

Gallatin River Ranch Rural Fire District
Board of Trustees Meeting
 Date: 8/25/21 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, Rick McCourt
 Others present: Chief Marlin Sprow, Executive Assistant John Andrews

Quorum established and the meeting was called to order at: 1600 hours

Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Agenda Topic	Background	Discussion	Resolution/Follow-up
Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the 7/21/21 meeting were presented to trustees prior to the meeting by email.	Minutes are reviewed and discussed	Motion to approve by: Anderson Seconded by: McCourt Approved on: unanimous vote
Treasurer's Report	Profit/Loss statement and balance sheets from 6/30/21 are presented. The July check register is presented along with the FY21 year end forecast.	Treasurer's report discussed. Major expense in July was the payment of \$120,000 to the GRRHOA for purchase of 40% of the building and 50% of the property at 5770 Nixon Gulch Road. The biggest August expenses will be insurance and legal.	Accepted by acclamation
Fire Chief's Report	Fire Chief's report was distributed to trustees prior to the meeting.	Chief's report discussed. Wind-related roof damage on the Chief's house is discussed. An insurance claim was filed; the insurance adjuster inspected the roof and insurance has submitted a proof of loss of \$17,693, of	The Chief's report is filed. Motion to approve re-painting proposal made by Anderson. Seconded by Piechowski

		<p>which the GRRRFD deductible is \$500. Thus, insurance proposes to pay \$17,196 for replacement of the roof. The Chief's house also requires re-painting. The exact cost will depend on materials and time, but is estimated to be about \$5,800. This would represent the first time the house has required re-painting. The Trustees agree both expenses are necessary to keep the Chief's house in a state of good maintenance. A roofing contractor has been contacted and its assessment is pending. Bruce Reynolds has been contacted regarding the painting. A motion was made to approve the house painting project by Anderson.</p> <p>Members of the GRRHOA discussed and proposed that the GRRRFD query vendors about possible discounts on bulk fire extinguisher purchase. Queries have been emailed to local vendors which have not responded. The cost and benefit of the GRRFD bulk purchasing, taking delivery, and distributing fire extinguishers is discussed. The Trustees are reluctant to commit GRRRFD funds unless there are solid guarantees on GRRHOA member purchases. The amount of staff time needed to coordinate the purchase and distribution of the fire extinguishers will stretch the volunteer resources. The Trustees proposed we query Ace Hardware and one or two</p>	<p>Approved on unanimous vote.</p> <p>Andrews will contact Ace Hardware and at least one other vendor regarding the matter of whether bulk purchase discounts are available, what those discounts are, and what guarantees they require to carry out such a transaction.</p>
--	--	---	--

		<p>other vendors regarding the matter, and to try to set up a system where the GRRRFD attempts to get a solid commitment from GRRHOA members, and if enough members guarantee their commitment, then attempt to make the purchase but to have those members actually purchase and pick up their fire extinguishers at the vendor’s shop rather than at the GRRFD.</p>	
--	--	---	--

Unfinished Business

Agenda Topic	Background	Discussion	Resolution/Follow-up
Fire Station Project	The construction of a new fire station is an ongoing project. The Board is updated each month on project progress	The property purchase is complete. The septic upgrade application is pending, and the water rights revision application will be submitted after the new Special Warranty Deed is recorded. Bruce Reynolds is in contact with a potential contractor. That contractor will work on a bid proposal in the coming weeks. This is the only contractor willing and able to bid among many contacted.	For information only. If the contractor submits a bid the Trustees will be notified and copied on the proposal. It is possible a special meeting may be required to consider and possibly approve this bid.
GRRHOA Annual Meeting pancake breakfast	The GRRRFD provided a pancake breakfast at the GRRHOA meeting.	The “boot” contributions were \$1,100. Costs were about \$200.	For information only. Part of the remainder after expenses will be considered to provide prepaid visa cards to volunteers to defray yearly gasoline costs incurred in traveling to training event. The remained will go toward the fire station project.

GRRRFD BOT Minutes from: 8/25/21

Manhattan Discussions.	The relationship between GRRFD and MVFD is the subject of ongoing discussions.	No new information. At the next meeting, the matter of the Reserve will be discussed. Chief Sprow indicates that Chief Ulmen is in favor of continuing our current reserve system.	For information only.
Grant Application Update	Grant applications are discussed.	The FY22 RFC multi-agency grant is funded and we will purchase wildland hose with our portion of that grant. The AFG grant was given an extension since AFG software does not enable us to close the grant. All closeout documents are complete and ready to submit.	For information only.
Reserve Update	Reserve activities are reviewed at each meeting	The department needs more reservists. Several possible candidates are identified and Andrews will contact.	For information only.
Auxiliary Update	Auxiliary activities are reviewed at each meeting	One meeting will be needed to complete planning for this year.	For information only.
Facilities Update	Facilities activities not otherwise covered in the Chief's Report are reviewed at each meeting.	Fire Chief house issues are noted above. No other updates	For information only.
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	For information only.
Community Wildland Fire Preparedness Project	Monthly update on program progress.	One assessment was done since the last meeting. The plan is to continue to advertise the program with a brief monthly email to District residents	For information only.

New Business

Agenda Topic	Background	Discussion	Resolution/Follow-up
Yearly Insurance review and quote	The GRRRFD general insurance is due at the end of each August. The plan and costs are reviewed each August meeting.	The cost for the same insurance coverage this year is \$7,007. Last year it cost \$6,916. After discussion and review the Trustees all agreed to continue the insurance as quoted and process a check for the invoice.	No motion was considered necessary to continue the previously established insurance level. A slight rise in premiums was anticipated and not considered unreasonable.
Chief's house roof and painting.	This was discussed during the Chief's report		This agenda item was moved to the Chief's Report

Date, time and location of next meeting: Wednesday, 10/20/21 at 4 pm at the GRREC Tack Room. Multiple weekday dates in September were discussed but a quorum could not be reached with any of them. If a meeting is necessary, it may be possible to reach quorum on a weekend or evening.

Adjourned: 1716 hours

Spencer Millimen, Chairman

Date

Susan M. Piechowski, Secretary

Date