

BROOKLYN FIRE & EMS DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES 01/19/2022

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by President Mark O'Brien. Members present were John Marx, Kim Gruebling, Mike Brusberg and Sue Williams. Also present were Mason Barber and Justin Wicik. Sarah Andrisevic was present via video conference

Motion: Marx/Gruebling to approve minutes of 12/16/2021 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Deana Zentner congratulated Chief Barber for his appointment to full time chief. She also acknowledged a letter extending an invitation for joint training efforts at the Oregon Area Fire EMS District. Chief Barber commented yes they received a letter and they have their list of trainings. They participate in joint training with Oregon more than other area departments do with their neighbors. They have a joint training planned for this coming Tuesday for ice water rescue. They have a joint owned boat and ice water rescue equipment. Marx commented Albany is doing a snowmobile rescue exercise near his house. Chief Barber commented they are already planning in participating in that on the 29th.

Chief Barber reported the department responded to 23 calls during December, which is close to double the normal call volume. There were 3 mutual aid calls. The department had 168 calls during 2021. There were 157 in 2020. He is very excited to start his new position. Tender 7 had an air leak in it. A mobile repair technician came to look at it. It is repairable but it's going to be expensive. With the age of the truck, they went with the cheaper repair option. The lead time for parts is about 10-15 weeks. Williams asked what is the expected life of the truck and when will it be replaced. Chief Barber commented the recommendation per NFPA is 20 years, which is already passed. He recommends replacing it by 2026, which is putting it at the 30 year mark.

EMS Director Wicik reported the department had 38 runs for the month of December. The department had 281 calls during 2021, which is 34 more calls than 2020. There were 268 out of service hours for the year. He is still trying to get in contact with dispatch to get information from them regarding out of service hours. Out of service hours are when they have zero people on the schedule, but Dane county has a different number. If there is only one person on shift, they will have the ambulance listed as out of service with the county. When the pager goes off, the one person will respond with the ambulance solo as a first response unit. In the event that another person completes the crew, they would cancel the incoming ambulance and take the calls themselves. He talked to Oregon about hourly rates; they pay \$12.25 for an EMT basic. Green county EMS is at \$14 per hour. Ryan brothers starting pay is between \$13-\$14. Belleville is offering \$18 per hour for advanced EMTs. To go to the advanced EMT level, the department would have to re-credential and re-license the entire service. There is an option called flex staffing, where staff that is a medic or advanced EMT, and then they could run as such on the ambulance. It would require more equipment and updating their procedures. It would provide a higher level of care, but can look into further down the road. Chief Barber reported they did training on the new scheduling software.

Chief Barber reported the membership voted on Leif Spilde for assistant chief –fire and Justin Wicik for assistant chief – medical. The assistant fire chief will have an initial term of one year. The assistant chief – medical will have an initial term of two years, to make sure the terms offset each other.

Motion: Marx/Williams to appoint Leif Spilde for assistant chief – fire for a one year term. Motion carried.

Motion: Marx/Williams to appoint Justin Wicik for assistant chief – fire for a two year term. Motion carried.

The oath of office will be delivered at the next meeting.

The district secretary handed out December financials. There will still be some invoices for 2021 yet, so these are not the final 2021 numbers. She will have those at the next meeting. Both departments are under budget for the year and are expected to stay that way.

Motion: Brusberg/Williams to move forward with Johnson Block for 2020/2021 audit. Motion carried.

Motion: Brusberg/Marx to sign up for additional years with Johnson Block for 2022/2023 and 2024/2026 audits. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the proposal from Town Web to update the district's website. They will move forward with a demo.

There was discussion regarding the municipalities using their ARPA funds to reimburse the district for 2020 hazard pay.

Motion: Brusberg/Marx to move forward with resolution to ETF to provide life insurance for the fire chief. Motion carried

Motion: Brusberg/Marx to move forward with resolution to ETF to provide income continuation insurance for the fire chief. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding Chief Barber's scheduled hours.

No action taken on 2022 goals for the district.

No action taken on district agreement.

Next district meeting will be February 16th, 2022.

Motion: Gruebling/Marx to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Motion carried.