

**Gallatin River Ranch Rural Fire District
Board of Trustees Meeting**
Date: 3/17/2021 Time: 1600 hr
GRR Equestrian Center Tack Room
725 Equestrian Center Loop Road, Manhattan, MT

Present: Presiding officer: Chair Spencer Millimen.
Trustees present: Secretary/Treasurer: Sue Piechowski, Vice Chair Richard Anderson, Wendy Ward, Rick McCourt
Others present: Chief Marlin Sprow, Executive Assistant John Andrews

Quorum established and meeting was called to order at: 1558 hr
Public Comment: No members of the public attended the meeting.

Agenda Topic	Background	Discussion	Resolution/Follow-up
Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the 2/17/2021 meeting were presented to trustees prior to the meeting by email.	Minutes are reviewed and discussed	Motion to approve by: McCourt Seconded by: Piechowski Approved on unanimous vote
Treasurer's Report	Profit/Loss statements and balance sheets from January and February 2021 are presented. The expenses for the month of February are presented.	Treasurer's report discussed.	The treasurer's report is accepted by acclamation.
Fire Chief's Report	Fire Chief's report was distributed to trustees prior to the meeting.	Chief's report discussed.	The Chief's report is filed.

Unfinished Business

Agenda Topic	Background	Discussion	Resolution/Follow-up
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GRRHOA Purchase and Shared Use agreements	The construction of a new fire station is an ongoing project. The Board is updated each month on project progress.	The discussions with the GRRHOA Board President are reviewed by Chair Millimen and Andrews. After a lengthy discussion and consideration of all options on the purchase vs lease (which had been decided upon over a year ago by this Board), the following motion was made by Millimen: “The GRRRFD Board of Trustees has considered all available options and offers the Gallatin River Ranch Homeowner’s Association \$140,000 for the purchase of 50% of the parcel owned by the HOA at 5770 Nixon Gulch Road (the legal description in the land is contained in the Agreement to Sell and Purchase written by Attorney Dinwiddie and forwarded to the GRRHOA Board of Directors previously). The matters covered in the Shared Use Agreement proposal section/paragraph 10 are discussed in detail. The Trustees recommend that the original language be used with the following modification: “The non-selling Owner has the right of first refusal to purchase the interest in the property for an agreed upon sum of \$300,000, which represents one half of the original purchase price of the property and the improvements made on that property.” This will be forwarded to the HOA for their consideration.	Motion by Millimen Second by McCourt Approved by: Millimen, Anderson, McCourt, Piechowski, Ward
Fire Station Project	Progress report on fire station project	Bruce Reynolds is contacting construction companies with some help from Randy	For information only. Bruce and Randy will continue to endeavor to find contractors

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		Visser. Thus far they have not found a company interested in the project.	interested in the project and solicit bids.
Manhattan Discussions.	The relationship between GRRFD and MVFD is the subject of ongoing discussions.	Marlin has discussed firefighter integration with MVFD Chief Ulmen. GRRFD firefighters will not be expected to retrain as “rookies” when the districts consolidate. The two departments will continue to train together as part of the integration. Andrews and Ulmen discussed inviting Trustees of each district to the other district’s meetings. It appears more practical for GRRRFD members to attend Manhattan meetings due to meeting times. Millimen, McCourt, and Andrews will offer to attend the MRFD meeting on April 14th.	Andrews will contact Chief Ulmen to confirm our Trustees’ attendance at the MRFD meeting on 4/14/21.
Grant Application Update	Grant applications are discussed.	No new information.	For information only.
Reserve Update	Reserve activities are reviewed at each meeting	No new information. The need for background checks on new reservists is discussed. It appears that there is no need to do background checks on new reservist applicants since they do not enter resident dwellings.	Background checks for reservists applicants are discontinued.
Auxiliary Update	Auxiliary activities are reviewed at each meeting	Andrews is working with Vanessa McMurray to re-establish the auxiliary and do planning for reserve activities in the event of larger incidents. Vanessa is in contact with Clarkston’s auxiliary, which appears to be well-organized in this regard and can provide useful information.	For information only.
Facilities Update	Facilities activities not otherwise covered in the	The matter of the Chief’s House was discussed last meeting and no new information is available.	For information only.

	Chief's Report are reviewed at each meeting.		
Community Wildland Fire Preparedness Project	A committee has formed to undertake this project, led by Dennis Ochs. Committee members include Alicia Ochs, Deb Harvey, and Willie Eide. Andrews is working with the committee.	An information packet including a cover letter, the evacuation plan, the MT Ready, Set, Go brochure, and a guide to fire-resistant landscaping will be assembled and mailed to every property owner. The same packet will be included in the welcome packet each new owner receives from GRRHOA. The packet will be sent to HOA members applying for architectural review. The committee will establish an exterior home inspection program based on the current MT DNRC program. The initial cost of the mailings and printing is \$828, though there will also be some potential additional printing expenses.	The Board agreed to continue the program and fund the program.
Disposition of surplus equipment	A number of items in the inventory are considered surplus. The BOT examines the matter of disposition of this equipment at each meeting.	Discussed. No new activity.	For information only.

No new business

Date, time and location of next meeting: Wednesday 4/21/21 at 4 pm at the Tack Room

Adjourned: 1721 hours

Spencer Millimen, Chairman

Date

Susan M. Piechowski, Secretary

Date