

**WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP**  
**MINUTES CHAIN OF LAKES ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2023 8:00 PM**  
**CHAIN OF LAKES FIRE & RESCUE FIRE HALL, 19340 260<sup>TH</sup> ST RICHMOND**

Board Members Present: John Willenbring, Shawn Garding, Dave Dold and Heidi Stalboerger

The meeting began in the truck bay with an assembly of members from the Chain of Lakes Fire District Board Members, Firefighters and Board Members from the above-mentioned townships to thank special guest, Darlene Schaefer and family members, for the donation of the side-by-side vehicle. Ms. Schaefer donated the vehicle to the department after her husband passed. Ms. Schaefer delivered a moving statement of thanks and gratitude to the department for the care of her late husband.

The Chain of Lakes Fire District Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Guggenberger. Representatives from the Chain of Lakes Fire & Rescue District and Board, Munson Township, Wakefield Township, Farming Township, Luxemburg Township and Collegeville Township were present.

Chief Dean Holthaus gave an annual report including fire call history, membership, officer structure, training, fundraising, events and a review of equipment. *MOTION BY JERON THIELEN SECONDED BY BOB SIMON TO REAPPOINT MAX GERTKEN AS FIRE CAPTAIN I, GRANT REITMEIER AS MEDICAL CAPTIAN, AND NICK WIELING AS SAFETY OFFICER ALL AS ELECTED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE FIREFIGHTER ELCTION PROCESS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

The group discussed the increase in budget from 2019 to proposed 2024 (as shown on graph). Lahr reviewed the equipment, replacement equipment, firefighter pay implementation as well as growth in firefighter membership and the capital improvement plan. Lahr went on to add that the townships own the fire department rather than paying for service, which is the case with every other fire department in the area that serves the five townships. The group discussed the Relief Association (RA) gambling funds. The RA is in tentative talks about donating an amount of the gambling fund proceeds for equipment. The township group would like to see the RA retain the gambling funds in the RA pension fund.

Lahr reviewed the current year Operating Budget, Expense Budget and Revenue Budget (sans the Side-by-Side donations), call history calculation through November 30, 2023 as well as the proposed 2024 budget. Lahr reviewed the Reserve Account Balance and Cash Balance as of December 1, 2023. *MOTION BY TERRY STEIN AND SECONDED BY JERON THIELEN TO ADOPT THE 2024 OPERATING BUDGET OF THE CHAIN OF LAKES FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

The Chain of Lakes District Board reviewed and voted on hiring a recommended firefighter. The District Board reviewed the current financial report and approved the payment of the list of bills.

*MOTION BY JOHN WILLENBRING SECONDED BY TERRY STEIN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:58 PM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

/s/Heidi M. Stalboerger, Clerk

/s/John Willenbring, Chairman