Blendon Township Emergency Services Board Meeting Minutes March 9, 2020

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Glenn Overweg.
- 2. Roll Call: PRESENT: Glenn Overweg, Chairman Dave Postma Stan Taylor Greg Golembiewski, Board Liaison

Also Attending:

- a. Kurt Gernaat, Fire Chief
- b. Sean Miller, Station 1 Captain
- 3. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

4. Fire Department Budget YTD – Chief Gernaat

- a. Review of the 2019-2020 budget and expenditures
- b. Presentation of the 2020-2021 proposed budget:

 \circ Compared proposed budget to the current budget year.

 $_{\odot}$ Discussion was had by the board on the following items:

- Station upgrades
- Equipment needs
- Gear needs
- Captain Miller presented the need for a new obstacle course to be used at public events. He described the challenges with the current course and the advantages of a new course.
 - The cost would be shared split with the Fire Fighters Association
 - The Fire Fighters Association has already approved the expenditure.

• *Motion to approve the budget with the presented changes* was made by Stan Taylor, support by Dave Postma.

Motion Carried

5. Fire Chief's Report

As submitted

o Discussion had on the different call types on the call report.

6. Opportunity for Public Comment:

o **None**

7. Old Business:

a. Tanker Specs:

o Officers staff feels that the spec is nailed down

○ Visual spec is being drawn up

 \circ Chief Gernaat presented the details of the spec

• There will be a significant discount if the truck is paid for at the time of ordering.

$_{\odot}$ Motion to move forward and send the spec for the fire truck out for bids

was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Dave Postma.

b. Millage Renewal:

 $_{\odot}$ Funds the operating costs

o Current millage expires December 2021

- Currently 8 years at 1.8 mils
- \circ Looking to renew at the current term and rate
- Discussion was had by the board on when was the best time to put the millage renewal on the ballot:
 - Spring 2021 with the school election
 - With a general election
 - Board felt that a spring ballot placement would be most beneficial because it would coincide with the pancake breakfast where the millage renewal would be able to be promoted.

8. New Business:

a. Tentcraft Tent:

- $\circ\,\textsc{Discussed}$ earlier under the budget discussion
- Motion to approve the purchase of the Tentcraft Tent was made by Dave Postma, support by Greg Golembiewski.

b. Gear Order:

- Chief Gernaat asking to purchase 10 new sets of gear.
 - (5) sets in the 2019-20 budget year
 - (5) sets in the 2020-21 budget year
- Purchasing through Phoenix Fire
 - Phoenix will fix and repair the turnout gear.
- Motion to approve the purchase of the (10) sets of new gear was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

Motion Carried

- с. <u>Fan:</u>
 - Motion to approve the purchase of the fan discussed at an earlier meeting was made by Dave Postma, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

d. <u>AED:</u>

 Motion to approve the purchase of the new AED gear was made by Stan Taylor, support by Dave Postma.

Motion Carried

e. Liesel DeJong:

- o Firefighter applicant
- o Currently married to firefighter, Jordan DeJong
- o Fully trained
- o Officers currently working on a nepotism policy
- Board did not have any issues with a husband-wife being in the same department.
- Motion to hire Liesel DeJong was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

f. New Safety Services Member:

- Looking for a quality person
 - History and fire department background important
- o Board felt it was important not to be in a rush.
- o Board felt it was important to consult the Officer Staff more often for their input.

g. Pay Increase:

- Chief Gernaat proposed a 6% pay increase for the firefighter staff.
- $_{\odot}$ Already figured into the 2020-21 budget
- $_{\odot}$ It has been many years since they have received any type of increase
- Would like to work on giving cost of living increases in regular reviews.
- *Motion to approve the 6% pay increase for the firefighter staff* was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

h. Knoxbox:

- o Discussion had during the budget portion of the meeting
- Motion to approve the purchase of Knoxbox was made by Dave Postma, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

9. Round Table Discussion:

- $_{\odot}$ Discussion on where the funds were coming from for the purchase of the new tanker truck.
 - \$295,000 currently in savings
 - \$225,000 will be rolled into the fire equipment fund from the operating fund at the end of the fiscal year.
- Board offered its thanks and praise to both Fire Chief Kurt Gernaat and Captain Sean Miller for their hard work and support.

10. Correspondence:

- a. None
- **11. Next Scheduled Meeting:**
 - a. None at this time
- **12.** *Motion to adjourn at 10:58 am* was made by Dave Postma, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried

Recorded by Tina Vander Schuur Submitted by Glenn Overweg, Chairman