

TOWN OF FIFIELD REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes of July 11th, 2023

The meeting was brought to order on July 11th, 2023 at 6:00pm at the Fifield Town Hall

This meeting was being recorded by reporter Trevor Greene of the Lakeland Times.

ROLL CALL: William Felch, Ann Sloane, John Smith, also present K. Kleinschmidt, T. Fleming and 24 others
The pledge of allegiance was recited

VERIFICATION OF PUBLIC POSTING: This agenda was posted at the Town Hall, Post Office, Pike Lake Fire Hall and on the Town of Fifield's website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: A resident spoke of her experience regarding a 911 call that was not responded to while there was another emergency that was, just prior to her's, the Chief from Fire Dept #1 has received a copy of the calls and will be reviewing them with both departments. Numerous residents questioned the actions and character of an EMS responder following a PLCLA meeting, they expressed concerns that if their emergency response needs will be met in the future, some asked for termination of the EMS responder. A resident asked that Board Supervisor A. Sloane recuse herself during this discussion. A resident questioned why Ordinance #99 was not on the website. A resident asked when Cy's Drive will be paved and how the passing of the Shared Revenue Bill will effect the Town's budget. A few residents shared how they still feel regarding the issue of extra buoys on the Pike Lake Chain. A resident questioned Ordinance #28 and requests that it be on the next regular board meeting's agenda.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE MEETING: A **MOTION** was made by A. Sloane and J. Smith to approve and accept the minutes; motion carried.

CEMETERY REPORT: The report was reviewed and accepted. The transfer of \$10,000.00 from the checking to the CD will be done later in July.

CLERK/TREASURER:

Financial Reports: Reports were reviewed and accepted. We received the 3rd Quarterly payment for general transportation aid of \$81,473.00. Cooper Engineering has sent the second installment billing for the West of Hwy 13 project. Reviewed the list of employees allowed to charge at True Value. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to add the cemetery caretaker to the list of employees allowed to charge at True Value. The Board also approved the clerk giving them copies of the bank statements on a quarterly basis, except for the general account. That will still be shared every month along with any account that has had activity in that month. A copy of the resignation for Human Resources was given to the Board. Any discussion of what action that will done will be at the next regular board meeting.

Budget Review: The Clerk gave the Board reports showing the budgets for fire department #1 and fire department #2. The Clerk wanted the Board to be aware of where they stand after doing fire payroll.

Audit: A copy of the audit was given to the board members for their review.

ORDINANCE #99 Re DAM BUOY: Per DNR recommendations a paragraph for Boats Prohibited was added to Ordinance #99. A **MOTION** was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to approve the new draft of Ordinance #99. The clerk will send that and the Waterway Marker application, along with these minutes, back to the DNR for approval.

DUMP CARD POLICY REVIEW: The Clerk has now received more dump cards from the printer and is mailing them to those that have requested them. Reviewing the policy of sticking with this style card, how many each residence is allowed to have and the charge for replacement cards, etc., will be table until the next regular board meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS:

FIRE #1 REPORT: Fire #1 had 1 fire call assisting Fire #2 and 0 EMS calls. They have a new board in place for the Friends of the Fifield Fire Inc now.

FIRE #2 REPORT: Fire #2 had 1 fire calls and 5 EMS calls. They have 6 qualified EMS personnel now. The septic filling up issue possibly solved, it had overactive recharge. Fixed a leaking toilet valve and replaced the

toilet in the main building. Need to replace a faucet yet. Asked for estimates from four ambulance providers for new EMS vehicle, one company responded with estimate of \$152,950.00, Chief will work on getting the final numbers.

TOWN CREW REPORT: Road Superintendent T.Fleming reported issues with the Freightliner, the turbo charge failed and the cost to fix was \$7,000 to \$8,000. This could be due to the failed ECM that was replaced. The town's part of the work on Cy's Drive is almost done, hauling gravel and seeding, looking at paving being done sometime in August.

REVIEW ROAD TOUR: The Clerk asked if any work was planned for Smith Rapids Rd and Sheep Ranch Rd from the road tour. T. Fleming stated that the two culverts on Smith Rapids Rd belong to the Federal. And the Sno Drovers should be fixing the culvert they placed on Sheep Ranch Rd.

ARIP & LRIP UPDATE: The Chairperson shared an informational sheet regarding the bill that was signed by governor for the expansion of LRIP to include agriculture road improvement projects (ARIP). Will work with Cooper Engineering on this for Hicks Landing. The five year plan should be updated this fall before applying for these grants.

TRANSFER SITES REPORT: T. Fleming had nothing new to report. Chairperson stated that he is setting up a time for Custom Security to come and go over the system with himself and one of the crew members. Possibly add another camera at Pike Lake transfer site due to a blind spot.

6/22/23 Transfer Site Incident/Concern Report: One of the transfer site attendants is concerned that residents inside the gates at the transfer sites selling raffle tickets could be a safety issue. The Board decided that, that kind of activity should be outside of the gates at both transfer sites in the future. Chairperson asked Fire Chief from Dept #2 to contact those people selling tickets at the Pike Lake transfer site and inform them of this change.

REVIEW OF FIRE #2 REPORT re COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR 6/26/2023 INCIDENT: After a PLCLA meeting on June 26, 2023 there was an incident involving an EMS responder and a resident. Complaints were filed with HR and Fire Dept #2. Per policies and procedures this matter should first be handled by the dept's EMS Director and Chief. A meeting with a closed session was held and Fire Dept #2 Chief reported to the Board the outcome of that meeting and the disciplinary action that was decided on. A few residents asked to be interviewed regarding this matter and that there be more investigation. The Board asked Fire Dept #2 Chief to conduct those interviews, Chief asked that a board member also be present for those interviews. Those interviews will be set up.

CORRESPONDENCE: Board general correspondence was reviewed; 2 building permits and WTA's Price County Unit Meeting notice for July 19, 2023.

REVIEW PAID INVOICES: Paid invoices were reviewed and accepted

ADJOURN: A MOTION was made to adjourn at 7:27 PM by J.Smith and A. Sloane, motion carried.

This is a draft until approved at the next scheduled regular board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly E. Kleinschmidt
Town of Fifield Clerk/Treasurer

07/19/2023