

APPROVED
Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 2:00 pm
Cedar Fire Department

Call to Order

Chairman Greg Julian called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present on roll call were Greg Julian, John DePuy, Chris Comeaux, Ron Schaub and John Imboden. Andy Doornbos and Dana Boomer was present as staff.

Discussions/decisions will be for the direction of the Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Board as previously published, per the Open Meetings Act. Potential quorums of township boards will be noted in the minutes.

Citizens Comments – None

Consideration of Agenda – The board briefly discussed the agenda. **Motion by DePuy to approve the agenda as presented, second by Imboden. All in favor, motion carried.**

Minutes: Approval of May 1, 2024 General Meeting Minutes – **Motion by Schaub to approve the May 1, 2024 General Meeting Minutes as presented, second by Imboden. All in favor, motion carried.**

Correspondence Received – Chief Doornbos relayed a letter of thanks from a citizen.

Financials –

Boomer had previously provided a handout to the board which detailed the financial statements for May. The board briefly discussed the vendors payable and payroll. The updated unpaid bills detailed list was presented, and briefly discussed.

Comeaux moved to accept the May vendors payable as presented, Schaub seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Imboden moved to accept the May payrolls as presented, Comeaux seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Schaub moved to accept the May financial statements as presented, Comeaux seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Second Station Assessment – CAFR staff presented an assessment document for the service area, covering population, growth, traffic, call volume, population and other issues. The board extensively discussed the document. DePuy appreciates the designation of the five mile circles of service coverage areas, as this is what ISO will look at for insurance costs. The board briefly discussed the ISO process, which can substantially change home insurance costs.

Imboden thanked the staff for doing the assessment in house. He feels that the numbers for housing from Housing North need to be taken with a grain of salt, as they are an advocacy agency. The board extensively discussed the growth of the service area, including full time population, part time population, temporary and seasonal employees, available housing for full time employees, and other issues. There are numerous factors influencing the development of the service area, including zoning and interested developers.

The board asked for draft numbers on operational costs and needed millages for the development and operation of a second station to be distributed prior to the July meeting. Staff has been working on these numbers and will distribute them to the board.

New Business:

- a. Any New Business – None

Reports:

- a. Fire Chief – The Chief’s Report was provided in the meeting packet. Doornbos summarized his report. The Health Department contacted Doornbos to tell him that there are not adequate backflow preventers on some of the hose systems at the station. Doornbos received a quote from Team Bobs for \$4,400 to address the deficiencies. This work will be completed to the satisfaction of the Health Department. Solon/Centerville had requested that Chief Doornbos look into the possibility of putting in a septic system at the fire station. Doornbos spoke to Clay McNitt with the Health Department, who told him there was no chance of putting in any sort of septic system at the existing station. Comeaux asked about whether to have the tanks inspected. Comeaux and Schaub will discuss with the Solon and Centerville Boards regarding whether they would like the tanks inspected, which could lead to a potential replacement of the tank(s).
- b. Department Staff – None
- c. Chairman – The social media outreach is looking great. He has been continuing to be in touch with surrounding township supervisors, who are appreciative of the department’s efforts. He suggested more outreach on campfire safety, animal safety, and poisonous plant safety. The work on the interlocal agreement is ongoing – the board briefly discussed. Kasson has distributed a request for qualifications/proposals for design work on a new fire station, which is due later in June. This will be emailed to the board. The first union negotiations meeting was held today, and negotiations will be moving forward, with another meeting tentatively planned for August.

Citizens Comments – None

Board Member & Chair Comments – DePuy commented regarding electric vehicle fires, which are becoming more of an issue. Glen Lake did a recent training with an expert from downstate, which was attended by two members of Cedar Fire. Electric vehicles are becoming more and more common – from cars to delivery vehicles to e-bikes to golf carts. He also spoke regarding cargo containers being placed on properties – these are issues for safety and fires.

Next Meeting Date – The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at 2 pm.

Imboden moved, Schaub seconded to adjourn the meeting. With no further business, Julian adjourned the meeting at 3:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Boomer
Recording Secretary