

*Draft Copy-Not Approved*

Date: 5/31/23

Present: Chairman Sean McHale; Commissioners, Bill Blunden and Norman Barkley; Fire Chief Brian Draper;  
Secretary/Treasurer Jessica Putney

Absent: Commissioners Tyler Clemons and Michael Clouch

1. Meeting Opened: Chairman Sean McHale opened the meeting at 6:00PM.
2. Guest Speaker: N/A
3. Public Forum: N/A
4. Approve Minutes: Motion made by Bill Blunden, seconded by Norman Barkley to approve the April meeting minutes as written. No opposed, motion carried.
5. Correspondence: 2023 property tax assessment – increase in assessed value \$50,000.00
6. Old Business:
  - A. Ladder Truck Update – see Head Fire Driver Report
7. New Business: N/A
  - A. N/A
8. Finances: (See Financial Approvals)
  - A. Adjustments – N/A
  - B. Treasurer’s Report- Beginning balance was \$734,958.61 plus \$51.08 interest. Total expenditures for the month including bills and payroll were \$35,137.30 leaving a spendable balance of \$699,872.39. *Reserve Fund Balances:* #1-Turnout Gear \$13,782.33; #2-Pumper \$10,957.76; #3-Repair \$21,855.45; #4-Aerial \$81,052.60; #5-SCBA \$60,154.83.
9. Chief/Head Fire Driver Report: (See Approvals)

Hose testing was completed on May 6, 2023 (see attached documentation). Ladder testing was performed with only two repairs required- water monitor and calibration of the load minder. The ladder worked fine until a few days after the fire at Agway. It needs a new swivel (part under the turntable). Still need more information on repairs and costs. Mutual aid departments were able to help with the fire at Agway in Carthage. The Town of Wilna declined us to use their grade-all, explaining that they don’t assist at structure fires. The department had to use 10 pails of foam during the fire. First responder calls have been frequent and serious. Mostly psychiatric. Cole Pacella got the zero turn stuck on the trail... and then the tractor... Crushed stone has been ordered to make a path to prevent this from happening again. Matthew Draper allows us to use his tractor. Saturday is our summer picnic. The Department is looking for approval for alcohol on the premises. There will be a bottle and can drive for Amy Crandall, a Jefferson County Employee whom passed tragically from cancer. The fire siren

was shut off on April 27<sup>th</sup> to do a 30 day test to see if the absence has any effect on call responses. There were a lot of comments on Facebook from the community. Some comments included-“ The sirens are needed to alert the public of weather hazards.” (They’re not used for that) “Alerts people that fire trucks are coming.” (All vehicles are equipped with lights and sirens) “Concerns that the reason the siren was off was because it was broken.” (Not true). Brian Draper spoke with Kelly at Town of Wilna Housing to do a poll of which 22 voted to remove it and 22 voted to keep it. A poll was also conducted at Brady Acres of which 6 voted to remove it and 13 voted to keep it. After the 30 day trial we will turn it back on.

10. Executive Session: N/A

11. Adjourn: Motion made by Norman Barkley, seconded by Bill Blunden, to adjourn at 6:36PM. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVALS/MOTIONS:

- Motion made by Norman Barkley, seconded by Bill Blunden, to allow the possession and consumption of alcohol on the premises for the Summer Picnic. No opposed, motion carried.

FINANCIAL APPROVALS:

- Motion made by Bill Blunden, seconded by Norman Barkley, to approve the monthly bills, payroll, and line item adjustments as documented and reported by the treasurer and reviewed by the Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Excellus health insurance \$5,392.90 monthly

Guardian Dental Insurance \$169.19 monthly

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Jessica Putney, Secretary/Treasurer

Carthage-Wilna Fire District