**LAKE WENATCHEE FIRE AND RESCUE AUXILIARY**

21696 Lake Wenatchee Hwy, Leavenworth, WA 98826 (509-763-3043)

**Minutes**

**November 4, 2020**

As a result of the coronavirus COVID-19, the monthly membership meeting of the LWFR Auxiliary was held online on Zoom.

Jimi Wilson welcomes the membership back after a long hiatus.

**LWFR District 9:** Chief Walker

* Chief Walker thanks the Auxiliary for the donations the department has received. The department is waiting for the boat to arrive.
* The trailer for fuel spill mitigation has arrived. It’s at station 91 for now.
* In the most recent evaluation, it was determined that the department has a low census relative to the number of volunteers. Station 94 needs more volunteers so that 6 people can be kept on the roster.
* Three more volunteers have joined the fire department—Ryan Everest, Gabriel Norby, and Scott Baker. Janessa Subido will be the new Wildfire Risk Reduction Coordinator.
* We are still closed down because of Covid-19, so the department is meeting online. We have not had any infections among our firefighters.
* The department has been waiting for the entities involved in the Upper Wenatchee Pilot Project to do an environmental assessment. The assessment will be available at the end of the month for public comment. We will be able to give feedback to the USFS at that time.
* The strategic plan that was put in place 3 or 4 years ago has run its course. Dennis Broughten has met with the commissioners and will be meeting with the firefighters to prepare a new strategic plan. He would also like to meet with the Auxiliary to determine what our needs are going to be.
* We had a great summer crew in our second year of fuel mitigation. We had four people on the crew, and a least one person was working every day. They also helped by responding to at least half of the calls our department received. The crew was able to chip at least 168 tons of debris this year compared to 42 tons last year. There are funds to bring them back next year.
* At the beginning of the Covid-19 crisis, there was a dip in the number of calls for the first quarter of the year, but then the number increased dramatically. The number of people coming into the area this summer due to the weather was very high.
* Bill Miller shared that the water truck helped with the knapweed removal on the Nason Ridge emergency route.
* Chief Walker shares that he is settling into his role as chief. After a challenging transition during the fire season and the Covid-19 crisis, he is enjoying serving with the LWFR.

**LWFR FF Association President**: Chuck Kocher

The FFA has had a few meetings on Zoom. They have given the district $15,000 for Covid-19 relief, $10,000 for the boat motor and training, and $5,000 for meals that were provided during the early weeks of the Covid-19 outbreak. Some smaller donations helped pay for uniforms, etc. The FFA holds elections in December for officers for 2021.

**Call to Order**: Jimi Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:27 pm.

**Attendance:**  44 members attended. Chief Walker and Chuck Kocher also attended from the fire department.

Two sets of member information sheets have been given out.

**Introduction of 2020/2021 Officers:**

The new Board members were introduced to the membership.

President: Jimi Wilson

Vice-president: Rita Baugh

Treasurer: Velda Millard

Secretary: April Adamson

Public Information Officer: Katie Walker

Members-at-large: Ken Schasse, and Becky Payne

**Boat Motor/Training Fundraiser:** Jimi Wilson

We reached the goal of $10,000 at our fundraiser.

**Retirement Gift for Chief Lamar**

There was an official ceremony for Chief Lamar’s retirement, but we were unable to have a party. The Auxiliary and the commissioners went together to purchase a barbeque as a retirement gift for Mick. If you would like to donate toward the $300 cost, please make your check out to the Auxiliary and get it to Velda. We plan to have a retirement party at a later date.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Velda Millard

(Please see the attached report.)

Rita Baugh moved to accept the treasurer’s reports for the months of May-October, 2020; Bob Adamson seconded, and the motion passed.

**Audit Report**: Velda Millard

The audit committee met on June 10 on Zoom. The committee members were Rita Baugh, Stan Morgan, Jim Passage, Mary Lou Clemmons, and Velda Millard. Velda shared the documents from Karen Pirotto. Everything looked good.

Rita Baugh moved to accept the audit report, Bob Adamson seconded, and the motion passed.

**Sunshine Committee Report**: Sharyl Nelson

April: A get-well card was sent to Veronica Simion, and a sympathy card was sent to Martha Steinborn.

June: A sympathy card was sent to Bob and Jerry Jennings, and a sympathy card was sent to Karen Pirotto.

July: A get-well card was sent to Mike Bunney.

August: A get-well card was sent to Vasile Simion. Congratulations cards were sent to Kelly McDaniels, Mike Scott, Mike Stanford, Chuck Kocher, and David Millard for promotions and new jobs.

Sept: A get-well card was sent to Mary Morgan, and a get-well card was sent to Vasile Simion.

**New Business**:

1. We will decide at the January meeting what we will be donating to the FFA in 2021.

2. Upcoming Fundraiser:

We are going to do an online auction that will run December 1-5. Scott and Dorothy Baker, and Stan Morgan are collecting donations. Dorothy and Scott are collecting, organizing, and photographing the items. We will be advertising on social media, Lake Wenatchee Info, on posters, and at station 93. Members may send information to anyone in their address books.

There are two tiers to the auction. The first part is an actual auction. There will be a suggested starting bid that will be %40 off of the retail price. The second part is an opportunity for people to make donations toward items the department needs (e.g., gloves.) We have received 28 items and are expecting to receive eight more items. The committee will follow up on eleven more possible donations.

The committee has reached out to Wenatchee for the first time to get items donated for the auction. Pam Nicklas is making a quilt, Benchmark Jewelers ordered some things for us, and Elliot will provide two knives. There will be a variety of items at all price ranges. At this point, the retail value of all donated items is $6,003.19.

We usually offer a basket of items made by Auxiliary members. Do we want to have one this year? If you are interested in donating something for the members’ basket, please contact Dorothy.

Pick-up day will probably be Saturday, Dec. 6, at station 93, or we will mail some items.

**For the good of the order:**

 A member suggested that we have a list of places where people can donate items they are cleaning out of their closets since we are not accepting any donations at this time. If you are willing to help organize this list, please contact Jimi.

Next meeting: Dec. 9, 7:00 pm

**Adjournment**

Rita Baugh moved that the meeting be adjourned, Bob A. seconded, and the motion passed. Jimi Wilson adjourned the meeting at 8:06 pm.