

January 9, 2023, Fire Board Meeting Minutes

The January Fire Commission Meeting was called to order by Chief Ryan Krings at 6:35 pm. Attendees included Russ Vangompel (Town of Winneconne), Dale Burghart (Town of Winneconne), Miles Girouard (Village of Winneconne), Gary Witzke (Village of Winneconne), Assistant Fire Chief Ed Quigley, Al Anderson, Administrative Assistant Michelle LaMarche and Fire Chief Ryan Krings.

November Fire Commission meeting minutes were reviewed by attendees. Motion made by Miles Girouard and seconded by Dale Burghardt to accept the minutes as read, motion carried.

Public comment: Miles spoke on behalf of the Village of Winneconne stating discussion had been held and ARPA funds will be offered up to the Fire Department from the Village of Winneconne in the future. He asked if the other municipalities would be willing to make a commitment to place some money towards the fire department as well. Town representatives stated they have talked about some funding distribution ideas, but no commitment has been made at this time. Gary brought up the fact that Boat 28 is a potential future projected purchase due to the age of the boat, discussion held regarding the details of the boat replacement as a future purchase opportunity.

Department Operations: Chicken Fun Night, WPFDF's only department fund raiser, being held on Wednesday January 25, 2023, at the Fin and Feather discussed. Most of the funds raised over the past several years have been placed towards the Training center construction.

Grants: Chief is continuing with the process for the SCBA grant, Darin from Oshkosh Fire and Police has been working on placing an order and FIT testing all fire personnel. Chief Krings is planning to apply for the Fire House Subs grant in March for possible small individual thermal imaging cameras so each air pack would be equipped with one.

EMS: WPFDF has 16 current memberships for First Responders on a max list of 20 slots. New member Zach Pingel's licensing has been approved by the regional medical director and he will be starting to go on calls. Current members have 2 more recertification classes, one in February and one in April to complete the recertification cycle.

Fire: Our current fire fighter roster is filled with 42 of 50 possible members, with 7 new members in the past year including Pete Anderson, Cole Henke, Jerimiah Pruetz and Kevin Tucker, which are all new members in the past few months. Fire Principal class is starting at the High School January 10th, 2023 with tentatively 8 participants. Fire Officer 1 class is starting at WPFDF on January 11th as well, on Wednesdays for 12 weeks being led by Chief Krings. Annual PM's continuing for apparatuses at Red Power Diesel. Some new corrosion was noted underneath one of the apparatuses, Car Well coating currently scheduled for May 8th will be applied to the under carriage of all apparatuses to extend their life expectancy. Boat 28 was back in service shortly after Thanksgiving.

Budget: Request for first installment for 2023 budget will go out this next week by Chief Krings. The final budget report for 2022 will be available at the March meeting.

Future department leadership transition proposed plan was reviewed by Assistant Chief Quigley. "Contact groups/committee" ideas for the future transition shared. Discussed potential plan to set up a removal process of an inadequate Fire Chief, which may include filing of a Vote of No Confidence. Additional Promotional committee duties discussed including potential peer reviews, new nomination

process for department committees and bylaw changes. New Bylaws committee members have been selected by Chief. A suggestion box for ideas and nominations has been placed in the entrance of the station for member.

Final incident numbers for 2022: Total calls 430, of which EMS 283.

Motion made by Russ Vangompel and seconded by Dale Burghardt to adjourn the meeting; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Michelle LaMarche