

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
CHRISTOPHER-KOHL'S FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
HELD ON APRIL 27, 2011**

A Special Public Meeting of the Christopher-Kohls Fire District Governing Board was convened on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 5:00 pm in the Fire Station 51 community room.

Agenda Item #1: (Call To Order/Pledge Of Allegiance)
Call to order 5:00 pm, April 27, 2011

Agenda Item #2: (Roll Call)

Present at the meeting were the following members of the Christopher-Kohls Fire District Governing Board :

Deborah Dawson (Chairman)

James Oliver (Clerk/Treasurer)

Jeff Daniels (Board Member)

Present at the meeting were the following members of the Christopher-Kohls Fire Department :

Rob Jarvis (Interim Chief)

Randy Dawson

Rick Schantz

The following matters were discussed, considered, and decided at the meeting:

Agenda Item #3: (Previous Minutes)

A. Previous Meeting Minutes: (March 14, 2011)

Ms Dawson mentioned that the Minutes did not show the 9:36pm time of adjournment. Mr Daniels stated that it could be hand written. Mr Oliver had no changes or comments. Mr Daniels made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. A vote was taken, Ms Dawson and Mr Daniels voted Aye and Mr Oliver abstained. The minutes were approved.

Agenda Item #4: (Budget discussion and action)

Ms Dawson read the Agenda Item description. Mr Oliver asked the Ms Dawson recuse herself because he felt she had a conflict of interest with her husband being a volunteer on the Department. The accusation was discussed.

Chief Jarvis presented his proposed Budget. He mentioned that he did not have accurate numbers from the previous year so he has had to use "best honest estimates" for some of the figures. He explained several ways he is attempting to reduce or maintain a flat Budget including reducing office staff to a 4 day work week. He ran through the line items of the proposed budget. He explained what he considered "soft money" and mentioned that the actual Budget of guaranteed funding was about \$700,000. Ms Dawson questioned several items including the brush removal, the internet costs and Audit services. Chief Jarvis's proposed Budget would raise the mil/levy rate up to 2.30 from 2.17. This would keep the cost to the taxpayer slightly less than last year. He also mentioned correspondence with the County that estimated a 19% decrease in the District's assessed property values next year. Mr Armenta questioned fuel costs.

Mr Oliver said his calculations came to a \$90,521 shortfall of income over expense. Carry-over money was discussed. Mr Oliver explained his calculations and explanations of what is "Hard Money" and "Soft Money". Differences between Mr Oliver's figures and the Chiefs were discussed. Ms Grootegoed expressed her opinion that the Fire District taxes are appropriate. Mr O'Neil mentioned that some taxpayers are having a problem meeting their present expenses and differences on how he views budgeting. Mr O'Neil complimented the Chief on his efforts on the Budget in such a short period of time. Ms Dawson and Mr Oliver discussed the funding differences that he found and Mr Oliver stated that a mil/Levy rate of 2.50 was required. How carry-over funds are being and were used previously was discussed. The use of the Capital Reserve account was discussed. Ms Dawson questioned if a 5-year plan was considered in this Budget. Chief Jarvis mentioned that to his knowledge we will be the only local District that is maintaining a mil/levy rate below 3.00. Chief Jarvis also mentioned possibly outsourcing our maintenance person to reduce our expense for that position. Ms Dawson mentioned that the employees should have some financial match to their Health Insurance. The cost of the maintenance position was discussed and how other departments are paying much more for outside maintenance than we are presently. Mr Daniels questioned the extended pay figures. Workman's comp and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) expenses were discussed.

Publishing the Budget and timelines were discussed.

Agenda Item #5: : (Call to the public)

No member of the public had any further comments.

Agenda Item #5: (Adjournment)

With no further comments from the public, Mr Daniels made a motion to adjourn and Ms Dawson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, Mr Daniels and Ms Dawson voted AYE and Mr Oliver abstained.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:11 pm.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

By [authorized signature] Fire District Governing Board

DRAFT