

APPROVED
Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 7, 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 July 3, 2024 General Meeting Minutes – **Motion by Comeaux to approve the July 3, 2024 General Meeting Minutes as presented, second by DePuy. All in favor, motion carried.**

Correspondence Received – Doornbos received thank you letters from citizens regarding an EMS call and a fire call.

Financials –

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

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

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

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

Unfinished Business:

- a. Second Station – Julian reported that this continues to be looked at by the Kasson Township Board. They are currently reviewing contract documents for a design firm and looking at potential locations. The board briefly discussed issues related to a second station, including timelines and costs.
- b. Union Negotiations – Comeaux and Julian are beginning negotiations with the union. A preliminary meeting has been held and progress is being made. Now that the election is over, they believe progress will move forward more quickly.

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. DePuy asked about sending the information on power line safety to the newspaper to try to get more attention on this – he has seen very little respect shown to downed lines by some people. FF/Paramedic Avery Pucelik has now received his full level of function as a paramedic, and so six of nine full time employees are now paramedics, with FF/EMT-B Newfer now in paramedic class. Doornbos is continuing to collaborate with Williams and Bay to finish the inspection of the septic and drain system.
- b. Department Staff – The draft audit has been distributed to the board for review. The board discussed the draft audit. DePuy would like to have the auditor come to a meeting to present the audit. The board members have reviewed the audit and see no issues. **Schaub moved to approve the draft audit and request that Poortenga visit the department in September to present to the board. Imboden seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**
- c. Chairman – Julian likes the continuing coverage of the department on social media, especially with regard to the new gear that was received through the State of Michigan. He received a substantial amount of positive feedback from the community on the department this month.

Citizens Comments – Chris Logan – He is a recent new resident of the service area. He was a full-time FF/Paramedic in Ohio, and has recently retired to this area. He is interested in what is going on and wanted to come and see a meeting.

Board Member & Chair Comments – Imboden asked if the interlocal agreement group had met; they have not. The draft agreement and the current board policies and procedures have been distributed to the board by email.

DePuy noted that all four townships had their fire millages approved yesterday by large margins. It is good to see that support and good reception from the community. Julian noted that he did an interview this morning with the Enterprise regarding the support from the community on the millages.

Next Meeting Date – The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 2 pm.

Imboden moved, DePuy seconded to adjourn the meeting. With no further business, Julian adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Boomer
Recording Secretary