

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRUSTEES,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN, STATE OF NEVADA

August 17, 2009

#1-CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Board met in regular session with Chairman Paul Mathews calling the meeting to order at 10:13. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll with Trustees Ronda Hornbeck, Tommy Rowe, Paul Mathews, Ed Higbee, and Bill Lloyd being present. There is a quorum and the agenda was posted on 8-11-09 to comply with the open meeting law. Fire Chief Rick Stever is present.

#2-MINUTES

Ronda made a motion to approve the July 20, 2009 minutes; seconded by Ed. All voted in favor.

#3-FIRE CHIEF UPDATE

Fire Chief Rick Stever reviewed the Eagle Valley fire. Response from local citizens, three county fire departments and BLM was great. The fire started 60-70 yards from a residence in Eagle Valley. The weather conditions were terrible and the wind was blowing incredibly hard. It is fortunate that more damage wasn't caused. The thinning of the vegetation helped as did the response from people. John Crossthwait's son purchased a water tank and hose and they were the first on the scene. A backhoe was on scene. The number of units and personnel was high. Rick advised that a bill from the state for the hand crew, NDF, will be received. The county road crew was called in; they were quick to get a water tender to the scene. Many of the local residents were working the fire with shovels and garden hoses. There is an issue about the need for extra water out there; there is only one fire hydrant out there. Ronda spoke with Larry about the caps that can be used on the alfalfa valves. Most of the pipes in the valley are about 10". Ronda cited that Lund might be able to order one of the caps to keep on hand in the valley. During the winter the pipes are drained. Another issue is why we aren't utilizing the fire department the way it is now. The little pie section in the valley belongs to Harvey Whittemore, not the county. Mr. Whittemore is willing to donate that piece to the county but it will require a survey. Several property owners will be affected. Mr. Whittemore is willing to do the survey. Once this property is donated to the county it will become part of the county fire district. Rick will spend a great deal of time checking fire hydrants throughout LCFD. There are many issues that must be addressed and Rick will start reviewing them. Ronda will make a schematic for Rick depicting the manner in which water can be accessed from one end of the valley to the other. John Crossthwait commended Rick on getting out to the valley within 45 minutes. John cited that they need a truck located in Ursine and they are willing to do whatever it takes to get one. John asked for a commitment to get a truck out there now. Rick reviewed the radio logs from Sheriff's dispatch; the trucks were there within 25 minutes. There is some discussion about the lack of answering the 911 call. Mick commented that he called 911 as soon as the fire started and his call was answered. The fire department out there is not the county's and this puts the county at a disadvantage for placing a truck in Ursine. Ronda stated that LCFD just got started and she bets LCFD doesn't even have \$5,000 to its name. The requested equipment costs approximately \$100,000. Ronda is also very concerned, but she doesn't know how a piece of equipment can be purchased. Until it is county-owned, grants can't be applied for. John suggested that Clark County might have a truck that they can donate to Eagle Valley. Sheriff Kerry Lee stated that there is an issue with personnel that will have to be addressed. All of the volunteers have to undergo training. There is equipment located in the valley, but there aren't trained personnel. Eagle Valley is in the same situation as Rachel; they have a privately owned truck. The liability of Rachel's people using the equipment sits squarely on the private individual. John said that he has two individuals who are willing to join the fire department. John reiterated that something needs to happen to make equipment available to the residents of Ursine. Phyllis Robistow advised that setting up the fire department in Ursine was pursued a few years ago; age and physicals became a problem. Rick said that the state has to certify fire personnel; there is training and physical testing involved. John commented the first responder from Pioche could get the truck and use it, if one is located in Ursine. If apparatus was located out there, and there was a certified individual to run it, the county would still be liable. Paul suggested that Rick look into public interest for forming a program to have a volunteer fire department in Eagle Valley. Rick has grant applications in to purchase equipment. The truck in the barn is functional. Several of the residents are willing to donate money to get the Eagle Valley truck up and running. Paul would like to see Eagle Valley volunteers that would work within the LCFD. Mick Lloyd stated the truck has four flat tires and needs a new battery. The issue in the past has been getting enough people to respond to the

fires and having enough money to keep the barn heated. Rick will take the ideas presented today and work on creating a plan for Eagle Valley. Ronda will work with Harvey Whittemore concerning the property. This item will be addressed on the next agenda. Tommy requested that prior to future training at Panaca Fire Department information be posted so that anyone interested in getting certified can attend. Total hours required are approximately 240. The Mt. Wilson citizens group has received grant information concerning the purchase of a 10,000 water tank.

#4-PUBLIC COMMENT

There is no public comment.

#5-ADJOURN

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, Paul adjourned the meeting at 10:43.

Attest: _____ Approve: _____

DRAFT