

**Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 3, 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. Imboden asked to add a brief discussion of the Interlocal Agreement to unfinished business. **Motion by Schaub to approve the agenda as amended, second by Imboden. All in favor, motion carried.**

Minutes: Approval of June 5, 2024 General Meeting Minutes – **Motion by Comeaux to approve the June 5, 2024 General Meeting Minutes as presented, second by Imboden. All in favor, motion carried.**

Correspondence Received – None

Financials –

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

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

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

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

Unfinished Business:

- a. Second Station – CAFR staff presented draft numbers on operational costs and needed millages for the development and operation of a second station. The board discussed the documents. The budget developed by the staff shows that the department would be capable of supporting the operations of a second station as of April 1, 2027, with no additional staff being requested and with the budget staying within the percentage constraints of the interlocal agreement. The board discussed the millage rates that would be needed to cover this budget, long-term.

Julian reported that Kasson Township received three bids for design services for a new station. At a special meeting on Monday, Kasson Township chose Environment Architects to provide services for conceptual drawings, community engagement and funding selection. They are working on a contract and will continue with this project.

- b. Interlocal Agreement – Imboden stated that he had been reviewing the interlocal agreement and had a couple questions. There are numerous sections pertaining to the start-up of the department – are these being removed in the new version? Julian stated that much or all of the language regarding the start-up of the department is being removed in the draft to be approved next year. Imboden asked about board policies and procedures – these exist and will be re-sent to all board members. Imboden asked about a board member liability rider for the insurance policy – this is part of the insurance policy held by the department.

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. Roto-Rooter came out and inspected the septic piping system and found no major issues. A day is being coordinated to have Roto-Rooter and Williams and Bay come on the same day to pump and inspect the tanks. Doornbos and Boomer will be sitting down with the union next week to go over what is financially feasible for the proposals for the union contract. FF/EMT-B Newfer will be starting paramedic school shortly. Doornbos and Glen Lake Chief Ferguson are working together to look at potential joint projects so as to not duplicate efforts. There are some things that can be done jointly between the departments to make them more efficient. Imboden asked what the responsibility was of the fire departments to provide services into the park. DePuy stated that he looked into it in the past and the NPS claims that as a property owner in the townships, the fire departments are responsible for providing fire and EMS to them as to every other property owner. The board extensively discussed the options and history surrounding the park service.
- 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 water safety. The union negotiations meetings will continue.

Citizens Comments – None

Board Member & Chair Comments – DePuy asked everyone to wear their life jackets when they go out on the water. The resources used over three days from the DNR, State Police, Coast Guard, and local units that were used on the recent water rescue and recovery could have been used elsewhere if the victims had used lifejackets and appropriate equipment for being on Lake Michigan. DePuy also commented on the recent fatal car accident, and stated that he is certified in crisis intervention review and can be used as a department resource and department members can reach out to him. DePuy invited the department to bring a piece of equipment to participate in the Glen Arbor 4th of July parade tomorrow. There is a lot of collaboration between the departments, and he wants to see this continue.

Schaub thanked the department for the quick response to his field fire last week – it turned out OK and the department did a wonderful job.

Next Meeting Date – The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 2 pm.

Schaub moved, Imboden seconded to adjourn the meeting. With no further business, Julian adjourned the meeting at 3:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Boomer
Recording Secretary