

Brodhead Fire Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2025
5: 00 P.M.
Brodhead Fire Station

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM

2. Roll Call to determine if a quorum is present.

Present - S. Hazeltine, P. Faessler, N. Burkhalter, B. Moon, B. Gritzmaker, A. Schneider

3. Motion to deviate from the order of the agenda if necessary.

N. Burkhalter made a motion to approve the agenda as presented

Seconded by A. Schneider

Motion Passed

4. Public Appearances: This is the public's opportunity to speak.

Each citizen is allowed 10 minutes to address the Commission.

Mayor T. Simpson: "What is the future of the Brodhead Fire District?"

Mayor T. Simpson noted that Innovation Planning Grants are available for any Wisconsin municipality with a population of 5,000 or less. The awarded funds can only be used for staffing and consultant expenses related to planning the transfer of one or more eligible services from one municipality to another. Planning awards up to \$100,000. Mayor T. Simpson asked whether the Brodhead Fire District would like to pursue writing a grant. B. Gritzmaker expressed interest in having a special meeting to discuss this further. The grant application deadline is February 28, 2025.

S. Hazeltine mentioned that hiring a consultant wastes time and money if you don't follow their recommendations. Currently, S. Hazeltine believes that Orfordville Fire wouldn't be interested in this type of merger. Chief Scheidegger will contact Juda and Albany Fire Chiefs to invite them to the meeting if they express interest. T. Simpson will contact other surrounding municipalities to request their attendance.

5. Approval of previous meeting minutes. Discussion/Possible Action.

Motion to approve the Brodhead Fire Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes January 3, 2025 and the Brodhead Fire Commission and Brodhead Area EMS Meeting Minutes January 4, 2025 as presented.

A motion made by A. Schneider

Seconded by N. Burkhalter

Motion Passed

6. Treasurer's Report- Discussion/Possible Action:

Operating Checking Account Balance: **\$300,700.94**

Executive Money Market Operating Money Market: **\$40,267.60**

Capital Money Market Capital Fund Balance: **\$482,011.04**

Total Accounts Balance: **\$822,979.58**

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report made by B. Gritzmaker

Seconded by A. Schneider

Motion passed

7. Payments of Bills- Discussion/Possible Action:

Payment of bills after January 3, 2025 Meeting:

AT&T First Net \$42.99, Brodhead Water & Light (EOY 2024) \$103.22,
Brodhead Water & Light \$412.58, Capital One \$363.49, Coast to Coast \$146.03,
Decatur Dairy \$70.34, EcoWater \$23.00, Fire Inspection Services \$2,604.00,
1st Center Floral \$139.98, Green Co. Fire Officers \$110.00, Lifequest Service (Dec 2024) \$312.20,
MacQueen \$374.95, NFPA \$225.00, Penflex \$1,000.00, Piggly Wiggly \$11.49,
Reffue, Pas, Jacobson (2024) \$2,800.00, Rennerts \$2,840.09, Sewer-City of Brodhead \$236.46
Spectrum \$187.68, Spring Grove Township \$530.40, Speich (Dec. 2024) \$170.46
Streamline \$200.00, SWANI-New Member \$60.00, SWANI \$2,340.00, WE Energies \$431.04
Wis. Fire Service Admin \$75.00

Income Received after January 3, 2025 Meeting:

Fire Recovery (Dec. 2024) \$1,100.60, Brodhead Firefighters Inc. \$298.71,
Town of Magnolia \$5,432.16, Town of Avon \$11,641.32, Town of Decatur \$53,735.93
Town of Spring Grove \$22,948.65, Town of Spring Valley \$7,730.56, City of Brodhead \$87,373.12
Al Timm-SWANI \$60.00, Ronald Withee-SWANI \$60.00, Stan Everson-SWANI \$60.00,
Interest \$10.17

Motion to approve the Payment of Bills made by N. Burkhalter

Seconded by B. Moon

Motion Carried

8. Reports of department activities:

A. Firefighters Inc.:

1. Dress Uniforms/Funeral Honor Guard - Discussion/Possible Action:

Chief Scheidegger mentioned that Firefighters Inc. is willing to pay half for funeral honor guard dress uniforms, not to exceed 6k.

There are roughly 12 firefighters and officers that would be fitted.

After discussion, N. Burkhalter made the motion to use money from the capital fund to purchase funeral honor guard dress uniforms not to exceed 6k.

Seconded by P. Faessler

Motion Passed

Donations to purchase Chief Scheidegger's dress uniform from S. Hazeltine,
A. Schneider and P. Faessler.

Admin Assistant Osborne will contact Uniform Den and set up a time for fittings.

B. Fire Inspector:

Chief Scheidegger mentioned he is working on the fire inspections referred to him by Fire Inspection Services.

