

**Cloquet Area Fire Committee
City Hall
September 24, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Regular Meeting.
Roll Call.

Members Present: Ahlgren, Nemmers, Yetka, Fritsinger, Langenbrunner, Harms, Olson, DeLovely, Demenge, Kolodge and Marciniak.

The Committee began by discussing the need to meet and re-group on the next steps. With the signing of the JPA, everyone was in agreement it was a good time to make sure that everyone was on the same page.

The group agreed that the first step in moving forward was to find the 5th member of the new JPA Board. The group agreed that a notice should be placed in the paper seeking interested individuals to serve in this capacity. After the ad is out, the new Board will interview for the empty at-large seat.

The group then discussed insurance for the new entity. Mr. Fritsinger was asked to contact Steve Micke to discuss options available. Mr. Micke should also provide him with a copy of the JPA for his review. Insurance would include liability, workers compensation, E&O, etc.

The group also agreed that Cloquet will serve as the fiscal agent. Mr. Fritsinger was asked to work with the City Finance Director and begin the creation of separate accounts and to estimate the cost to the City to provide fiscal agent services as well as legal services through Mr. Yetka.

Personnel

For the time being, employees of Perch Lake and Cloquet will remain with their respective communities.

Board

Needs to find 5th member. Set up the process for hiring the Fire Chief.

Lots of discussion on personnel. January 1, 2009 the Board will be in position to have one Chief. Perch Lake becomes part of District; EMS license change will take effect; etc.

There was a question as to when the union comes over, where are their health insurance benefits to come from?

Brian and Jim were asked to send a letter to all entities that currently have mutual aid or transport agreements with Cloquet or Perch Lake. The letter should notify all of the change and the need to renegotiate all agreements. Jim will try to find all of these agreements for the next meeting. Letters should come individually from each community.

Discussion took place on whether or not to call ESCI to come and help the initial process. Maybe send them a letter to update them on where we're at and see if they have any suggestions or guidance? The Board directed Brian, Jim, and Steve to hold a conference call with ESCI first to discuss the status.

The Board would like to try and hold an all staff meeting in December.

It was agreed that interviews for the at-large position on the Board would be held on October 15. The Board will meet at 8:00 a.m. with the interviews scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m. The goal is to appoint someone on the 15th.

Brian was asked to call Lisa at the Pine Journal about a story.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 2008.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.