

A special meeting of the Rural Urban Fire Board was held at the City Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 a.m. by Alma Interim City Manager Aerick Ripley. A quorum of the Board was present.

*Roll Call*

Board members present: Kevin Beeson, Ron Hunt, Greg Mapes, Doug Merchant, Aerick Ripley, and Danny Wernick.  
Board members absent: Tish Mallory (arrived after roll call).

Others present: Curtis Dancer, Harold House, and Mark Williams.

**Motion by Beeson, seconded by Mapes, to approve the minutes of March 15, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.**

**Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mapes, Merchant, Schooley Ripley, and Wernick.**

**Voting no: Mallory none.**

**Absent: Mallory.**

*Annual Report from Public Safety Director*

No questions were received on the annual report, so Director Mark Williams proceeded with review of the first quarter report. He provided information about equipment purchased with grant funds from the Community Foundation and the Luneack Family Foundation.

Tish Mallory arrived at 7:11 a.m.

Williams continued to review equipment purchases and upgrades and offered thanks to both foundations.

Fire Chief Harry House spoke about equipment purchases for his department, new employee hires, equipment certification, and purchase of a new fire chief pickup and redeployment of the old pickup.

Williams also talked briefly about the department needing new packs and purchasing some from St. Louis.

Beeson asked to have reports sent as PDFs by email prior to the meetings. He also asked for an explanation of administrative incidents. Williams explained, for some calls, an officer is sent to allow for administrative resolution, if necessary, or call for full alarm, if required. Discussion followed about codes on the report. Board members asked to have a description of codes added so they can be cross-referenced with the report.

*FY 2023 Proposed Annual Budget*

Ripley reviewed reports sent out to members prior to the meeting. Williams answered questions from members about details included in the reports regarding capital improvements, and vehicle depreciation.

Merchant asked about the cost of equipping a new fireman. Discussion followed about the \$9,000 to \$10,000 cost, keeping equipment on hand for trainees, and funds received by other local communities from the USDA.

Beeson asked for clarification on internal service fees. Dancer answered questions about administrative internal service fees.

Beeson asked for more detail on credit card purchases and certification training. Williams answered questions.

Mapes asked if money was being set aside for replacing trucks. Discussion followed about planning for the future. Members directed Dancer to include 10% on the cost of *rescue* trucks per year in the budget for depreciation.