

A regular meeting of the Rural Urban Fire Board was held at the City Municipal Building with some members appearing virtually via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m. by Chairperson Matt Schooley. A quorum of the Board was present.

Roll Call

Board members present: Kevin Beeson (Zoom-Pine River Township), Ron Hunt (Zoom-Sumner), Greg Mapes (in person-Alma), Tish Mallory (Zoom-Elwell), Doug Merchant (Zoom-Pine River Township), Matt Schooley (in person-Alma), and Danny Wernick (Zoom-Alma).

Board members absent: none.

Others present: Mark Williams, Harold House.

Motion by Board Member Mapes, seconded by Board Member Merchant, to approve the minutes of April 22, 2021, as presented. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Schooley, and Wernick.

Voting no: none.

Old Business

Public Safety Director Mark Williams reminded Board members about the request from Sumner/Seville Rescue to combine departments. He said Sumner/Seville Rescue had taken official action at their last meeting to disband the unit and combine personnel and equipment with the Alma Fire District/Rural Urban Fire Board. (Minutes included as "Attachment A".)

Chairman Schooley added there are nine members that will be transferring over, and they expect a small increase in liability insurance costs for the added coverage. Schooley answered questions from Board Member Mapes, explaining that payroll issues have been addressed and that the merger will save Sumner/Seville Rescue significant insurance costs. Mapes asked about a provision for a "true-up" at the end of the year. Board Member Beeson said the practice in the past has been billing for differences at year-end, and he expects it would continue for the time being. Chairperson Schooley reminded the Board that revisions to the by-laws need to be completed.

Motion by Board Member Beeson, seconded by Board Member Mallory, to complete a merger between Sumner/Seville Rescue and the Rural Urban Fire District, a/k/a Alma Fire District, effective July 1, 2021. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Schooley, and Wernick.

Voting no: none.

Chairman Schooley asked Public Safety Director Williams to provide an update on a building that could be a possible site for a second garage. Williams had contacted the owner of a building in a good location that appeared to be a perfect fit for the department's off-site garage. While the building was not actively for sale, the owner did agree to consider the idea and discussion followed about a possible sale price. He also toured the building with the current owner. He asked about proceeding with assessments and an appraisal.

Schooley said revisions would be needed for the by-laws if the Fire District was going to purchase property. Discussion followed about possible concerns with the concrete approach at the building.

Board Member Mallory expressed surprise about the discussion. She thought they were searching for property to build, rather than looking at potential buildings. She was concerned the location in question was only a mile

out of Alma. She asked them to consider a location farther away to encourage more volunteers for the department.

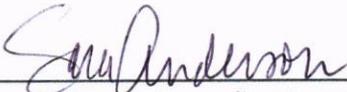
Williams suggested a site visit and said vehicle maintenance needs to be a consideration.

Board Member Beeson said he didn't think a motion to pursue the building was appropriate, as his partners are still researching other locations and other options.

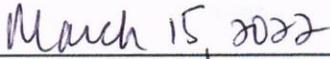
Discussion followed about a budget for the building and funding, as well as making changes to the by-laws to allow for property ownership.

Chairman Schooley will schedule a follow-up meeting for review of the by-laws.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 a.m.



Sara Anderson, Recording Secretary



Date of Approval

Sumner/Seville Rescue & Alma District Fire Department Joint Meeting
May 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor K. Beeson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., using GOTO Meeting via the internet.

Present: Kevin Beeson, Doug Merchant, Ron Hunt, Capt. Tyler Haase, Matt Gulick, Tish Mallory, Mark Williams, Chief Harold House, & James Brush.

Kevin led the meeting with discussion about the purpose of this meeting was to have a final vote on merging Sumner/Seville Rescue with the Alma District Fire Department. Everyone agreed that all of the discussion at the last meeting and since the last meeting was all positive feedback. Matt agreed that SSR staff was on board as well.

Motion made by T. Mallory, supported by T. Haase to merge the Sumner Seville Rescue with the Alma Fire District Department, in which SSR will no longer be in existence with said name after the merge is complete.

Roll Call Vote: K. Beeson-yes, R. Hunt-yes, T. Mallory-yes, J. Brush-yes, T. Haase-yes, D. Merchant-yes, ***motion passed.***

It was discussed that a new name would be created at a later date.

Motion to adjourn was made by R. Hunt, supported by D. Merchant, meeting adjourned.

Meeting recorded by: T. Mallory, Seville Township Supervisor