like that is going very well. Charleston has given us their CARES money. Its not a huge amount but it all adds up to a huge amount, so we appreciate all of their help, and all of the boards help. As you cross these people's paths let them know the fire district appreciates their help. Other than that, I don't have anything else unless you have questions.

Councilman Farrell: Why haven't we rebuilt an ambulance before? Has that not been a feasible thing to do or is it a complicated thing to do?

Chief Giles: If all of you know we are short ambulances. We have the one that was crashed, some are broke down, and one has a motor out of it. This chassis is costing us \$7,000.00 to \$8,000.00 more than we can get it through our local dealers. This time they have one on hand. We have looked into it before but the costs just doesn't seem like they outweigh what you are getting. Now new ambulances cost so much, I wanted to try this rebuild to see if it is worth saving the taxpayers \$70,000-\$90,000. I think it will maybe be worth it, especially where Las Vegas is as close as it is. We have ordered a transport van as well. It should be here later part of November to do our transports. That will actually be supported from CARES money by midway.

Councilman Farrell: That will cut down on the mileage of the normal ambulances?

Chief Giles: Yes, on the expensive ones. Not that this transport van isn't expensive. This van is \$95,000 without it being equipped. With the help of Dustin, Mike, and the County to help us get some of this equipment because of COVID-19 we can get this van. Hopefully, this will help us. These \$200,000 ambulances we are wearing out. Hopefully, this van will suit the same purpose.

Councilman Goode: Hey Ernie, what are you looking for in your budget next year?

Chief Giles: As far as what?

Councilman Goode: Are you looking for an increase or are you okay?

Chief Giles: I think we are okay. I don't think I'm going to hold it. I probably will next year. If you remember when we combined fire and ems last year for the 1.4. I think we are going to hold where we are at. Next year we will look at it and see how the budget is working. Our revenues on EMS is holding close to were we want them. We still have a little more than a quarter this year. Where this is the first year running this it's a learning curve for all of this. I think for right now we are not going to have a hearing. I believe we should be fine with what we have.

Councilman Goode: I think we were going to do the same thing with park and rec and do a hearing every other year.

Chief Giles: Yes that is correct. That will be the next years.

Councilman Farrell: Anything else for the Chief? Is the fire warden or fire marshal on?

Chief Giles: No they are not. Troy is actually down on a fire trying to get his task book finished in Santaquin and Clint is off today.

Councilman Farrell: Anything from the advisory board?

Chief Giles: They are actually here with me at the Heber station. We are going to have our meeting after this. The training officers put together a job description for the deputy chief. The advisory board is going to look at it and give me there recommendation today and, then in hopes, we can present it to the fire board in the next month or two. As Danny explained our budget, I would like to include the wage of the deputy chief in the 2021 budget.

Councilman Farrell: As I noted to them in an email, it makes it very difficult for the council to attend them meetings when they are held the same day as Fire Board.

Chief Giles: Your right Steve, maybe we need to set a time when you guys can attend.

Councilman Goode: Hey Ernie, that deputy chief, so that would be a second in command for the district behind you?

Chief Giles: Yes

Councilman Goode: Thank you Ernie.

A motion was made by Councilwomen Crittenden to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Councilman Goode the motion passed all in favor.