

# Cumberland Fire District Transitional Committee Meeting

Minutes

May19, 2014

7:00pm

Hayden Library

The commissioners for the Cumberland Fire District Transitional Committee in attendance – Michael Spaziani NCFD, James Leonard CFD, Ron Champagne CHFD, James Scullin VFFD, Gerard Dion VFFD, Arthur Cowell CHFD, and John McCoy NCFD. Absent Dana Jones CFD,

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm.

Motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting was made by Jim Leonard and seconded by Jim Scullin. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial/Legal – John McCoy received the last comments on the by-laws tonight and will work on incorporating the suggestions and have a clean copy ready for the next meeting.

Media – Nothing to Report

Buildings – Arthur Cowell is still trying to get in touch with National Grid for a walk through.

Labor – Mike Spaziani reported he is still waiting for one more district, once received he will look at getting together with the unions to begin the process for drafting a consolidated contract.

Insurance- Ron Champagne reported that VFIS won't quote until 90 days out possibly July or August.

Patch Committee – Chief Finlay reported the committee hopes to present some options in June.

Source of Revenue – Nothing to Report

Old Business

Individual Districts Liabilities – Discussion of the liabilities of each district was conducted.

Focus Groups- Chief Jackvony reported that 385 Cumberland residents answered the survey. He has more to compile.

One of the issues is having a consolidation plan that can be worked on now should be drawn up. Issues need to be identified and broken down into areas by function, urban search and rescue, MOU, MOA, RIMA, USAR etc. Once identified things should be looked at in depth. John McCoy suggested a master list of agreements from each district be made and overlap can be identified. Other issues that should be addressed are email databases and website.

Tax Collector Treasurer – Diane Karolyshian noted that the bill in the general assembly seems to call for one tax collector and possibly one assistant. This would not be enough considering the number of tax bills, tax sales, late collections, and the possibility of quarterly payments. John McCoy commented that it might be a tax collector and 2 clerks and a part time assistant. Ron Champagne noted that the water department has 2 full time employees and they only cover ¾ of the town. Jim Leonard questioned how many tax collectors there were. He noted that Diane and Joy Sullivan have contracts through June 2015.

Inventory – Mike Spaziani suggested an inventory of all assets be compiled including fire equipment, desk, chairs, etc.

Tax Collections – Mike Spaziani questioned the outstanding amounts by year for each district.

Funding staff positions 2014-2015 - John McCoy stated that staff positions would be needed once but no budget was yet established. He wanted all districts to be aware of this.

New Business

Payroll – Chief Finlay supplied a document with the three current companies and their costs. Mike Spaziani questioned if a change to one company could be done at any time? Chief Finlay noted there were contracts for some and termination fees would be incurred. Chief Finlay noted that a change 1/1/15 would make tax reporting easier.

Treasurer – Bob Murray supplied a list of points the treasurers were concerned with.

Public Comment – Chief Cimino is still working on the history of the districts project and would like some people identified to help.

Art Lambi asked if the tax rate for the new district was established. Discussion followed on when that would be available. He also stated that land and equipment could be sold for cash. He would like to know what each district was contributing to the new consolidated district and noted that some districts have excessive liabilities.

Next Meeting – June 30, 2014 7pm Meeting adjourned 8:03.