

Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department
Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting
August 22, 2006

Present: John Slater, Bob Leach, Phyllis Thomas, Bob Wilson, Ned Fox, Steve Soares and Karen Bare Kamimoto.

MINUTES: Bob Leach moved, Phyllis Thomas seconded the motion to approve the May 23, 2006 as submitted. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Cost of Operations – This item should be removed from the agenda.
2. Investments – Karen was directed to move all but \$1,000 from the checking to the investment money market account. The payment to Oshkosh is due late in September. It will be sent by overnight FedEx to them.
3. Insurance – Bob Wilson will double check with the Workers Compensation carrier to see if the premium is determined by the number of volunteers.

NEW BUSINESS – FINANCE REALTED:

1. Financials – Reviewed and accepted as presented.
Bob Leach reported the Fire Department contracted with Medtronics to maintain the AED's (automated electronic defibrillator). There were two deaths this summer and the units performed to specifications.
Seven new radios were purchased from Signal Communications. They were \$220 each. Bob Leach requested retroactive approval to purchase new radios for the seven new recruits. Bob Wilson moved, Ned Fox seconded the motion to approve the request. The motion passed. Bob Leach abstained from voting.
2. HLA Discussion – The HLA annual meeting was held on August 5, 2006. A motion was passed to remove the Fire Department funding from the Huntington Lake Association billing. There is some concern that the Fire Department will suffer a 50% loss of revenue because of this action.
3. Newsletters – The next one will be late September, early October; then one in December. It is critical that the phrase “voluntary contributions” is used instead of “assessments”. The 2007 campaign will be launched in January. The fire Department will be looking to the Tracts to collect contributions with the Tracts sending one check with detail of givers, or separate individual checks. Ned Fox will provide the letter he wrote for his Tract to the Board. All board members were asked to contact a Tract by Labor Day weekend.
4. 2007 Budget – Need to add a line item for Communications – newsletters, mailings.

NEW BUSINESS – OTHER MATTERS:

1. Fire Chief – John Slater contacted Randy at Fresno Fire. He agreed to put the word out. John Slater will check back with him and report by email to the Board.
2. Wakefield letter – Discussion about responding.
3. Website – Bob Leach is setting up a website so it can be used as a communications vehicle for the months there is little activity at the Lake.
4. Water tender issues – the 1959 tender was used two times this summer for USFS near Big Creek. The fire Department should be receiving \$2,000-6,000 for the use of the water tender use. Vehicles must pass CHP inspections. It will cost

approximately \$6,000 to bring the 1959 tender up to specifications. The money from SCE (\$100,000) is earmarked for a new water tender. The cost of a new water tender is \$135,000 – 140,000. Bob Leach is looking into getting a letter of commitment to accelerate the dollars from SCE.

If the Fire Department could start the process this September and take delivery on the new water tender in May 2007 with the first payment due in September 2007, then the Fire Department could keep the 1959 water tender for con-contract work and use it to generate dollars for the Fire Department.

The new water tender will provide water pumping capability, fast response, and potential reduced insurance ratings.

The Huckleberry Tract refused to do road maintenance and trim trees to allow the Fire Department vehicles access. The biggest issue is response time.

A decision will need to be made in February 2007 about the repairs on the 1959 water tender.

5. Paramedic resident at lake – Enable the Fire Department to provide BLS (basic life support). This needs to be in the mid to long term planning. Issues – drugs, better service, transportation by ambulance, liability issues. It could take a year for Bob Leach to get rated. A budget needs to be created to see what the costs are. Bob Wilson will look into the cost of liability insurance. There are two potential donors for an ambulance. Does the Fire Department belong to the National Volunteer Fire Department Association? No. This needs to be looked into. Need to find a way to house an ambulance.
6. Survey results - #1 is faster response time to accidents on Highway 168, #2 – provide faster transportation.
7. First responder issues – Seven members of the community have graduated from training to respond as professionals to medical emergencies. They are qualified to take vitals, give oxygen and place people on backboards. There have been 36 calls, the last one this morning. Two of the new recruits went with Bob Leach. One was the vehicle operator and one handled the paperwork. Bob handled the patient care. The new recruits are Mark Richards, Mitzie Richards, Dave Newton, Elaine Newton, Steve Sherry and Niles Kant. Uniforms have been ordered. Shirts will clearly identify them as “medical assistant and snow rescue” or “snow rescue and water tender”.
8. Other matters – The next meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2006 at 5 p.m...

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Bare Kamimoto, recording secretary