Chief Scheidegger is concerned with the Good Olde Stuff business. There's not enough room to walk through this business. Need to have a 3-foot walkway. He has been written up by the Fire Inspector numerous times.

Harvest Moon and Sugar River lofts also have several outstanding violations. Chief

Scheidegger has tried to get hold of the owner with no luck. Chief Scheidegger asked if The City of Brodhead Public Safety Committee could check into this. N. Burkhalter is the Public Safety Committee chair and will bring it to their attention at the next meeting.

Administrative Assistant Reports:

January 2025

Fire Response 2, Cancel 3, MABAS 2, Lift Assist 6, MVA 2, Assist BAEMS 5, Assist GCEMS 2, 1st Response 4 **Total 26 Calls**

C. Life Quest/Fire Recovery:

January 2025

Claims Submitted: 0 for \$0

Payments received for 2 claims by FRUSA: \$795.00

Claims Denied: 0

Non-Billable(Other): 0

In Progress: 0

D. Fire Chief:

Chief Scheidegger handed over to Lt. Pinnow to talk about upcoming Firefighter 1 classes in the high school. D. Pinnow mentioned that BTC plans to start a Fire Academy for high school students at the BTC Campus in Monroe this fall. The class will be from 8 to 10 a.m. Looking at a class size of roughly 16. Currently, the issues being looked at are agreements for payment and how to use 2% dues is it coming from the fire departments or BTC? How will students be able to leave school? Will BFD have to co-op with the high school, or will BTC work out an agreement with the high school?

S. Hazeltine feels that BFD should pay out of the training budget for high school students interested in pursuing classes this fall. At least till the payment of classes is figured out between the state, BTC, and high school.

Chief Scheidegger inquired about acquiring a smaller utility vehicle for medical supplies and extrication tools. In the Brodhead Fire District, several driveways cannot be navigated by BFD with Squad 4 in an emergency. A smaller utility vehicle could respond to a call more swiftly than waiting for the Squad 4 crew. Chief Scheidegger showed the commissioners a picture of the type of vehicle he was considering. It would be a used vehicle.

Chief Scheidegger inquired about long-sleeve shirts and pants for uniforms. He felt that the remaining firefighters who were not part of the honor guard or officers would look more professional in newer uniforms, while the honor guard and officers would be in Class A attire.

Ben Gritzmaker motioned to update the uniforms to include long-sleeve shirts and dress pants, which would be included but would not exceed the previous amount of 6k for Class A uniforms.

Seconded by N. Burkhalter

Motion Passed

9. Old Business:

A. 2% Money from Decatur and Magnolia: Discussion/Possible Action

After a discussion was had about the 2% money from Decatur and Magnolia, the commissioners decided not to pursue collecting 2% from the entities.

Determining the exact amount each entity owed was impossible, as the State of Wisconsin lacked a method for calculating these amounts.

10. New Business :

A. Breathing Air Compressor: Discussion/Possible Action

Chief Scheidegger talked about three quotes for a new breathing air compressor.

1. MacQueen (Arctic) is Made in Superior, WI. The standard warranty is 2 years, with the option to buy a longer warranty. The Arctic Compressor has high and low-pressure fill capabilities, a fresh air hook-up that keeps the filter cleaner, and a delivery time of 2- 4 weeks. The cities of Madison, Green Bay, Janesville, and Potosi use the Arctic compressor, which was also the choice of the Brodhead Fire Officers. Price \$57,467.00 additional warranty \$4,432.00
2. Air One Equipment (Mako) is Made in Pensacola, Florida. Similar warranty options are available, and delivery would take 10 weeks. This quote used the old bottles from our current Bauer compressor unit. The price is \$51,340.
3. Jefferson Fire & Safety (Bauer) is based in Norfolk, Virginia. Brodhead Fire currently uses Bauer's breathing air compressor. Jefferson Fire & Safety offers a flat rate for Bauer units. Only Bauer technicians are authorized to work on these units. The price was \$64,855.00, which did not include the cost of freight or set-up.

After discussing the quotes provided by Chief Scheidegger, a motion was made.

N. Burkhalter motioned to purchase the MacQueen (Arctic) breathing air compressor using money from the capital fund.

Seconded by B. Gritzmaker

Motion Carried

11. Commission Comments or Questions:

Commission's opportunity to speak about anything, not a specific agenda item.

More discussion on the Innovation Grant moving forward. Need to find out if any municipalities are interested in consolidation. Set up a **Special Meeting on February 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM**

12. Discussion/Possible Action on future agenda items and next meeting date and time:

Next meeting: Special Meeting-Innovation Grant February 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Brodhead Fire Commission Monthly Meeting March 7, 2025, at 5:00 PM

13. Motion to adjourn.

N. Burkhalter made the motion to adjourn at 6:20 PM

Meeting adjourned

Minutes typed by Admin Assistant H. Osborne