

August 2023 Minutes

Call to order 6pm

Board members present:

Mark Carlson, Ed McGrew, Dave Kaufmann, George Losleben, Tom Moran

Guests

Joe Perry

July Minutes

Approved for publication

August Agenda

Approved

Public Comments

None

Treasurer Report/Communications

Working Fund	381,533.41
Capital Fund	876,987.59
FEC	79.00
NWE	16.35
Big Drift/Web fee	692.00
Ben Forman	250.00

FY 2024 budget submission July 21

Board approved transfer of \$150,000 from working to capital account

Flathead Planning and Zoning

Two zoning requests reviewed

Refreshed WFSA property data from Flathead Assessor

Board approved Tom's request to contact Larry Johnson at Flathead IT for revised WFSA property addresses to update CMU mileage and funding platform

Utility and Nelson's Accounts

Flathead Electric and Northwestern Energy accounts now registered online

Nelson's Hardware credit account to be deleted

Ongoing Business

Station 22 door

American Door invoice allows for two options for resolution. The board voted to replace the door lift with a like-sized apparatus. Cost, \$2000

Station 22 roof

No local contractors available to apply an industrial type of coating to the existing panels. Cost to prep and refinish estimated to be in the range of \$100,000. Issue tabled to the September meeting for further research and discussion.

Whitefish Fire Chief Interviews

Three candidates were interviewed, central CA Fire Chief Todd McNeal, WFD Firefighter Captain Cole Hadley and Evergreen Fire Chief Craig Williams. Tom served as WFSA representative on the interview committee, with Ed sitting in as an observer for Mr. McNeal's interview.

All candidates interviewed very well. Mr. McNeal has an edge in overall qualifications, but the city folks really wish to promote from within the department. The group discussed making Cole an Asst. Chief/Training Coordinator, but current policy doesn't easily facilitate that sort of personnel move.

As far as WFSA-specific issues are concerned, all three candidates were receptive to forming a county-type fire department that would include current WFSA territory. No clear indication of when the city will hire, but presumably will be prior to the next WFSA board meeting.

Executive Director RFQ

Joe Perry submitted a proposed draft of an RFQ. The board agreed on a couple changes. Joe will add them and submit the document for publication.

New Business

Tom will draft an outline for letter to the Flathead Commissioners, focusing on the shortcomings of the current situation with regard to housing growth in the WFSA over the past couple years and the potential for cooperative ventures with the city of Whitefish to help mitigate those issues.

Next Meeting: September 19

Meeting adjourned 7:15pm