

**Minutes**  
**Joint Powers Meeting**  
**Stacy Lent Fire Department**  
**30785 Forest Blvd., Stacy, MN 55079**  
**September 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

**LENT CALLS MEETING TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

R. Keller called meeting to order at 7:00 pm and pledge was recited.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA**

**T. Nelson made motion to approve the agenda. Second by B. Seekon. Motion Carried for Lent.**

**M. Utecht made motion to concur with Lent, Second by M. Ness. Motion carried for Stacy.**

**APPROVE THE JUNE 7, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

**B. Seekon made motion to approve minutes from June 7, 2021 meeting. T. Nelson seconded. Motion carried for Lent.**

**M. Ness made motion to concur with Lent. M. Utecht seconded. Motion carried for Stacy.**

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

T. Potrament reported on the following:

- 29 members currently
  - 1 in class
- 199 calls
  - 215 calls at this time last year
- 218 hours
- They are getting ready for the Bash

**RELIEF ASSOCIATION REPORT**

N. Peltier reported on the budget and said the funds are gaining money. The general fund is at \$42,000. The Relief Association is doing well.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Budget**

T. Potrament said the budget is good, no trouble areas. They replaced the front tires on Engine 1 because of a nail. They have been replacing parts on trucks more than in prior years. K. Williams has been working on the new system for records and is close to being finished.

**PERA SLFD Relief Association**

N. Peltier said that on May 6<sup>th</sup>, they were given option to switch to PERA or keep the retirement in-house. We would pay \$3,000 for this service along with a \$12,898 mandatory contribution. The \$20,000 donation was agreed upon for this year and will continue. If we go with PERA, we are locked in for 5 years. T. Nelson asked how we get an increase with PERA. N. Peltier said the Joint Powers will have to approve the increases, but it will be state suggested versus Joint Powers suggested. R. Keller stated he felt it is better for the SLFD to manage their own money and asked how they felt. N. Peltier has said members are team players and want to do what is best for everyone. B. Seekon asked how much we need to raise it before locking in. This was discussed. M. Utecht said if members is not leaning one way or another and someone is willing

to take it on, he supports keeping it in-house. If members lean towards PERA, and no one would like to take it on, he supports PERA. T. Potrament said they spend about \$10,000 managing the money annually. All that money would go into the fund. S. Bengston is willing to learn how to do it, but it will take time. R. Keller proposes keeping it in-house, as both Stacy and Lent are in agreement. They will have a vote prior to December Joint Powers meeting and decide for 2023. They would need a decision right away to change it for 2022. D. Freerks discussed the appeal of a higher bump in raises for members. The Joint Powers will still decide on the increases. 60% vested at 10 years, 100% after 20 years. With PERA, after 5 years fully vested. At 10 years, you get part of the money. Investments are no more secure through PERA. Once they join PERA, they are locked in. T. Potrament said they will let us know final decision at December Joint Powers for 2023. N. Peltier explained to S. Bengston the amount of work involved. Our financial advisor follows the state board's guidelines on our investments. There are three people who are paid for doing this which is a disadvantage of keeping it in-house. M. Utecht stated whatever the SLFD decides, both boards will support.

### **Fire Inspections**

T. Potrament and N. Dodge are both certified and willing to do the fire inspections. T. Potrament said that by having the SLFD do them, it allows them to go in and see the layouts of buildings, update pre-plans and see remodels.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **American Rescue Plan Act**

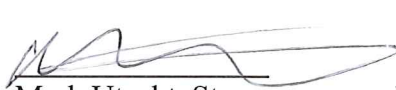
C. Cagle discussed this. Items covered include the well issues, plumbing, air quality/exchange, (one is leaking per SLFD). She will get an estimate from Kramer Mechanical. T. Nelson said that we may need a free quote to get started. They will work on it to see what else can get covered. M. Ness stated Stacy will be putting up money for radios.

### **ADJOURN**

**B. Seekon made motion to the adjourn the meeting at 7:47pm. C. Cagle seconded. Motion carried for Lent.**

**M. Utecht declared the meeting adjourned at 7:47pm for Stacy.**

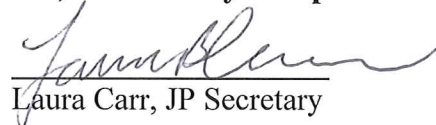
**The next Joint Powers meeting is Monday, December 6, 2021. Stacy will preside.**



Mark Utecht, Stacy



Richard Keller, Lent



Laura Carr, JP Secretary

#### **Firefighters Present**

TJ Potrament  
Scott Olson  
Shawn Bengston  
Kurt Williams  
Nick Peltier  
Chris Pate  
Dave Freerks

#### **Joint Powers Present**

Mark Utecht  
Tim Sawatzky  
Mark Ness  
Richard Keller  
Brian Seekon  
Jess Eischens  
Troy Nelson  
Carolyn Cagle

#### **Others Present**

Kelly Wood  
Laura Carr  
Dick Stiers

