

Dammeron Valley SSD Meeting minutes for January 18, 2024

Welcome by Mack Sorensen board Chair.

Role Call: Larry Carlon, Rick Johnson, Mack Sorensen, Ryan Andersen, Curt Shelley
Pledge of allegiance. Mack Sorensen

Motion to approve the agenda made by Ryan Andersen, seconded by Rick Johnson, motioned passed

Motion to approve last month's meeting minutes. Rick Johnson made motion, seconded by Larry Carlon, motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report by Curt Shelley. About \$200k comes from community dues and the rest from Grants, deployments and mou's

Chief's Report: We had 307 calls to end the year. Problems with staffing. We need to hire 6 fulltime people. Retention is still a challenge. We had to let some people go.

Backfilling staffing from the academy has been working but we can't rely on it totally.

Chief has had to cover two shifts in the last two weeks. Brush truck going to Salt Lake to be repaired. Department is working with Santa Clara to get the truck donated because of the money that we have had to put into it. The compressor requires a converter to get it to work as it is set up for a 3 phase power feed. We have someone that is going to get the converter and get it installed. It will cost around \$10,000.

Unified fire had the same problem and has gotten information on who did their conversion. We are relying on the wildland fire program for revenue again this year.

Pete is planning on coming back again this year. We can't just rely on the wildland program. We are also looking to do medical deployment this summer as well. We are also looking at REMS (rapid extraction module system) . The Chief explained the program and that the department is working on certification. We already have about half of the equipment that we need. We would be the first ones in Utah to have this program. We are looking at different ways to generate income from wildland deployments. REMS, Wildland, Medical deployments are what the department is looking at. Pete is looking at coming back as the engine boss. Chief presented Cindy Miller with the Excellence in Service Award. She does a great job keeping the highway and entrance looking great for our valley.

Discussion on replacing the brush truck. We have gotten permission from the county to carry some debt. Chief Hennessy said that replacing these trucks is part of Vision 2030. We got the engine replaced which was a big deal. Last year we made over \$300K with just one truck and crew deploying. We have spent too much money on fixing the old trucks and we just need to replace them. The need to get these trucks replaced. A motion was made by Rick Johnson to investigate the opportunity to purchase a new brush truck and check on the financing of a new truck. Ryan Andersen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Battalion Chief D'Ambrosio has a quote on the new brush truck. To get a new truck would be 3 years and the opportunity to get another new demo would be 8 months. We could get the demo they have at the Dixie Center in the next few weeks. This truck is built to deploy. It is a very rugged suspension. It has a 10 year warranty on the body and a 5 year warranty on the chassis of truck and mechanical. Cedar and DNR have purchased these same trucks and they won't get them for 3 years. In Chief's D'Ambrosio's opinion these trucks are the best built trucks for wildland firefighting on the market. The manufacturer has given us the first shot of the truck if we want to do it. Curt will look into financing with Zion's Bank. These Demo's have the advantage of being able to get a truck now instead of waiting for 3 years to get one.

Impact fees were discussed. Curt discussed that impact would be collected on new construction. There is a limited use of what the impact fees could be used on if collected. Zion's finance has been contacted about an impact fee analysis study. The impact fees could only be used for new construction. The analysis is about \$6500.00 to have done. All that could be collected is about \$300-\$450. Per structure. We could only use the calls in our district to go into the calculation. After talking with the Chief today Curt feels like it won't generate much revenue over the years. We can bill for new construction based on inspections by the fire department which wouldn't be an impact fee but could generate some revenue that doesn't have strings attached to how the funds could be spent. Chief has done a few plan reviews over the past year which in the future we could charge to review. Curt indicated that we have several capital improvements that need to be made and we don't have a mechanism to generate the funds to do the capital improvements. Rick expressed that this is an issue that should be dealt with by the next board. Curt Shelley made a motion to table the discussion on impact fees. Rick Johnson seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously. Curt Shelley presented a video that was created by Ned and Mary Courdrey promoting the Dammeron Valley Fire and Rescue. The purpose of the video is to share it on social media with our community and the neighboring communities so they will know the service that is being rendered by the Dammeron Valley Fire Department. Hunter Wolfe worked closely with Ned and Mary on this video.

No park report.

Dammeron Valley Helping hands did one little project this past month. Asked for opportunities to serve the community.

Mack asked for comments from the outgoing board members which was everyone on the board. After the comments it was open to public comments.

Chief Hennessy made a few comments and passed out jackets to the board members. He appreciates the board and the way that the board empowered the department and its members.

A Question was asked about the consolidation. There will be no consolidation at this point.

Meeting closed with a prayer by Curt Shelley.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Larry Carlon, seconded by Curt Shelley.

Motion passed