

## GALESBURG CHARLESTON JOINT FIRE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE July 19, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Chris Balkema.

Attendance: Josh Balkema, Chris Balkema, Roger Frazee, Ann Nieuwenhuis and John Pinkster from Life EMS.

Public Comment: No public in attendance

Approval of last meeting minutes, moved by Roger, second by Chris, with 4 Ayes, Motion passes.

Motion approved to have EMS Life Representative to provide information at tonight's meeting. Our guest speaker has been with Life EMS for 25 years in Supervisory capacity. Interesting discussion and Fire Board agreed to have both municipalities look at a new contract with LIFE EMS. Kalamazoo County EMS has indicated that response time is the same as last year without PRIDE CARE ambulance provider. The Board agreed that this is great news and greatly appreciates Life EMS stepping up to do more for the County residents. EMS has added 2 new ambulances to their fleet. Everyone is facing a shortage of qualified candidates to fill vacancies. In addition, Life Care can now provide educational training for a fee.

Treasurers Report:

Clarified that the \$29,000 deposit in question from the last meeting was the last payment from the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Unassigned fund balance title has been eliminated. The money in this line item will be placed in to the new assigned fund balance line item.

\$12,750 dollar difference between Charleston and Galesburg. Chris will check with Charleston Treasure to reconcile the difference.

Motion to accept treasurers report by Roger, second by Chris with 4 Ayes. Motion passes.

The monthly checks needed to be corrected. Motion to correct checks and pay bills 1<sup>st</sup> by Chris, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger, 4 ayes. Motion passes.

Chief's Report: Chief indicated he is looking into an online training and will bring proposal to next Fire Board meeting as there will be a fee. One on one classes will still be offered. 284 calls as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year, 2 applications in process.

Chief indicated that a new recruitment banner has been ordered to replace the Galesburg banner which has taken a beating with the extreme weather.

Chest compressor was broken in response to a car accident. Looking to see if it can be repaired or replace with insurance coverage at no cost to the department.

Equipment Update: ordered more gaskets kits for the truck, Battery reading is still indicating a low reading. Sent in for a new battery. Should last until new AED's come in.

SCBA equipment was donated to another fire department, they greatly appreciated the donation.

Ranger 6 X 6 will be repaired for rack and pinion. \$299 is the cost and with the ranger under warranty there will be no cost. This was approved by Craig McDonald.

Structure Fire in Climax had 3 fire fighters from Climax and 6 from Galesburg. Climax greatly appreciated our assistance. The house fire was in the attic and quickly extinguished!

Grant Update: Grant from Michigan should know as soon as August. Senator Peters said FEMA grand awarded for \$32,000 = \$29,400 from the grant and the remainder is our match. Motion to accept made by Chris, second by Roger. With 4 ayes, motion passes.

Run Report: Total monthly run was 58, 31 for Galesburg, 23 for Charleston and 4 mutual aid runs. Motion to accept made by Josh Balkema, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Balkema, 4 ayes, motion passes.

Audit Update: The Board received our audit contractual agreement. The Board approved to pay \$4750. Motion was made by Chris, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Josh, 4 ayes, Motion passes. The Board also moved to have Chris sign the agreement. 1<sup>st</sup> by Josh, second by Chris with 4 ayes; Motion passes.

Old Business: New contract requires all Fire Board members contact information to be listed on to our website. Chris will make the appropriate changes to comply with the new contract.

New Business: Job Description committee was formed with nominations of Roger and Ann. 1<sup>st</sup> by Ann, second by Roger with 4 ayes, motion passes. 1<sup>st</sup> will be the creation of a job descriptions and then performance objectives.

Legal Update: JFB is working on coordinating a mutual cost recovery ordinance.

Public Comment- 3 minutes per person. No one in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Nieuwenhuis, Secretary of the Galesburg-Charleston Fire Board