

SOUTH DAVIS METRO FIRE SERVICE AREA
BOARD MEETING
May 18, 2020

The South Davis Metro Fire Service Area Board of Trustees held a meeting May 18th, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the South Davis Metro Fire Service Area Station #81, 255 S. 100 W., Centerville, Utah, via Zoom.

CONDUCTING: Commissioner Randy Lewis

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Randy Lewis
Rick Earnshaw
Ken Romney
Bob Stevenson
Clark Wilkinson
Leonard Arave

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeff Bassett, Fire Chief
Dane Stone, Deputy Chief
Dave Powers, Deputy Chief
Jessica Hardy, Accountant
Nikki Dandurand, Secretary

Ken Leetham, Administrative Committee Chair President

VISITORS

Mike Shafto, Adam Christiansen

Commissioner Lewis stated that this was a regularly scheduled meeting and a notice of time, place, and agenda had been sent to the newspaper and to each member of the Board prior to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR MAY 2020

Commissioner Lewis presented the minutes for the April 2020 meeting. Commissioner Earnshaw moved to approve the minutes as written with Commissioner Arave seconding the motion. All voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS-- JESSICA HARDY

Ms. Hardy presented the financial report. She stated we are on budget and being very conservative on spending. Chief Bassett stated there was only a few weeks of low call volume. We have received about \$25,000 in grant money to apply to our COVID-19 expenses. Commissioner Earnshaw moved to approve the financial reports as presented with Commissioner Arave seconding the motion. All voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 2020 DISBURSEMENTS-- JESSICA HARDY

Ms. Hardy reviewed some of the items including the dispatch fees paid to Bountiful. Commissioner Wilkinson moved to approve the disbursements as presented with Commissioner Arave seconding the motion. All voted in favor.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-2021; SETTING THE DATE OF JUNE 15, 2020 FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FINAL FY 2020-2021 BUDGET AND SETTING THE FINAL TAX RATE -- MR. KEN LEETHAM

Mr. Leetham stated the Administration Committee spent a lot of time on this. The market survey was

recently completed, and our department is lagging in salaries/wages to various degrees. The Administrative Committee voted 4-2 to increase the salaries/wages and make some progress in this area. They recommend the new pay plan with one third funding. This is very manageable, but we need to make progress in the parity. It is too costly to replace leaving employees

The budget has already been constricted by Chief Bassett and Ms. Hardy to save over \$600,000. They cut training, travel and found money in the capital expenses to cover the salary increases. Chief Bassett reminded everyone that a property tax increase will be proposed next year.

Mr. Leetham continued that a fund balance policy will be presented shortly. Today we also need to set the public hearing date for the budget. Commissioner Lewis noted that two administrative committee members voted "nay." He asked what their concerns were concerning the increase in pay. Mr. Leetham stated that perception to the public is one and the other expressed uncertainty in the economy but added that all the cities support the fire department.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked about the compensation study and the results. Mr. Leetham replied the Administrative Committee did review the survey and talked with Mr. Mike Swallow, who was contracted to conduct the survey. Commissioner Earnshaw asked if things are better in four to five months, can we reopen the budget and allocate more? Mr. Leetham replied they can. Commissioner Lewis asked to close the comments and set the hearing date. Commissioner Earnshaw moved to approve the tentative budget for FY 2020-21 and set the public hearing date for June 15, 2020. Commissioner Arave seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

DISCUSSION ON COUNTY WIDE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM – MR. KEN LEETHAM

Mr. Leetham stated that Mr. Curtis Koch was very helpful in this matter and to understand the logistics. A sub-committee was formed to decide details including doing away with the levy, eliminate the county tax and all 15 cities replace their value in property tax. Mr. Leetham stated our model here at South Davis Metro Fire is excellent compared to other city departments. The Board asked questions regarding the program. Commissioner Stevenson stated that Curtis Koch has been the best man to work with in the county. The county is looking at a three-year implementation, but he would like to look at two years. Mr. Leetham said that would be better, but most cities need that time to get ready.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FY 2019-2020 AMENDED BUDGET; SETTING THE DATE OF JUNE 15TH, 2020 FOR A PUBLIC HEARING – CHIEF BASSETT

Chief Bassett stated the public hearing will be open on June 15th. We would like to close-out Station 83, transfer \$440,000 into capital, and continue work on Station 84. Commissioner Arave moved to approve the adoption of the amended FY 2019-2020 budget and set the public hearing date on June 15, 2020, with Commissioner Earnshaw seconding the motion. All voted in favor.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDER PLACEMENT FOR A FORD F350 FROM PERFORMANCE FORD – CHIEF BASSETT

Chief Bassett stated that orders are being back logged at the plant. We need to get our order in today or tomorrow and hopefully the truck can be delivered this fall. This is budgeted in next years budget-we are just saving our spot in line. Commissioner Clark asked about the current truck. Chief Bassett stated it will be saved for backup use. Commissioner Stevenson moved to approve the truck order with Commissioner Wilkinson seconding the motion. All voted in favor.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT – CHIEF BASSETT

Chief Bassett said he will stop the weekly COVID-19 updates, unless the numbers spike. Our PPE supplies are good. We are under extreme fire conditions. The Forest Service has changed their approach and will be more aggressive from now on. Bountiful and Centerville have City Councils coming up and the fireworks restrictions will be announced.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Arave made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting.



Randy Lewis, Chair



Nicole Dandurand, Clerk