

Hotchkiss Fire District
Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2025, Board Meeting

Board Members: Kathy Welt, Dan Miller, ~~Zach Hotchkiss~~, Ron Prosser, Diane Walker

Fire Chief: Doug Fritz

Secretary/Treasurer: Cally Gallegos

Call to Order 6:43PM

Review Minutes of Last Meeting

Diane Walker makes a motion to approve the minutes from the June 9 meeting, motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking account balance	\$148606.64
Special Projects checking	\$5822.51
Pension Fund	\$824868.15
Fireman's Fund	\$6161.92

Review Financial Report

Bills Presented –

Doug Fritz presents the credit card charges on his card and on Bryant Bennetts card. Cally explains the charges on her cards of new monitor and office supplies for the office. Board approves charges.

Cally asked the board if it would be okay for her to find a class on QuickBooks online. She cannot find reports to help with the financial reporting. She is making spreadsheets for all of the reports. Ron Prosser makes the motion for Cally to find some training. Kathy Welt seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Public Comment

No one in attendance

Correspondence: Cally read the card from Robert and Sharon Remmerde. Cally also inquired with the board regarding the possibility of an election. The board is not planning anything for the election.

Fire Chief and Officers' Reports:

9 Calls since the last meeting. 2 reports of gas, one was a dead raccoon and the other was an open valve, was not gas or carbon monoxide. 4 powerline failure calls, with one fire. It was extinguished quickly. 3 wildland fires and a structure fire in town.

Equipment – tanker 2 needs new batteries. Batteries are 7 years old and past their life expectancy.

Training No training. They took the 4th of July off.

Personnel – Nick Englehart has joined the department. Doug is allowing anyone that wants to join to come to all of the training, and will not have them out on fire until he is sure that they have the training that they need. Doug also added that Travin Scott was added to the training and she will probably be a good addition.

Grants Closed the FEMA grant but have heard from them that it is complete. We have not heard if the paperwork has been approved and excepted.

Building Maintenance – Doug had a repairman work on the boiler and he diagnosed that the circuit board is bad. The repair man has ordered a new circuit board and will install it when the part is delivered.

Subdivisions – New subdivision at J Road and 3100.

Other Actuary study for the pension fund is going to be expensive and we are not going to use money to have someone do the study. Cally suggested that we look for a grant that will help pay for the study.

Old or Continued Business:

Pension Board

5 Year Plan – Still looking for the rates to lower to refinance the building loan. Cally suggested that instead of paying down on the principal, that we should look into finding a CD. Put our money to work for us but still have it available if we need it. Doug will investigate that.

1 Year Plan

Other- Dan Miller suggested that we pay someone to put together all the information that we need to show why the fire department needs to increase their revenues. He suggested that maybe Nicki would be interested. Dan said that we need to show the cost of replacement equipment, and show that we have been very responsible with our money, but due to the increased cost of equipment and maintenance we need to get some funds built up to continue to be able to go out on calls.

Doug also mentioned that we have 6 of our people on the South Rim fire.

August 5th is Delta Night Out.

New Business:

Next meeting - will be August 11 at 6:30pm and Doug will bring us the information regarding CD's and interest rates for building loans.

Adjournment- 8:23pm