

# CLOQUET AREA FIRE DISTRICT BOARD (CAFD)

## MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday, February 11, 2010**

**Perch Lake Fire Station, 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Members present: Langenbrunner, DeMenge, Harms, Nemmers, Ahlgren, and DeCaigny  
Members absent: None  
Others: Fritsinger (Cloquet City Administrator), Anderson (Recorder),

2. Approval of February 11, 2010 Meeting Agenda

**MOTION (Ahlgren/Nemmers): To approve the February 11, 2010 meeting agenda. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

3. Approval of January 13, 2010 Meeting Minutes

**MOTION (DeMenge/Ahlgren): To approve the January 13, 2010 meeting minutes. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

4. Presentation/Visitors

Visitors: Lora Eames, Perch Lake Clerk; Kevin Schroeder, CAFD; Gordy Meagher, CAFD; Dave DeLovely, CAFD.

5. Old Business

a) New Member Communities Update:

Chief Langenbrunner states letters have been received from the City of Carlton and Thomson Township, as well as e-mail correspondence from the Scanlon Chief. Carlton does not want to join the CAFD at this time but, wants to keep options open for future discussions. Thomson Township is reluctant to continue the process at this time but, would like more information/insights concerning the CAFD and is requesting a CAFD representative attend their Board meeting. Scanlon is ready to continue the discussion regarding the next steps. Chief Langenbrunner will contact Thomson Township and Scanlon to schedule dates for discussions. DeCaigny states that when we meet with communities we need to be forthright in our intent to work within our power with the EMSRB and State Legislators to shift the financial burden from the citizens of Perch Lake and Cloquet for EMS and ALS. Mayor Ahlgren states communities like ours need

support on the state level for implementation of fire districts. Fritsinger adds that a meeting was held with FDL and that nothing has changed at this time. Lora Eames asks that if a community does not join the district, won't a mutual aid agreement need to be in place to pay for this service in some way? The strategy team will schedule dates and brainstorm amongst themselves. Lobbying with Legislators is planned as it will be helpful in moving our agenda forward.

b) IAFF Labor Contract Update

Chief Langenbrunner states a meeting has been scheduled for February 18, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

c) Relief Association By-Law Amendments

Langenbrunner, DeCaigny, and DeMenge have attended two Relief Association meetings. Amended by-laws have been drafted and filed with the state with name change. Langenbrunner will request a signed copy of by-laws.

6. New Business

a) Treasurer's Report

1) Approval of Payment of Bills

Langenbrunner reviews payment of bills. Price of remounting of box onto Ford Chassis came in at \$78,918 and the budgeted amount was \$135,000-\$160,000.

**MOTION (Ahlgren/Harms): To approve the payment of invoices due on or before February 11, 2010. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

2) Monthly Financial Report and 2009 Unaudited Year End Financials

Brian Fritsinger reviews balance sheet and budget. Overall 2.1 million was budgeted for Station One and 2.1 million was spent. Station 2 \$49,000 was budgeted and expenditures were \$46,000. Nancy will be invited to the next board meeting to clarify financials.

**MOTION (Ahlgren/DeMenge): To approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

b) 2010 Fee Schedule

Chief Langenbrunner reviews schedule. Recommends fee schedule remain as presented and states it is very similar to the 2009 schedule.

**MOTION (Nemmers/Harms): To approve the 2010 fee schedule. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

c) 2010 Ambulance Rate Increase

Langenbrunner points out the revenue percentage collected in 2002 was 74%. The percentage collected in 2009 was 55%. Arrowhead EMS states that a 49-53% collection rate is very good and we are at 55%. Langenbrunner recommends 1% above consumer price index with recommendation of a 2.8% increase.

**MOTION (DeMenge/Nemmers): To approve an ambulance rate increase of 2.8%. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

d) Paid On Call Wage Plan

Chief Langenbrunner recommends that compensation package be approved for all new hires and hires after January 1, 2010.

**MOTION (Nemmers/Harms): To approve the POC Compensation Package as presented. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

e) Personnel Policy Amendment

Chief Langenbrunner recommends clarifying language regarding performance evaluations.

**MOTION (Ahlgren/DeMenge): To approve the clarifying language in the Personnel Policy. Motion unanimously carried and passed.**

f) Andover Tanker Truck

We did not bid because of minimum bid of \$35,000. A bid of \$10,000 bid was previously approved. Chief Langenbrunner will submit a bid of \$10,000.00.

g) Arrowhead EMS Meeting Update

On January 27, 2010 DeCaigny, Fritsinger, and Langenbrunner attended a meeting at the Arrowhead EMS System which was organized by Executive Director Pat Lee. Also in attendance were Buck McAlpin, OJ Doyle and representatives from Virginia, Hibbing and International Falls. Issues regarding EMS were discussed with most of the time spent discussing governing bodies which choose to not pay their share. Various options to resolve this were discussed. A request was made for assistance from Senator Lourey. Mayor Ahlgren will talk to Jerry Janeczek regarding acting as a lobbyist on our behalf.

h) Retirement of "Nick" Accelerant Detection Canine

Gordy Meagher announces official retirement of Nick. Meagher states our community's rate of arson fires has decreased over the years and conviction rates have increased. Meagher states this program has worked very well and that Nick

has been an asset to the department. He thanks the City of Cloquet, City Council Members, City Administrator Fritsinger, CAFD Board, and Crow-Gable Veterinary Clinic. Nick will continue to live with the Meagher family with full financial responsibility being supplied by them. He suggests the arson dog program continue and supplied additional information for board review.

7. Other/Next Agenda

A. Future Agenda Items

Chief Langenbrunner will send out three potential dates via e-mail to schedule an informational/exchange meeting for District Employees/POC/Management Team/Staff.

B. Confirm Next Meeting Date

March 10, 2010 (Wed)	3 pm	Station 1 Training Center
April 8, 2010 (Thurs)	6 pm	Station 2 Perch Lake Town Hall
May 12, 2010 (Wed)	3 pm	Station 1 Training Center
June 10, 2010 (Thurs)	6 pm	Station 2 Perch Lake Town Hall
July 14, 2010 (Wed)	3 pm	Station 1 Training Center
August 12, 2010 (Thurs)	6 pm	Station 2 Perch Lake Town Hall

C. Action Items List Review

See attached list.

8. Adjourn

**MOTION (Ahlgren/Nemmers): To adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.**