

ARSON TASK FORCE MINUTES

AUGUST 18, 2005

Those present: Steve Politz, Bonnie Willock, Phil Gauer, Earl Todd, Will Frankel, Chris Lynch, Josh Sittler, James Holbert, Ken Whitesell, Chuck Nichol, Rod McLin, Dennis Stewart, Kevin Dobson, Angela Davis, Tom Roberts, Toni Garzolini, Rick Waggoner, and Bonnie Lu.

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Will Frankel. The minutes were passed out. Ken Whitesell made the motion to accept and Josh Sittler seconded.

Will gave the Treasurer's report of \$19,091.16.

Old Business

The Task Force voted to send the following persons to the conference in Indianapolis. Josh Sittler, Chris Lynch, Angie Davis, Norm Loudermilk, Dennis Stewart and Earl Todd.

Video Project: Will said the dates for taping have been scheduled. Earl Todd said the footage of a house burning had been taped on August 17 in Burnett. He said they had some excellent footage. The video committee is hoping to have the video ready to air by October 29. The goal is to have it out for Fire Prevention Month. The committee would like for the Arson Task Force to have a sneak preview prior to being shown to the public.

In other old business, Josh said he is sending letters to Lowe's and Wal-Mart asking for smoke detectors for the Task Force to give away. Bonnie Lu hopes to have some for the American Red Cross Family Safety Days on September 17, 2005. Josh will let her know as soon as he has had a response.

Will said the committee has received five applications for the dog handler for the arson dog. There was some discussion on how to conduct the interview process. The committee is still expecting to receive a few more applications. No decision was made on the interview process.

New Business

Josh said he had spoken with Time Warner Cable in regards to running some commercials for Fire Prevention Month. The cost for one month is \$340 for doing one

for under age 18; stop, drop and roll. The other commercial for ages 18-65 smoke detectors or exiting the home for \$490.

The other option would cost \$850, but would be for two months, the month of October and also during the holidays in December. The consensus of the committee is the best buy is the two month option.

In other business, the committee discussed how they really want the Arson Task Force to work. Chief Holbert said it is really unclear when the Task Force should be called in. It was decided when one of the following had happened:

- \$100,000 or more loss
- suspicious fire
- any fire with an injury to a fireman or victim
- any involvement we can get, the Task Force would appreciate the opportunity

What can be done to spark an interest in the Arson Task Force. Dennis Stewart wants to work together. Everyone benefits when we are all trained at the same level.

It was suggested that Bonnie fax the minutes and the agenda to Gordon Pleus and he can fax to all the departments. This will help get the word out that an Arson Task Force exists and we are here to make a difference. It was also suggested that the Arson Task Force needs a PIO.

The meeting is scheduled to continue at 7:30 p.m. At that time it will be decided if meetings need to be in the evening every other month.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Meeting back in session at 7:30 p.m.

After some discussion it was voted Dennis Stewart and Josh Sittler will be co- Public Information Officers. They both accepted the position.

After lengthy discussion it was decided the Arson Task Force needs goals and objectives. They are as follows:

- There needs to be a short uniform presentation that can be made to all fire departments
- We need to create a logo and have shirts made to identify the members of the Task Force
- We need a tri-fold brochure to hand out at Safety Fairs and Health Fairs

It was suggested maybe a contest among art students could be done to help design a brochure. Some thought will be given to the idea.

Josh said we also need a list of everyone and their e-mail. Josh will bring a list to the next meeting.

It was decided to keep the meeting at the 10:30 a.m. due to being more people at the meeting than the evening time.

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting date is September 15, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. at the State Farm office.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Lu
Secretary Arson Task Force