

A regular meeting of the Rural Urban Fire Board was held virtually via Zoom and called to order at 7:04 a.m. by Chairperson Matt Schooley. A quorum of the Board was present.

Roll Call

Board members present: Kevin Beeson (Bethany Township), Ron Hunt (Sumner), Greg Mapes (Alma), Doug Merchant (Ithaca), Matt Schooley (Alma), and Danny Wernick (Alma).

Board members absent: Tish Mallory.

Others present: Mark Williams, Harold House.

Motion by Merchant, seconded by Beeson, to approve the minutes with the following correction:

"Approval of Minutes

Motion by Merchant, seconded by Mallory, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2021. Motion carried with voice vote. **Voting ~~no~~ yes:** Schooley, Wernick, Mallory, and Merchant. Voting no: none."

Motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021, as corrected, carried. Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mapes, Merchant, Schooley, and Wernick. Voting no: none. Absent: Mallory.

First Quarter Fire Report

Public Safety Director Mark Williams reviewed information in the Fire Report. He explained calls received and mutual aid responses.

Board Member Merchant asked about a duplicate billing for the same incident charged to his township. Williams promised to check into the incident.

Williams noted this quarterly report is, so far, a modified version of the annual report. He asked that anyone who had suggestions for content or changes contact him.

Motion by Board Member Mapes, seconded by Board Member Wernick, to receive the first quarter fire report as submitted.

Board Member Tish Mallory joined the meeting from Elwell via Zoom at 7:16 a.m.

Motion to receive the fire report carried. Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mapes, Merchant, Mallory, Schooley, and Wernick. Voting no: none.

Old Business

Chairperson Schooley asked for a few volunteers to assist with revisions to the Interlocal Agreement and development of a final draft. Beeson, Mapes, and Merchant volunteered to assist. Schooley will schedule a meeting for review. He asked members to make of list of things they feel need to be addressed.

Other Business

Chairperson Schooley explained there have been requests for township rescue to be considered. Lengthy discussion followed about some of the fire board members partnering with Alma for rescue services, as they are already partnered for fire services.

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Department of Public Safety Director Mark Williams estimated that based on an average of runs, department members, and added insurance costs, if the charge per run was \$260 each, the added financial cost would be around \$65,000. He believes it could be done fairly easily if all members meet department standards.

Additional discussion followed about the addition of a new building in the Sumner/Seville Townships area. The goal is to better serve residents in the farthest reaches of the district.

Board Member Mallory said she had spoken with a few farmers in the area about providing land for a building, and she is waiting for confirmation and looking at options.

Chairperson Schooley said they will move forward to explore the ideas. He asked Director Williams to put together a proposal for an upcoming meeting.

Chairperson Schooley called for additional comments.

Director Williams explained, in response to Board Member Merchant's earlier question about duplicate billing, that the second billing was for a re-ignite two hours later at the same location.

Board Member Beeson asked to have a discussion with township partners about the idea of rescue services before moving forward. He wanted to make sure everyone is on the same page.

Brief discussion followed concerning setting up a meeting about rescue services. Beeson will reach out to participants and send information about meeting date options.

Motion by Board Member Beeson, seconded by Board Member Merchant, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 a.m. Motion carried. Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mapes, Merchant, Mallory, Schooley, and Wernick. Voting no: none.



Sara Anderson, Recording Secretary



Date of Approval