

Moose Lake Area Fire Protection District
600 Hwy 73
Moose Lake Minnesota 55767
Official Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Fire District
6:30pm Tuesday, May 13, 2025 Fire Hall Conference Room

The meeting opened by Chair Steve Aldrin at 6:30 pm. Fire District Board Members present were Steve Aldrin, Walt Lower, Jon Lund and Jeff Kirk. Gual Nelson was absent. Others in attendance were Fire Chief Joyce Hibke, Assistant Chief Corey Hibke, Captain Mike Chambers, Second Lieutenant Steve Trenhaile, Secretary Jim Michalski, Relief Association Chad Davidson, Fire District Secretary Cathleen Troskey and Ellissa Owens City Administrator.

Agenda: A motion was made by Lower and seconded by Kirk to approve the Amended Agenda adding shared city employee matter as part of the Services-In-Kind to Old Business.
The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: A motion by Lower and seconded by Lund to approve the April Board Meeting minutes.
The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Troskey reviewed the Treasurer's Report and Check Register. A Motion was made by Kirk and seconded by Lund to approve the Treasurer's Report and Check Register.
The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Services in Kind: Owens did reach out with an email to see about meeting as a sub-committee regarding the Services-In-Kind. The Services-In-Kind list does not include cleaning supplies and Owens was notified how the shared city employee was treated poorly by Nelson when asked for some cleaning supplies and that shared city employee was put in a horrible position. Nelson told the shared city employee to go talk to someone from the city and at that point the shared city employee went to her home and got supplies needed. Michalski said it was for garbage bags and he did get garbage bags for the shared city employee. Trenhaile said they always cover supplies. Michalski did speak with the shared city employee. Owens would never approve of a city employee being treated the way the city employee was treated by Nelson and said it was very inappropriate. Kirk personally as a board member apologized for how the city employee was treated. Lower sees animosity from Nelson against the City and feels sometimes it has to do with other issues, besides the fire district. Lower said Nelson continues to bring up the rent lease and that the city is ripping off the fire district because the City is not putting in a lease here, ripping off the city because of the In-Kind-Services. Lower said Nelson signed the Lease Agreement that gets done in 2029, but Nelson does not want to accept that and wants to seek legal advice to get out of that agreement. Lower said he has brought up the In-Kind Services several times and has tried to explain the share the city pays and Lower believes it is equal and it gets thrown back in his face by Nelson every time. Lower said this is all spelled out in the Agreement. Owens dropped off all the important stuff highlighted in the agreement. Lower wants to have a Services-In-Kind meeting and get all the issues worked out. Lower said he represents the people of Moose Lake and needs cooperation between all the entities of the District and that is what Lower says he is here to do. Lower wants to be in good standing order with the Townships and everyone else here so this can be smoothly run as possible for the

benefit of the tax payer. Lowers said Nelson and Bob Hoppe are the two that signed the Agreement and should know what it is in the Agreement. Kirk and Aldrin both agree to sit down and have a sub-committee meeting regarding the Service-In-Kind agreement. Owens is wondering how this can move forward if there is one person that is not aligning with the overall general consensus of the board if there is an individual not willing to move forward and are we spending tax payer money to look into agreements that have been signed by lawyers. Owens is wondering if there is someone not willing to move forward how can that happen. Kirk said sometimes responses come out sideways and is not making excuses and agrees there has to be a mutual understanding and feels there are some expenses that are wrong. Kirk has been to several meetings and there is an increasing amount of frustration on all sides. J. Hibke and Trenhaile spoke up that a meeting needs to be held so everyone can move forward with this. J. Hibke also stated that the city employee should not have been spoken to the way she was. Owens understands there is a history here and years of service should be something that should be appreciated and acknowledged, but it doesn't trump the treatment of human beings. Owens is trying to initiate progress and does not want to come to rebuttal every time. J. Hibke spoke that no one should be treated the way she was and Nelson should apologize. J. Hibke knows the cleaning person has left notes on Nelson's door for supplies. Owens stated what happened with the city employee could be a law suit and cannot discuss it more than that. Kirk, Lower, Aldrin and Owens all agreed to meet on May 22, 2025 at 10:00 am at the City Hall regarding the Service-In-Kind.

- **New Truck:** C. Hibke and others with Custom Fire and the process for the new truck has been started.

New Business:

- **CPR/AED Training:** No update at this time. Sturgeon Lake Lions are first on the list for training.

Township Information:

- **Windemere Township** – No report.
- **Silver Township** – No report.

Department Report:

- **Chief** – J. Hibke reported it has been a busy couple of months and there is a list of fire fighters to go help with the fires up north if needed.
- **Assistant Chief** – C. Hibke – no report.
- **Captain** - Chambers reported they are going to use the burn box for training this month and there are more trainings scheduled for June.
- **Second Lieutenant** – Trenhaile reported there were some tough calls this past month and first responders have been busy. Kirk wants Trenhaile to make sure the responders who have been involved in traumatic calls are followed up and checked on to support their well-being.
- **First Lieutenant** – J. Hibke reported for Hattenberger that all the gear has been received and handed out and hangers for the new gear has been ordered.
- **Secretary** – Michalski read run report.
- **Relief Association** – No report.

Open: Lower had questions about the Manor fire. Trenhaile reported the water in the manor had been running for 14 minutes. Sprinklers could not be turned off until they knew the fire was out.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **Board Meeting,** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

A motion was made by Kirk and seconded by Lower to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Board Chair
Steve Aldrin

Clerk
Guyal Nelson