

**CASS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 12, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The Cass County Fire District #1 (CCFD1) Board met at: 5:40 p.m. at Cass County Fire District 1 Station at 1444 Holland Street, Logansport, Indiana. Meeting was called to order by Rex Danely, Chairman. Members present were Rex Danely, Chairman; Steve Crispen, Vice Chairman; Dave Patty, Member at Large; Jerry Maxson, Fire Chief; and Bridget Enyeart, Fiscal Officer/Secretary.

**Minutes**

Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2023 were read and approved. Steve Crispen made a motion to accept the minutes. Rex Danely seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT/PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

The Treasurer's Report was given by Fiscal Officer, Bridget Enyeart. Rainy Day Fun \$324,664.49; Building Debt Fund \$0; County Emergency Loan Fund \$0.00; Fire Truck Loan Fund, \$11,383.18; Fire General Fund \$1,255,335.21; Cumulative Fire Fund \$69,926.53. Fiscal Officer sought approval to Transfer \$130,000 out of checking and into the Trust Indiana account to generate more interest/revenue; and, another \$50,500 out of Savings to Trust Indiana. With transfers and expenditures for the month, the checking balance is approximately \$140,733.89; Savings Account Balance \$829.00. Trust Indiana Balance would then be \$1,514,135.49. Rex Danely made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, transfers as requested, and all claims submitted for payment, Steve Crispen seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

The run report was given by Fire Chief Jerry Maxson. Current station issues were reviewed to include Comcast internet speed seems slower instead of faster, Rescue 5 was taken to M&M for a spark plug replacement and to evaluate the apparatus for fuel leaks. Engine 3's grab bar broke off as well as a valve leaking. The roof has a small leak in the engine bay. Jerry Maxson and Bridget Enyeart attended a grant writing class put on by Dinges on March 13. Bridget and Jerry are putting together a master grant file to pull for information when completing grant applications. Chief Maxson is getting three estimates for a Generator at the station. Run reports were reviewed as well as shift training reports. Rex Danely made a motion to accept the Fire Chief's Report. Dave Patty seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Christina Albaugh, Washington Township Chief Deputy Trustee was present. Discussion was held regarding the Washington Township Trustee Contract. The Board was advised by the Fiscal Officer, Bridget Enyeart that all contracts with other departments (Twelve Mile, Royal Center & Lucerne) has always read, "Department shall provide fire protection services and assistance with motor vehicle accidents to the best of their ability, with automatic aid, defined as the **dually** dispatched responding Department, **but not the primary service Department...**" Washington Township's contract was changed in 2018 to read similar as recommended by the District attorney to limit liability exposure to all taxing units involved. Washington Township's contract in 2017 read: "It is understood that Central Dispatch will notify the Cass County Fire District of every fire emergency and first responder call, "and a dual coverage area was defined with Walton Fire in specific areas. The District attorney had recommended that the language be changed to the 24-hour station being primary response with the volunteer station be dual dispatched as secondary response and no coverage area being outlined. This falls in line with all other contracts. Christina Albaugh made it clear that Washington Township is not unhappy with how the current contract reads. The contractual services worked out fine with Walton Fire until last year. Now, Walton Fire is taking issue with the coverage area which falls in line with the same time frame that the Washington Township Board declined to entertain discussions with Walton Fire to join a Territory.

Rex Danely stated he spoke with Central Dispatch who indicated they could "draw in lines" for District coverage. The Board explained to Mrs. Albaugh that they cannot risk placing their men outside the area they mapped out for \$20,000 a year contractually due to the Board's obligation to cover their own taxpayers. Ms. Albaugh asked what everyone else is paying for

District services. Rex Danely indicated that Eel, Noble and Clay taxpayers pay approximately 1.2 million combined for fire services with the District. The Board would provide more coverage with anyone that is interested. Most taxing units maximum fire levy prevent them from being able to afford 24-hour coverage. Many units statewide are experiencing the same issues that caused the creation of the District in 2010. Rex Danely showed Ms. Albaugh the coverage area that the District proposes on the map. She asked for a copy of the map and indicated that she would take the contract to her Board once it has been drafted but would like everything to stay the same for 2023 until she meets with her Board and can have further dialogue with the District.

All other contracts will be completed as in the past and will be presented to the Board for signature at the May meeting and promptly mailed out. Policies to be reviewed at the June meeting will include the Contractor Policy, Nepotism Policy, and Internal Control Policy. Fiscal Officer Bridget Enyeart asked the Board to review policies and let her know by the next meeting if there are any changes that need to be made. The Board indicated to Bridget that they did not think there would be any changes. Those policies will be submitted for review at the June meeting.

Fiscal Officer Bridget Enyeart indicated to the Board that she has a Pre-Budget Meeting with the Department of Local Government and Finance scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 1:30 pm. to kick off the 2024 Budget season. Changes regarding the budget will be discussed with our taxing unit at that time.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Rex Danely made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Crispen seconded. **Motion passed 3-0.** Meeting adjourned for station pictures **Next meeting will be held on May 3, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

***Bridget I. Enyeart, Fiscal Officer***

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