

CASS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
September 5, 2018

Call to Order

The Cass County Fire District #1 (CCFD1) Board met at 6:30 p.m. at Cass County Fire District 1 Station at 1444 Holland Street, Logansport, Indiana. Meeting was called to order by Michael L. Sims, Chairman. Members present were: Michael L. Sims, Chairman; Dave Patty, Vice Chairman; Jeff Asselin, Member at Large; and Bridget Enyeart, Fiscal Officer/Secretary.

Minutes

Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2018 were reviewed. Dave Patty made a motion to accept the minutes. Jeff Asselin seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

TREASURER'S REPORT/PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Treasurer's Report was given by Fiscal Officer, Bridget Enyeart. Rainy Day Fun \$98,764; Building Debt Fund \$0; County Emergency Loan Fund \$23,300.18; Fire General Fund \$681,042.88; Cumulative Fire Fund \$49,685,078. Checking Balance \$12,018.04. Savings Account Balance \$852,793.08. Jeff Asselin made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and all claims submitted in the amount of \$3,988.25 for payment, Dave Patty seconded. **Motion passed 3-0**

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

1. Run report was given. Annual pump tests for the apparatuses will be in October.
2. Maintenance and service repairs needed were discussed. Tires are going to need replaced for Engine 3, the cost will be approximately \$2,000. Jeff Asselin made a motion to approve the repair. Dave Patty seconded. **Motion passed 3-0.**
3. Jeff Asselin asked if there had been any quotes yet on the Engine decals. The firemen indicated they are currently working on getting quotes.
4. Dave Patty made a motion to accept the Fire Chief's Report. Jeff Asselin seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

INTERNAL CONTROL POLICY REVISION

Tabled until December 2018 meeting.

BUDGET 2019

The DLGF Budget Workshop for the Cass County Fire District was held on Friday, July 20, 2018 @ 2:30pm. Budget was then submitted to the Cass County Auditor for publishing. First reading of the Cass County Council for our 2019 budget will be September 21, 2018 @ 9:00 am. Second reading of the Cass County Council will be October 19, 2018 @ 9:00 am.

OLD BUSINESS

New Debt Levy/Fire Apparatus Loan. We are now able to move forward with the loan. We are currently active in getting Bond Opinion with attorney Lisa Lee at Ice Miller in Indianapolis, IN. The Board should be able to close on the loan sometime in October.

City of Logansport. The Cass County Fire District #1 Board members submitted their responses to the secretary to create a formal response of all board members views regarding the proposed shared fire protection in the future. Fiscal Officer Bridget Enyeart prepared a cost analysis based on Logansport Fire Department's (LFD) lowest Salary pursuant to an Indiana Gateway report in 2017. Base pay for firemen at LFD is \$44,411.14. This does not include healthcare or 401k benefits. Adding these benefits with the county's current healthcare and offering a similar 401k match would increase the base pay to \$62,880.93. The total payroll would be \$565,928.34 for 9 men.

The Board would also need to add utility costs that New Waverly Fire (NWF) currently pays, in addition to liability insurance and fuel for the apparatuses. Logansport Fire Department wanted a contractual service amount of \$150,000. This would give an estimated budget of \$934,988.34. The current budget for the 2019 contract with NWF with adding \$30,000 for average cumulative spending is \$840,860.00. This proposal would cost the District \$94,128.34 to switch from NWF and there is no employment guarantee for the current contracted firemen. For those reasons, Fiscal Officer Bridget Enyeart stated she doesn't recommend the Board move forward as it would be just a repeat of 2010 and they would be wasting their money having a consultant tell them what they already know.

Mayor Dave Kitchel indicated that figuring the cost of protection should be left up to the professionals like Umbaugh and Associates. Fiscal Officer Bridget Enyeart indicated she has been processing accounting for 20 years as she owns her own private business and has been processing the accounting, budgets and annual reports for the District since 2011 (7 years). She stated she is very familiar with how the tax rates work, and what the Department of Local Government and State Board of Accounts will allow. She also stated the Board works closely with Peters Municipal Consultants, LTD in Greenwood Indiana. The District's Fiscal Plan is updated based on major purchases, changes in legislation, and the current needs of the fire station with each new budget year. The board always knows their financial position and knows what they can and cannot afford with their budgets.

Chairman Mike Sims indicated the Board currently has a contractual service agreement for fire protection with New Waverly Fire Department through 2020. He encouraged the mayor to have open dialog with New Waverly Fire as the firemen are not employed by Cass County Fire District. Chairman Mike Sims went on to say that he would like to see the departments continue to work together regarding fire protection through mutual aid. Mike additionally stated that he has ordered the Fire Chief to provide whatever assistance Logansport Fire Department or any other Department in Cass County needs regardless of boundary lines. The Mayor thanked Chairman Sims for reviewing the proposal and thought it was worth the Boards time to review it. The Analysis of Shared Fire Protection with Logansport Fire Department will be attached to the minutes together with the estimated cost analysis.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Asselin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Patty seconded. Meeting adjourned. **Motion passed 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget I. Enyeart, Fiscal Officer

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