

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIGHORN NO. 8  
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**23 June 11 – 4:00 P.M.  
M.D. OFFICE, EXSHAW**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Martin Buckley	Chairman/Recording Secretary
Dene Cooper	Reeve
Jennifer Lambert	Member-at-Large
Mike Milne	Member-at-large
Rick Lyster	District Chief, Exshaw
Wayne Dick	Jamieson Road Head Fire Guardian
Tom McFadden	Ghost River Fire Dept. – District Fire Chief
Hugh Pettigrew	Director of Disaster Services

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Agenda was adopted as circulated.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 18 Nov 10 meeting**

The minutes of the 18 Nov 10 EMS Committee meeting were adopted with the following amendments:

-Page 3, at the top of the page: change “BWD (?)” to “BW Technologies”;  
change “Went to O’Ryans’ ” to “Took machine to another dealership”.

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) The revised Limitations to the Provisions of Fire Protection Services policy (#E-8) was discussed. It was indicated that the terms “Emergency Services”, and “Emergency Services personnel” should be used instead of “Fire Protection” and “Fire Fighters” in the policy. Otherwise, the policy was satisfactory, and can be forwarded to Council.

**4. UPDATE FROM DISTRICTS AND DIRECTOR**

**a) Exshaw District**

It was indicated that the total district calls responded to, from the November 2010 EMS Committee meeting to date, was 348; Exshaw had 161 of those calls, 77 year-to-date in 2011.

One call on February 1<sup>st</sup>, involving three semis on Highway 1 at the Nakoda Entertainment Resort (casino): the nature of the call was explained, and it was further noted that Calgary

Haz-Mat was called out to deal with + 200 litres of diesel that had spilled onto the highway. The Haz-Mat bill, which the M.D. was pursuing through the affected insurance companies, was \$11,500.

A fire call from 22 June 11 was also noted, at the top of Scott Lake Hill: multiple vehicles were involved, including a semi carrying yogurt, and a horse trailer. Emergency services crews were there for more than five hours.

There were three house fires during the reporting period, all in the Benchlands/North Ranchlands area: one on Burnt Timber Road, with two in the Summer Village of Waiparous. The Burnt Timber fire drew in Sundre, Carstairs, and possibly other fire departments: there were eighteen personnel on site, and five trucks. No bills have been received so far. All three were total losses.

On another situation, an alarm company had a gas detector alarm go off, in a Harvie Heights residence, and Exshaw Fire responded. Looking through the window, the personnel saw some haze in the building; the property manager let them in; they noted a peculiar smell and further noted the smoke detector was hanging off the wall. It turned out the residence had recently been fumigated.

Water system and hydrants now operable in Exshaw. A number of Stoney First Nations calls were unpaid, so the Fire Chief and C.A.O. met with First Nations personnel to deal with these.

The Ghost repeater station had some power problems back in November, but none lately. Adjusting the heat seemed to help: Key West is needed to check the heat sensor.

The M.D. Emergency Services is still working on the Calgary radio situation: the Exshaw repeater goes directly to Calgary.

Two people have finished their EMR training, getting 100% on the practicum. 20 people have re-certified on First Aid.

R. Lyster asked what the Fire Department's response should be, when someone's basement is flooding. It was indicated that, if the M.D. can provide a pump, we should do so, but note that pumps are for use on roads, etc. that are public facilities.

#### **b) Ghost District**

-T. McFadden indicated he was away for the first house fire in Waiparous, but was present for the second and the Burnt Timber fire as well.

-There has been some issues with the new truck: it has gone in for servicing on warranty .

-the new assist agreement with Cochrane is working well.

-had at least three STARS landings: one victim passed away at the scene, due to her injuries.

-the community pancake breakfast is planned for July 16<sup>th</sup>, all welcome.

-two new members have signed on (a couple).

-had a gas-leak call from the Wesley Day-Care: there is a need to clarify the building address signage (the number signs are posted on the gate, but there needs to be individual number signs at or near each building).

c) **Jamieson Road District**

- 4 calls since the new year, two medical and two fire.
- 5 members still on, a stable situation
- would like to confirm the age limitation (if any) for fire-fighters, as one member is over 65
- had regular practices and vehicle maintenance: Russell Lyster was out for one practice
- they are trying to get a new member on board.
- CVIC was done in the fall of last year.

d) **Disaster Services**

- regarding the Wildcat Hills change-over, he has received Direct Energy's Emergency Response Plan (Direct Energy is the new owner of the Wildcat Hills gas plant); feels it's a very good document.
- MEP upgrade: now completely re-vamped; checked the entire resource plan, etc. Need to do other things with the Plan, throughout the year (e.g. have the Plan on-line, as per Alta. Emergency Management Agency guidelines).
- Flooding in May: heavy rains in some areas, road flooding/damage encountered. Believes has repaired all damaged areas, which were mostly inconveniences, not bad damage. A recovery program has been announced by the Province, with \$25 million available.
- A table top exercise is being planned for later this year.
- A price for an emergency generator hook-up for the M.D. office/EOC has been received, but not sure where this work is at.

D. Cooper noted the M.D. Council had agreed to make a donation to the Slave Lake Forest Fire Relief Fund.

- e) M. Buckley advised that the M.D. was back in negotiations with the Town of Canmore on joint services, specifically fire, recreation and business licensing/registry. While not able to divulge numbers at this time, he noted that the fire numbers received are "workable".

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) The Committee discussed the proposed changes to the EMS Committee terms of reference under Bylaw 17-04: it was indicated the proposed changes were satisfactory as circulated.

- b) The 2012 budget forecasting was generally discussed:

-it was indicated that new gas detectors would be needed, as the current ones are 5- 6 years old: 5 detectors @ \$500 each;

-SCBA's are good for another two years, when it is anticipated that standards will change;

-consider a JEPP grant application for a portable emergency generator;

-radios: local repeater is 15 – 20 years old, look at reserve funding now (replacement is ± \$100,000; should look at \$20,000 this year into reserves for radio);

-landscaping work around Ghost River Fire Hall (drainage, etc.)

-turn-out/duty gear for Ghost River Fire Hall, some existing suits are 15 years old.

-should consider a large commercial washer for bunker gear cleaning (thus avoiding the expense of custom cleaning by a contracted service).

**6. INFORMATION**

Item 6(a) was accepted as information.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date will be at the call of the chair, likely in August/September for budget discussions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

  
CHAIRMAN / SECRETARY