

**WELLINGTON COMMUNITY FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MINUTES
July 3, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

I. Pledge of Allegiance 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order by Fred Pitts President

Roll Call: The following members were present:

Brighton Twp. Craig Norton Penfield Twp. Eric Flynn Huntington Twp. Walter Rollin
Pittsfield Twp. Walter Bredel Wellington Twp. Fred Pitts Village Council Hartman

Fiscal Officer Poling

Others Present: Chief Wetherbee A/C Regal Lt Fox Kim Meyers

II. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Eric Flynn, 2nd by Craig Norton to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All in favor.

II. Approval of Financial Report:

Motion made by Gene Hartman, 2nd by Eric Flynn to approve Financial Report as presented to the board. All in favor.

III. Approval of Expenses:

Motion set forth by Walter Rollin, 2nd by Craig Norton to approve current month expenses as presented. Walter Bredel inquired about the charges for Bob's Tire. Chief Wetherbee explained that there were two trucks: the ladder truck and the tanker truck, that required new tire due to wear that was observed during training, and then one that went in for a rotation and it was found that there was significant wear. Chief noted that both were due for tires based on their age, and the price included mounting, balance, and disposal of old tires. Chief Wetherbee also noted that the Atlantic Emergency Solutions invoice was for turnout gear, and that \$10,000 of the cost was covered by the State Fire Marshall's Grant. All in favor.

V. Department Report:

Chief Wetherbee submitted and went over his monthly report.

A/C Pitts submitted for review.

VI. Committee Reports:

Finance- FO Poling reported that the 2022/2023 Audit began on June 24th, and the District is just waiting for the final report. FO Poling noted that there is an Auditor of State Bulletin re: Required Fraud Reporting and Training: 2024-005. It required all elected and hire employees of the District to complete an online training, receive a certificate, and complete the acknowledgement now, and then every four years. Trustees inquired if there could be a group training. FO Poling will call the Auditor's Office and ask.

House Numbering- 1

Personnel: Motion by Eric Flynn, second by Craig Norton to increase FF Ed Thorn and FF Steve Higgins wages by \$1.00 for longevity, both would increase from \$17.00 per hour to \$18.00.

Chief Wetherbee noted that both had served the District for 20 years, July being their anniversary dates. All in favor. Motion by Gene Hartman, second by Walter Rollin to accept the resignation of FF Nolan Dylag with regret in good standing as of July 3rd. Chief Wetherbee read FF Dylag's resignation request. All in favor. Motion by Craig Norton, second by Walter Rollin to accept Lt Dusty Reynolds resignation with regret in good standing as of July 3rd. Chief Wetherbee read his resignation request and noted that Lt. Reynolds had served the District for 15 years. All in favor. Chief Wetherbee noted that both he and A/C Pitts would be attending Chief Conference this month July 21-25th, and he planned a rotation for A/C Regal attending next year.

Old Business: Chief Wetherbee reported that he was meeting with apparatus dealers and manufacturers in continued planning for the purchase of a new engine. Chief Wetherbee reported that he planned to go to a few departments that had newer trucks to look at them prior to the next meeting. Chief Wetherbee gave a copy of the final budget to Trustees. FO Poling noted that the resolution requests from the last meeting were not filled by the county due to the numbers not being available until January of 2025 and the 2025 Primary Election not having an assigned date. Chief Wetherbee presented a spreadsheet with the anticipated valuation increase and the millage that was previously discussed in an effort for continued planning. Chief Wetherbee expressed his continued efforts to be transparent re: the county radio and system contracts and his disappointment with the lack of honest communication from the County. Chief Wetherbee reported his encouragement of other Fire Chief's to educate their trustees on the process, barriers, system, and equipment. Craig Norton inquired why the newly purchased radios had not been distributed to firefighters. Chief Wetherbee reported there was an issue of not knowing how to have the radios programed due to 911 programing issues, requests of departments utilizing the system, and the current system options not being built yet: MARCS or CCI. Gene Hartman stated that the County has held the District and programing efforts hostage long enough and the MOUs that were distributed by the County as a stalling mechanism to have the MARCs system built out. Gene Hartman requested the CCI be invited to the next District meeting to answer some questions. Craig Norton stated that he wanted the cost to program the radios now to get them in use and then the cost of reprograming once the County, MARCs, or CCI completed their projects; he wants the radios to be in used and sometimes there is just a cost of doing business. Walter Rollin stated that other department with radios that have not been programed due to the same issues should also be invited to the next meeting: SCLAD, Rochester, and others in limbo. Chief Wetherbee will contact CCI to have them in attendance at the next meeting.

New Business: Chief Wetherbee reported that the 2024 Lorain County Fair planning is underway and the IMAT team is coming to work through scenarios with District this month.

Adjourn: Motion made by Craig Norton, second by Eric Flynn to adjourn at 7:10pm. All in favor.

Next meeting is August 7, 2024 @ 7pm.

President Fred Pitts

Fiscal Officer
Approved 8/7/24

Sam Poling