

STETTLER REGIONAL FIRE ADVISORY MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2017
12 pm @ The Stettler Regional Fire Station

Present: Dick Richards – Mayor Town of Stettler
Greg Switenky – CAO Town of Stettler
Sean Nolls – Chair - Councillor Town of Stettler
Malcolm Fischer – Councillor Town of Stettler
Mark Dennis - Regional Fire Chief
Etienne Brugman - Regional Deputy Fire Chief
Tim Fox – CAO County of Stettler
Greg Jackson – Councillor County of Stettler
Ernie Gendre – Vice Chair – Councillor County of Stettler
Blaine Brinson – Councillor Summer Village of Rochon Sands
Lorne Thurston – Mayor Summer Village of White Sands
Sandra Schell – Councillor Village of Big Valley
Bruce Gartside – Councillor of Village of Donaldda
Carla Tuck – CAO Village of Gadsby
Veronica Salmon - Recording Secretary

Call to Order: Chairperson S. Nolls called the meeting to order at 12:10

1. **Additions**

8a. Summer Village of White Sands

2. **Agenda Approval**

Moved by D. Richards the Agenda be approved as presented
MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

3. **Confirmation of the May 26, 2017 Stettler Regional Fire Advisory Minutes**

Correction: Sean Nolls is Chairperson Not Vice Chair
Councillor Greg Jackson is no longer Vice Chair

Moved by B. Gartside the May 26th, 2017 Stettler Regional Fire Advisory Meeting Minutes be approved with corrections.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

M. Dennis requested up-to-date maps from the villages who have them.

Blaine Brinson will have the J. Olson email the SVRS Map Mark.

6. Fire Agreement Statements – May and June 2017

Moved by S. Schell that the May and June 2017 Fire Agreement Statements be accepted for information

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

7. Regional Fire Chief Report

a) Recruitment and Retention – Update on all Fire Stations

The Recruitment drive has started again. Six individuals have already expressed interest in joining the Stettler Station.

Donalda Station:

M. Dennis advised the group that Reeve Nixon and himself got a commitment of 6 to 8 men for the Donalda Fire Station when they met with the Seniors of the Donalda Hutterite Colony. Also, three area individuals have expressed interest in joining the Donalda Station. M. Dennis hopes to start training in October so the fire fighters could respond to basic calls in January 2018.

Level 1 training to start Feb 1st, 2018

Retention:

Stettler has 29 members including Mark & Etienne

Big Valley has 12 members

Byemoor has 16 members, but they are all new members.

The Fire Department will still welcome any Colonies help when ever offered but would like to do basic training with the colonies so they understand the command structure before attending fires.

b) Fire Department radio communication update

Communications Group has the contract for 911 with Red Deer and have done their annual inspection on the repeater site.

Blackfalds, Stettler and Loden Lake which has a new owner SPA the rate has gone up to \$486.00 per month

There are towers in Stettler, Village of Big Valley, SVRS, Donalda and Byemoor

The Fire Department purchased the Telus Tower for \$2,400.00 which is located on Town property. Some repairs need to be done, guide wires need to be tensioned and light bulbs need to be replaced.

An Engineer will need to be hired to insure the loading of the tower is correct before adding or removing equipment from the tower.

c) Training

M. Dennis reported there will be Area Zero up stream industry training exercises held in Stettler Wednesday September 27th provided by Western Canadian spill Industries where 80 members from Area 0 be participating, which includes 11 members from the Stettler Regional Fire Department.

Class room training and set up at SRC will take place in the morning, after lunch they will set up with clean equipment, booms etc. at West Stettler Park.

NFPA – 472 Dangerous good Training will be held in October

A School Bus has been donated for Vehicle Excavation Training

The new recruitment training takes 3 months, the training sessions are held on Mondays, Wednesdays evenings and Saturdays.

We will be training to NFPA 1001 level 1 Firefighter Professional Qualification

There is a lot to learn and testing is in-depth. JPR'S – Job performance requirements are driven by OHS – Code of practice

Being able to train locally, has a significant pay off for the community, the Department and the training budget

Live fire training portion will be done in Red Deer at the City of Red Deer Fire training tower.

NFPA 472 Dangerous Goods recognized throughout Canada and training will be done in October

Deputy Fire Chief E. Brugman has moved his office to the Fire Hall, and is working on the phone system to have the ability of the Fire Halls calls being answered at the Town office and transferred to him at the Fire Hall.

Moved by Blaine Brinson the Regional Fire Chief Report be accepted for information.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

7. Regional Response Incident Summary – May 26th to Aug 6th 2017

M. Dennis reported:

This summer was extremely busy with calls, the attached summary does not capture all of it. There were 40 calls in August, 30 wild fires and 10 car accidents.

On an hours' notice four members from the local Fire Department answered a call from Special Areas #2 to assist fighting a large grass fire near Buffalo, Bindloss and Empress, their local Fire Department requested mutual aid from Fire Departments in the surrounding regions due to the extent of the fire, which involved evacuation of several residents.

Stettler Regional Fire Department is in a slightly better position to provide mutual aid in the future. We are slowly building up our roster of NFPA level 1001 qualified fire fighters that function without direct supervision.

The reason for all the false alarms, are residents are not fixing their alarms, and the new alarm companies installing systems are not educating the people, that when the smoke detector goes off the alarm company puts a call out to 911 so just silencing the alarm will not cancel the 911 call. The home occupant must call the 1-800 number on the panel to cancel the 911 call. Something will be put on face book and in the Town's newsletter to make people aware of this fact.

Moved by Bruce Gartside the May 26th to Aug 6th 2017 Regional Response Incident Summary be accepted for information.

MOTION CARRIED

Unanimous

8. Additions

a. Summer Village of White Sands lot signage

L. Thurston showed samples of the signs the Village will be installing at the entrance of every lot, some will go on posts and some on garages. The signs will have White Sands printed on them.

Dick Richards expressed concerns of the signs being placed on the garages, his thoughts are all signs should have the same placement on each lot in the Village.

The 8 Beach access points will have signage up top entrance and one on the beach.

The Signs and Posts each cost \$15.00 and installation will be \$20,000.00

b. The survey company will help apply for upcoming grant money.

9. Next Meeting

December 8th 12 noon @ the Stettler Regional Fire Hall

Bruce Gartside thanked Mayor Richards for his dedicated service

Mark Dennis also thanked Mayor Richards for his dedicated service and his support for the Fire Department allowing them the ability to acquire the necessary equipment, training and personnel required to obtain the competent, well equipped department it is today.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Dick Richards that this meeting be adjourned @ 1:20 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous