

**Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Pension Fund Board Meeting  
Riverton, WY  
April 5, 2019**

A meeting of the Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Pension Fund Board was held at 7:00pm on Friday, April 5, 2019 at the Spur Restaurant in Riverton, WY.

Board members participating:

Mr. Gene Diedtrich (Chair) (Newcastle)  
Mr. Lanny Applegate (Vice-Chair) (Cheyenne)  
Mr. Tracy Brown (Lingle)  
Mr. Jerry Munger (Wheatland)  
Mr. Eric Quinney (Evanston)  
Mr. Alan Sessions (Afton) (*participated by phone*)

Board members absent and excused

Mr. Kim Lee (Riverton)

WRS Staff member participating:

Ms. Ruth Ryerson, Executive Director

Others in attendance:

Donny Munger, Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department  
Robert Munger, Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department  
Gregory Stouffer, Big Laramie Volunteer Fire Department

Chairman Diedtrich called the meeting to order at 7:172pm.

**1) Board Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2019.** The Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Pension Fund minutes from January 10, 2019 were considered.

**MOTION 04-05-2019 (#1):** Mr. Brown moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Applegate seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**2) Agenda Item #5 (Member service credit request) considered next due to member attending meeting.** Mr. Gregory Stouffer addressed the Board regarding the potential to purchase previous service. He indicated that he was not allowed to participate in the pension plan when volunteering for Big Laramie VFD and was only allowed to join once Big Laramie merged with Albany County Fire District #1. The Board asked Mr. Stouffer if he had proof of participation and meeting attendance for the years in question, and he said he did not. After some discussion, the Board told Mr. Stouffer that once he was vested he could purchase 5 years of “air time” service without needing to show he was a previous volunteer. Ms. Ryerson said she would work with her staff to calculate an approximate cost for him. Mr. Stouffer thanked the Board for their time and said he would start saving to purchase the service when eligible.

**3) Review of Financial Reports.** The financial statements for December 2018 and January 2019 were reviewed, noting that plan assets as of January 31, 2019 totaled about \$79.5 million, a gain of \$1.9 million since the last meeting. Chairman Diedtrich mentioned that WRS had will not receive any fire insurance premium tax transfers again until May 2019.

**MOTION 04-05-2019 (#2):** Mr. Quinney moved to approve the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. Applegate. Motion carried unanimously.

**4) Review of Membership Reports.** The membership reports as of March 31, 2019 contained the following highlights:

Active Contributing Members: 2,337

Retirees: 1,239

Survivor pensions: 259

Smallest monthly pension: \$44.88

Largest monthly pension: \$722.08

Participating Departments. The Board reviewed the participating department report, noting 118 participating agencies. The Board inquired why Crook County almost doubled its membership (added 12). Ms. Ryerson said she would check and let the Board know.

Service Purchase reports. The Board reviewed the service purchase reports for the quarter, noting there were no completed and two pending service purchase during the January - March timeframe.

Newly refunded and retired report. The Board reviewed the refunded accounts and new retirees for the January - March timeframe. There were 12 new retirements, and 20 members refunded their accounts during the period. The Board questioned why a member with 30 years of service would refund his account. Ms. Ryerson said she would look in to it, but assured the Board that the Benefit Specialists counsel members making requests like that to ensure they know what they are giving up by taking a refund.

Deceased members by plan report. The report shows 9 retirees and survivors who passed.

**MOTION 04-05-2019 (#3):** Mr. Brown moved to approve the membership reports. Mr. Sessions seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**5) Review and Discussion Regarding Search & Rescue Legislation.** Ms. Ryerson provided the Board with an update on the Search & Rescue legislation, including actions that the Board would need to take before its July 1, 2019 effective date.

**6) Date and Location of Next Meeting.** Mr. Diedtrich announced that the next Board meeting would be held at the Windy Peaks Brewery in Wheatland at noon on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. WRS staff is also invited to attend the Fire Games the following day.

**7) Adjournment.** There being no further business, Chairman Diedtrich asked for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION 04-05-2019 (#4):** Mr. Applegate moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Munger seconded. The motion carried unanimously and the Board adjourned at 8:31pm.