

Columbia County Fire Chiefs' Association

Directors Meeting

February 16, 2016 8:25

Meeting was brought to order by the Chairman, Ben Wheeler.

Minutes: Motion to accept the reading of the previous Directors meeting Wally Engel/Jim Van Deusen – Carried.

Reading of the previous General meeting for informational purposes only.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the treasurers' report as read by Russ Wheeler, Jim Van Deusen/Bill Hunt – Carried.

Russ also stated that the taxes for 2015 are the same as last years and have been filed.

Coordinator's Report: Bill Hunt stated that a 6 ½ acre piece of property in Commerce park is being considered by the county for the emergency services to house vehicles, equipment, hold training classes and construct a tower. The building appears to be large enough and has sufficient facilities.

A meeting with the Public Safety Committee is scheduled.

There will be a Haz-Mat Seminar, April 22-24. The Coordinator's Office will cover (\$100 per person) for the 10 persons who have signed up to attend.

Gregg Gilliland made a motion to have the Chiefs' Association cover the difference between the coordinator's contribution and the actual cost. Russ Wheeler 2nd the motion – Carried.

Reports of Committees:

C&O: Bill reported that there had been 13 incidents in 2015.

An audit of members who have maintained their certification will take place Thursday, February 18.

Haz-Mat: The roof of the truck has been repaired and work has been done on the heater. The new trailer is located in the West Ghent Fire Station.

Special Opts: The trailer is currently at the county garage for lettering.

Safety Trailer: It was suggested that a sign be placed in or on the trailer to remind people that smoke detectors are available from their local fire company.

The trailer has been requested by Austerlitz.

Scholarship/Publicity: A decision was made to have the announcement of the recipient of the scholarship published in the newspaper.

Sunshine: Tom Rector reported that Jose is very ill. A motion to give him a \$50 gas card Bill Hunt/Jim Van Deusen – Carried.

Communications: The Public Safety Committee has asked the Chiefs' Association to re-visit the issue of "The Authorization of the Sale of Fireworks in Columbia County". A brief discussion was held with the unanimous agreement to standby the previous decision and reject the authorization. The secretary will compose a letter in time for Bill to present at Thursday's meeting of the Fire Advisory Board.

Old Business: Gregg Gilliland said George Keeler doesn't do a check list of the trailer after each use. Also, George's vehicle is heavy enough to tow the trailer.

Ben Wheeler presented a printout of the By-laws and their amendments. A committee will review, reprint, and distribute them upon completion.

New Business: The applications of 9 new members were reviewed, accepted, and will be presented at the general meeting.

To better facilitate the training which now follows the general meeting several suggestions have been made: eat first and have the meeting second, start the meeting at 7:00 rather than 7:30, and/or rather than have a meal, have snacks.

Executive Session opened at 9:45

Concerning the request for the resignation of Ben Wheeler: It should be noted that Gary Smith was not in attendance. Ben presented a copy of the letter as originally written. A discussion was held. It was decided there was no malicious intent. Tom Rector made the motion the issue was resolved and no further action be taken. Dick Howard 2nd the motion, all were in favor – the motion was Carried.

Session closed at 9:50

Good of the Association:

Ghent Ladies Sub Sale Friday, March 25th

Next General meeting March 15th Philmont Fire Station.

Next Directors' meeting April 19th Vanderbilt, Philmont.

Motion to adjourn Jim Van Deusen/Tom Rector – Carried.

Secretary

Irene Huston