



## GRAND TRAVERSE RURAL FIRE BOARD MEETING

Paradise Township Hall  
2300 E. M-113  
Kingsley, MI 49649

*May 24, 2017  
Special Meeting held at 4:00 p.m.*

*Chairman Ron Popp Vice-Chair Doug Mansfield Treasurer Rob Lajko*

*Members: Fife Lake –Terry Street (Alternate), Paradise- Rob Lajko, Springfield- Tom Gonyer, Union- Doug Mansfield, Whitewater- Ron Popp*

*Any interested person or group may address the Grand Traverse Rural Fire Board on any agenda item when recognized by the presiding Chairman or upon request of any Board Member. Also, any interested person or group may address the Grand Traverse Fire Board on any matter of Fire Department concern not on the Agenda during the agenda item designated Public Comment. The comment of any member of the public or any special interest group may be limited in time. Such limitation shall not be less than five minutes unless otherwise explained by the presiding Chairman, subject to appeal by the Grand Traverse Rural Fire Board.*

### **I. Roll Call**

Paradise (present), Springfield (present), Union (present), Whitewater (present) and Fife Lake (present).

### **II. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Union supported by Springfield to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **III. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were reported by members.

### **IV. Public Comment**

None at this time.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

None at this time

**VI. New Business:**

a). Deputy Chief Candidate Interviews. The members interviewed two parties who were recommended by the interview panel: Jacque Gibson and Robert Shugart. Both candidates were asked similar questions and allowed to question the members of the Board. After the last candidate was interviewed, the members ranked the candidates with Mr. Gibson their preference, however a question from him regarding a contract led to discussion about length of the contract, salary and other benefits. The recording secretary was asked to inquire of both candidates, via email, their response to the following:

- Salary Expectation
- Health Insurance Needs
- Vacation Expectation
- Sick/Personnel Time Expectation

The discussion of a vehicle requirement was also held, however Chief Weber reminded the members a Suburban is available for their transportation needs. Information received will be shared with the members at least one week before the June 21, 2017 Regular Meeting.

**VII. Second Public Comment**

Ken Fritz, Dell Road, Kingsley.

Mr. Fritz wished to share with the members experience from his business background which indicated an economic downturn on the horizon in 10 – 15 years. This recession is predicted to be worse than 2008 and may again reduce property values – directly impacting the department’s revenue. He urged them that the time is now to become financially stable, ACT57 or increased millage rates need to be looked at now. As Mr. Mansfield commented we can get support for more service for a greater price but it’s hard to sell the same service for more money.

**VII. Adjournment**

**Motion by Whitewater, supported by Union to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m., motion carried unanimously.**

  
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**Ron Popp, Chairman**

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**Mary Jo Barck, Recording Secretary**