

**Brodhead Fire Commission**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 2023**  
**Brodhead Fire Station**  
**5:00 P.M**

**1. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM

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

Present- S. Hazeltine, A. Schneider, P. Faessler, T. Simpson, P. Naramore, C. Jones

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

Motion made by A. Schneider to approve agenda as presented.

Seconded by P. Naramore

Motion Passed

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

**Each citizen is allowed 10 minutes to address the Commission.**

**Citizen Richard Pinnow**-In the future, he feels there needs to be strong language to be a deterrent when it comes to dissolution. A single municipality that wants to leave at any time can leave but leaves with nothing.

**Alice Franks-Gray** introduced herself to commission. Alice would like to volunteer as Brodhead Fire District PIO and will help with various tasks. Alice read the consultant proposal and she didn't feel we needed a consultant at this time as we have a large majority of what was needed already completed for a Fire & EMS merger. The proposal she felt was geared towards full-time departments. Alice will bring to district thoughts on SOGs. Alice has ideas for articles for newspapers and social media to get fire dept out for public awareness.

Alice enjoys volunteering and helping out both services maybe down the road would like to possibly get a stipend

C. Jones and T. Simpson both agreed public safety is #1 priority.

ADD TO AGENDA SPOT FOR PIO INFORMATION

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

Motion to approve the Brodhead Fire Commission Meeting Minutes from March 7, 2023

Motion made by C. Jones

Seconded by P. Naramore

Motion Passed

**6. Reports of departments activities:**

**a. Firefighters Inc.: Nothing at this time**

**b. Fire Inspector: Nothing at this time**

**c. Fire Chief:**

**2nd Assistant Chief Pinnow reported from Officer Mtg:**

\*Talked about Alice and what job functions she could help with. Forwarded info on grants for New Glarus Brewery.

\*The Rural Board met with the City to approve the 3 amendments to the agreement:

1. Treasure to sit ex-officio member of commission with no voting rights.
2. Change the Commission Officer election meeting date
3. Change date on when budget needed to be proposed.

\*Next meeting changing dissolution terms-deterrent to getting out of district

\*The Commission will again ask about merging with Brodhead 850

EMS only interested if there is strong language against dissolution

\*Donation from Spring Grove Insurance

\*Bylaw committee wants to give Paid on Schedule a chance to work before dropping it for increasing pay.

\*Officers discussed a comment Alice had made recruiting members by making firefighters heroes rather than increasing pay. When was the last time Fire and EMS were highlighted as heroes? We only hear negative about how high our budget request is. We are the ones to get out of bed in the middle of the night but all we get is grief. How do we get back into the public's eye?

Should we target recruiting women? The #1 Priority of most women isn't themselves.

\*Gathering information from other Chief's about combination departments and effect on volunteers.

\*Engine 6 replacement will be here end of April/first of May

\*2nd Assistant Chief Pinnow possibly stepping down in May

\*100th Birthday for REO at Kelch Museum in May

\*Dollar General-Code violations need to be fined

\*Chief would like to have 2 new lieutenants by the end of April with 1 in training

\*Chief would like to move District meetings to daytime so he can make meetings if this is possible.

**d. Life Quest: Nothing at this time**

## **7. New Business**

### **a. Brodhead Fire District Dissolution Discussion/Possible Action:**

C. Jones questioned if there was a second action needed to be done to complete the rescinding of the dissolution? He thought the attorney stated the rural association would need to accept the letter from the City of Brodhead to be complete. S. Hazeltine will check with an attorney.

### **b. Possible hiring of a consultant for efficiency study of operation of the Brodhead Fire District. Discussion/Possible Action:**

C. Jones made a motion to table the hiring of a consultant for the efficiency study of operation of the Brodhead Fire District.

Seconded by P. Naramore.

Motion passes

C. Jones would like to see what Alice can accomplish first.

**c. Bylaw Committee-Discussion/Possible Action:**

Bylaw committee would like to see the paid on shift implemented before looking at an increase in pay.

**d. Treasurer's Report-Discussion/Possible Action:**

Operating Account Balance: \$454,560.70

Money Market Capital Account Balance: \$62,071.14

Total Accounts Balance: \$516,631.84

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by C. Jones

Seconded by P. Naramore

Motion passed

Discussion on paying for 2006 used engine-

2nd Assistant Chief Pinnow-Why borrow the money when we have the cash?

C. Jones may want to check if we have an introductory rate on the financing we secured

S. Hazeltine instead of taking the full amount of the loan use the money in the money market to reduce loan amount. Also, with the excess money from line items due to the merger not going through, BFD would be able to pay for the engine in full. S. Hazeltine suggests we pay for the engine instead of taking a line of credit.

C. Jones suggested we take the line of credit since we will be taking possession of the engine at the end of April. Put it on next month's agenda and you will be able to make a motion and proper action to pay it.

Will be on next month's agenda to move money and pay for the engine.

**e. Payments of Bills-Discussion/Possible Action:**

**April Bills paid at April 4, 2023 Meeting:**

AT&T Mobility \$42.99, Bedward, Rick \$280.00, Brodhead Water & Light \$388.17,

Capital One \$15.05, Charter \$185.90, Decatur Dairy \$62.58, Dinges Fire Co. \$1,557.23,

Ecowater \$23.00, Gasser \$224.85, Griffin, Tiffany \$192.00, JJ Keller \$58.49,

Macqueen Equip \$559.60, Middlesex \$3,492.00, Nolte's Garage \$2,167.12

Sewer-City of Brodhead \$256.83, Southern Wis. Septic \$250.00, WE Energies \$579.35

Motion to approve Payment of Bills by C. Jones

Seconded by A. Schneider

Motion passed

**8. Commission Comments or Questions:**

**This is the Commissions opportunity to speak about anything that is not a specific agenda item.**

T. Simpson would like to get back to hiring a Fire Chief

C. Jones is hopeful that everyone knows that the City of Brodhead is on board with moving forward in support of the Fire District.

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

Next Meeting: **Friday, May 5, 2023 at 10:00 AM Brodhead Fire Station**

**10. Motion to adjourn.**

Motion to adjourn at 5:58 PM by C. Jones

Seconded by P. Naramore

Meeting adjourned

**Heather Osborne**

**Brodhead Fire District Admin. Asst.**