

## **Minutes East Berkshire Fire District 1 Regular meeting**

**May 9, 2023 @ 6:30 pm**

**Berkshire Town Hall**

Attendees: Board members Hildy Jamka, Bonnie Stowe, Andrew Hoadley.

Visitors: John Kiernan (RCAP)

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

1. Recognition of visitors – No District members
2. Review and approve unapproved meeting minutes from April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
  - Hildy Jamka moved to accept as presented, Bonnie Stowe 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed unanimously.
3. Treasurers report – Sam was absent, so no report was presented.
  - Accounts Receivable
    - Shutoff procedures to encourage collection of A/R
      - Discussion, Andy will follow up with SOS.
4. Review Grants, applications, and their status.
  - Review NRPC 4/27 Funding Meeting and Next Steps.
    - John and Hildy shared details of the meeting. The state is a big advocate of our district. They agree our annual water rates to median income ratio is above the acceptable range. They are looking into the possibility of using our 100% forgivable hardship loan to cover VT BB loan. Also, the possibility of refinancing the USDA grant for some forgiveness with a lower interest rate. This is not a done deal and has several hurdles but would offer significant lowering of annual budget.
5. Projects
  - Exploration of alternate water source status.
    - Godbout Property
      - Discover work is in beginning stages.
    - Line of Credit for WIIN Grant
      - Board members signed forms to finalize.
  - Existing water system construction/evaluation status
    - Installation of pressure recorders, data to be analyzed after two weeks of recording.
  - Supply line replacement planning.
    - Katie is working through contract to bring to attorneys.
  - Ordinance Updates
    - Areas that need work- Signature page, add meter information, how rates are updated. Hildy to work on rough draft for next meeting.
6. USDA RD Fiscal Yr End Report request
  - Andy will follow up.
7. Lead Service Line Inventory
  - No action needed at this time. We are not on the states initial list and they will contact us when we are in the queue.
8. Other business
9. Adjourn
  - Hildy made the motion to adjourn at 7:57pm. Andy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed unanimously.