

Regular meeting of West End Fire Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:07 pm on October 12, 2023.

Board members present: Frank Magee, Brooke Lincoln, Michelle Cummins, Richard Medley

Department members present: none

Public present: none

Minutes were read. Motion to approve made by Brooke, seconded by Richard, carried.

Treasurer's report was presented. Motion to approve made by Brooke, seconded by Richard, carried.

Chief's report: Bill Mitchell has started filing EF Recovery. Grants: Turnout grant reimbursement was rejected. We need to have two pair of gloves and two hoods with our new turnouts. These have been purchased. We have filed an amendment and it has been accepted. Frank will reapply for the reimbursement. Saltese security equipment: It is here. Montana Bar will allow us to tap into their wifi. Frank and Damien fixed the gate so it will open and close. SOP revision: Should we change fire chief term to two years from one year? We decided to stay with one year. Revised manual is in the process of publication and all members will be required to sign off on it again. Does the fire chief have to live in the district? We think yes and believe it is the Montana Coded.

Old Business: Annual chili cook-off planning is progressing and posters are ready for publication. We need to reevaluate after this event whether these recruitment functions are working. So far, we have had no success. Fuel mitigation money: There is a new program available next year that provides fuel removal at no charge to the landowner. Police report of missing/stolen items from Saltese: Sheriff Funke still has not provided it so we can file the insurance report. Frank is working on it. Propane contract has been signed and sent back along with a current roster so volunteers get their discounted pricing.

New Business: Protocol for donations/boot money: All monies must be deposited with the county treasurer and warrants issued for all expenses. We can't outright spend the cash. When boot money is collected, we will have two people retrieve and count it. Brooke made a motion to purchase a refrigerator from Home Depot for \$849.00, seconded by Richard, carried.

Motion to adjourn made by Brooke, seconded by Richard, carried at 8:25 pm.

Next meeting November 9, 2023.