

PINE LAKE FIRE DISTRICT

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8/1/2016 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 6:02 PM

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS: Tom McLarty, Tom Beller, Jack Graham, Ron Kutil, Sherri LaFlamme – all present for full quorum.

NEW BUSINESS: Interview of candidates for open chief position

Tom McLarty asked the board members if any additional applications for the position had been received by any member. None had been. It was moved (Beller) and seconded (LaFlamme) that the Greg LaFlamme be interviewed for the position. The board did not have a motion to go into executive session for interviews and several members stated they preferred to conduct interviews in an open session.

Greg LaFlamme made an opening statement as to his qualifications and his reasons for applying for the position. He outlined his 6 ½ years of experience with the department, his desire for experience with grant writing and helping with the same, his experience handling fire practices, and his experience running his own business. He also expressed his concerns over some of the challenges the department would be facing in the future. He also expressed his love for the department and desire to see it succeed.

Tom Beller questioned Greg about his willingness to learn about budgets with the outgoing chief and what he thought he might need from the board in the first 90 days if he was selected. Greg stated he did not see making changes right away because he thought the department was running well and had seen improvements over the tenure of the current chief. He also stated that he had already made contact with other fire professionals that would be willing to support him if he was selected for the position.

Sherry LaFlamme questioned Greg about the amount of time he could dedicate to the position and if he thought his business would interfere with the time needed. He stated he had flexibility and would make sure there was sufficient coverage through scheduling and recruiting to the department.

Jack Graham asked Greg for his assessment of the equipment currently in the department. Greg outlined each piece of equipment and what his thoughts were as to their condition and plans for the next several years. Greg also discussed what his plans were for personnel.

Ron Kutil outlined what he thought the needs of the department were and how he thought the chief should approach those needs. He reminded the candidate that the chief is an employee of the board. He stated that the budget is already set for this fiscal year and the new chief needs to work within the confines of the budget.

He also talked about the transition and working with the current chief and secretary and how important they are to the process. The availability of the chief, succession, working with the park, outlining an attack plan, recruiting, possibility of placing water throughout the community were also discussed.

Tom McLarty then asked Greg to discuss how he would manage the items that Ron had outlined. Greg outlined his approach. He stated he would also work to engage new and old personnel into the department. He stated he wanted to gather data to support decision making.

Greg committed to complete fire chief training in a reasonable amount of time.

At 7:05 PM the board voted to go into executive session. Motion by Ron Kutil, second by Jack Graham. The board came out of executive session at 7:20 PM

Tom Beller moved that Greg LaFlamme be offered the position of chief on a probationary status that would be reviewed in 6 months effective August 15, 2016 to allow for a two week overlap with the current chief. There was a second by Sherry LaFlamme. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Jack Graham, second by Tom Beller. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.