

GEARY COUNTY RURAL FIRE BOARD

June 6, 2012

Call to Order -

Roll Call -

Chairman
Fire Chief
Blakely
Jackson
Jefferson
Lyon
Milford
Smoky Hill
Wingfield

Reading of Minutes -

Communications - Fire Chief
Assistant Fire Chief
County Extension Agent - absent

Unfinished Business –

New Business - Statutes on non-permitted burns
Budget

Announcements - Next meeting, August 1, 2012

Adjournment –

**Minutes of the Geary County Rural Fire Board Trustees Meeting
For April 4, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by County Commission Chair Florence Whitebread.

Roll call was taken. Districts present: Mike Strauss (Blakely), Oliver Schmutz (Lyon), Bob Forman (Milford), Travis Berges (Smoky Hill), Ron Blomenkamp (Wingfield), Fire Chief Garry Berges and Chairman Whitebread. District absent: Jackson and Jefferson. Also present were Assistant Fire Chief Clark, and County Extension Agent Chuck Otte.

Minutes of the February meeting were reviewed. It was noted that Bob Forman's name was misspelled in the minutes (no e). Chuck Otte apologized for that mistake. **Chairman Whitebread declared the minutes approved as corrected with clarification of the spelling of Mr. Forman's name.**

Fire Chief Report: Year to date there has been 68 fires compared to 39 in the same period in 2011. During March there were requests for 276 burn permits and 19,643 acres of pasture were burned. Chief Berges reminded everyone that during April only pasture fires would be allowed, no brush piles. There were 2 burns that had not been called in for approval during March. Paperwork on these has been turned over to County Attorney Steve Opat for possible action. The usual rate assessed for these runs is \$100 per truck per hour. There ensued a discussion of the action take on these cases; fines vs reimbursements. No action was taken.

Garry noted that the raceway was not running races in 2012 so trucks wouldn't be needed for standby.

The new narrow band radios have all been installed. One of the 2 new tactical repeaters has been installed. After the second repeater is installed the handheld radios and pagers will be converted to narrow band.

A VFA grant is in the works to possibly get two more front nozzle spray units.

Garry and Brian are going to Ft Riley to pick up some fairly new bunker gear that Ft. Riley has replaced.

Pleasant View Fire Station – 16 companies were sent requests for proposals. 5 were received with the lowest one coming in at \$30,160 for a 100' x 45' structure. The estimate had been \$40,000. This bid was for the building only. Concrete will be a separate bid as will septic system. There will be no restroom at first.

Assistant Fire Chief Report: Brian reported that a new clutch has been placed in Truck 105, new spray heads on trucks 105 and 114 and a new battery in another truck. New pumps were put on the gators to improve pressure. The 5 ton truck received from the US Forest Service as a replacement for Truck 107 was turned back as it had major issues with oil leaks.

County Extension Agent: Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business: Proposed By Laws change – Florence handed out a county resolution on the Rural Fire Department that reaffirmed the original resolution from the 1960s that formed the fire district. It meets all the requirements of current statutes as well as requirements for insurance coverage.

Mike Strauss asked about each township needing to do an inventory and a budget. Florence explained that Garry's office now takes care of all of that for the county.

Bob asked what this resolution meant in regards to Truck 109 in Milford Township. Florence explained that all equipment is owned by Fire District #1/County Commissioners. Bob then asked if the title for Truck 109 needed to be held by the County. Florence answered yes. Bob asked if it should be in Garry's name. Florence said no, it should be Geary County Fire District #1.

Brian expressed concern that the statute/resolution was too ambiguous. "If I buy a light for my helmet does it become the fire district's?" Florence responded that you have to draw the line somewhere. Oliver asked that if it were damaged, would the county replace it? Garry responded that the county would replace it.

New Business: There was discussion of the VFA grant application. Spray heads for 2 trucks had been talked about and were there any other ideas. It was felt that getting as many as possible would be good. Dale Ross had done the first ones but he wasn't doing that anymore. Florence asked if there was consensus to apply for more electronically controlled nozzles and there was no dissention.

The next meeting will be on June 6, 2012. Chuck announced that we would be out of the area attending meetings and would not be present so someone else would have to take minutes.

With no further business, Chairman Whitebread adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Otte
Recording Secretary

04-02-2012

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geary County, Kansas, created Geary County Fire District No. 1, by resolution, in 1967, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners approved thereafter the Constitution and By-Laws for Geary County Rural Fire District No. 1, establishing fire districts and a board of trustees, and retaining "general control and supervision of the Geary County Rural Fire Department", and

WHEREAS, these by-laws and constitution have been reviewed and revised from time to time, the last time being 2007, and

WHEREAS, said by-laws and constitution implicitly place the general control and supervision of the fire district in the Board of County Commissioners, as authorized by statute;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners for Geary County, Kansas, shall have general control and supervision of the Geary County Rural Fire Department specifically Fire District No. 1, and shall receive, hold, manage, and control any and all property of said fire district with the direction of the appointed Geary County Rural Fire Chief of District No. 1, and the advice of the "Board of Trustees", i.e., the representatives from each sub "district", or "fire district" within Geary County Rural Fire District No. 1; this "Board of Trustees" shall submit an inventory annually and shall prepare an annual budget for the Geary County Rural Fire Department, which shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners. This inventory will include all equipment that is purchased, donated or otherwise acquired, for fire protection and/or suppression, to include buildings, vehicles, and any other property however acquired by

members of the fire district as presently constituted in the current constitution and by-laws,
all pursuant to K.S.A. 19-3601, et. seq. and K.S.A. 19-3612a.

By Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved this 2nd day of April, 2012.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF GEARY COUNTY, KANSAS**

Florence C. Whitebread

FLORENCE WHITEBREAD, Chairperson

Ben Bennett

BEN BENNETT, Commissioner

Larry Hicks

LARRY HICKS, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rebecca Bossemeyer

REBECCA BOSSEMEYER, County Clerk

