NEW TYPE 6 CHASSIS {00:22} - Chair Clapp introduced the special meeting. The meeting date was set at the regular board meeting, April 8, 2015. The special board meeting is for the sole purpose to consider two items on the agenda. Fire Chief Fairchild started a list of needed items and items ordered. The truck committee meeting last night became very heated. John presented a list of items from Highway Products for consideration. John is recommending the quote from Highway Products. Chair Clapp suggested establishing a budget. The total cost, truck and components is approximately $103,276. Terry Gembala presented pictures of a truck with components similar to the new truck. The bids range $119,000, $53,000, $42,000, $17,000 for the build-up. Trustee Hoel reported the heated discussion involved trimming down the construction, steel bed, steel boxes. The truck committee wanted to build something more than just a wildland truck. The proposed truck is universal to be used 365 days a year. The current brush trucks are not used for six months during the year. The proposed truck can be utilized at initial attack. Trustee Koberg asked if the bed will be installed in Oregon? Trustee Hoel responded the bed will be shipped to Polson. A savings could be realized by taking the truck to Oregon. Trustee Gembala commented driving the truck to the supplier will break in the truck. The supplier then carries the installation liability. Trustee Koberg commented on the cost - installation $1,200 vs. $1,500 to $2,000 to ship. The installation time is one and one-half to two days. Fred Nelson commented on the excessive cost to equip the truck. He indicated the truck is designed as an attack truck with air tanks and 500 gallons of water. The 500 gallons produce 5 minutes of flow. Emergency services access should be a consideration when residents locate in the outlying areas. The district can't serve everybody. Chair Clapp commented the cost to build out #333 was $42,000. Trustee Hoel noted truck #333 components with the monitor and bumper total approximately $81,000. The build up compared to truck #333 is approximately an additional $8,000. The inflation on some of the parts is 20-25 percent. Trustee Hoel commented the truck committee spent a lot of time on the design. The truck will serve the entire district. Engine #316 saved the house on East Matterhorn. Trustee Koberg commented the quote for installation and shipping cost needs to be clarified. Bruce Gerlach commented the price difference $100,000 plus down to $17,000 is a huge difference. The $100,000 includes pump installation, etc. The volunteers plan to install several components to save the labor cost. Northern Fab proposed to do all the components or nothing. The committee shopped for a quality finished product. Trustee Koberg commented a warranty should accompany the products. Fred Nelson suggested the board set a budget for the build up. John suggested a $104,500 realist budget. The cost represents the best package to install the build up items, do it right, and be proud of the new unit. In the past, the boxes and bed on truck #316 required maintenance several times. Trustee Gembala motion to approve a budget up to $105,000 for the truck and build up components. Trustee Hoel second. Motion passed unanimously.
NEW FIREFIGHTER PROCESS {23:58} - Chair Clapp reported Fire Chief Fairchild provided a complete packet of the application and additional documents, “How to become a firefighter”. Jack Konitz and Jack Clapp had an opportunity to meet with City Manager Shrives and Mayor Knutson this morning. The firefighter process document will be reviewed by both entities, city and rural. Following review the city and rural will address modifications, if any. The modifications will be reviewed by each entity for a common ground. If a common ground is not addressed, each entity will adopt separate documents. The city manager plans to respond within a week. The May 13th board meeting will address the firefighter process. Chief Fairchild drafted the “How to become a firefighter” within the past month. The board has been working on SOG's for over a year. The board has also addressed interlocal proposals and a number of other issues. Nothing was formalized. The firefighter process document is a different process from the city to the board or the board to the city. Trustee Konitz reported the city and rural are back on a common goal. The first step is to review the new policies. John has put a lot of work into the document. Chair Clapp commented the city/rural should have a common policy. The city plans to review the document and respond in a week. Trustee Hoel would like to start with the policy and, if necessary, modify the policy at a later date. The goal is to give the fire chief something to work with. The value of having a common policy for both the city and rural warrants a common good. Trustee Hoel commented the time line to get new members on board before fire season is critical. If the board adopts the policy at the May 13th meeting, the time line projects two weeks for John to review the applications prior to June. The board needs to move forward with adopting the policy. The board needs to start doing their job. John confirmed six applications are on hold, two city and four rural. Chair Clapp understands everyone's frustration. The city made a concrete proposal today to respond in a week. Additionally other documents need to be reviewed and implemented by the city/rural. Trustee Hoel understands working with the city is valuable. Drew doesn't have a problem delaying the adoption if it is understood the June, July, August review of applications needs to be set aside if the department goes into June without the document adopted. Trustee Koberg commented the approval at the May Rural Fire Board meeting would allow for the applications to be reviewed and active for June. John commented the rookie training starts June 15 and would be available for the new firefighters. Chair Clapp introduced options for the board to consider: 1) accept the policy as written, 2) accept on behalf of the board and send it to the city pending final adoption, 3) do anything. Trustee Gembala suggested the months for no review of applications state June to September. In the past, the applications were before the membership. Now the chief is in charge along with two others. There is no mandate to respond within a given time. Trustee Hoel suggested the board acknowledge the “How to become a firefighter” policy was reviewed and send the document to the city for their review. Trustee Konitz commented there is a lot to consideration. The board is trying to coordinate with the mayor involved for the volunteer firefighters. Will Woodger commented the rural board has been trying a long time to coordinate with the city. What the rural is approving tonight is the future of the fire department. The rural has an obligation to the rural taxpayers. Chair Clapp commented one of the problems is systemic within the department. The department keeps looking in the past. We need to start looking toward the future. The question to consider – Is the step we are about to take going to improve service to the community? Jack thinks waiting and trying to have an uniform approach is yes. Trustee Hoel commented we are looking to the future, but we need to learn from our past. Bruce Gerlach commented the response seems consistent as in past years, with three people showing up. The volunteers need the training to become a firefighter. A response policy review and adoption is a big concern. Fred Nelson contacted the city manager. The meeting was positive, therefore Fred supports waiting a week for the city to respond. Trustee Konitz commented the district has made tremendous progress.

Public Input on Non Agenda Items: {40:14} Berl Tiskus, Valley Journal reporter apologized for an error in the fire department news article in the April 22 edition of the Valley Journal. The letter of no confidence came from 10 officers of the Polson Fire Department and the Polson Rural Fire
Department. The board thanked Berl for the correction. Chair Clapp thanked Berl for attending the board meetings and keeping everyone informed.

**ADJOURNMENT** {41.29} - Polson Rural Fire District Board special meeting adjourned 8:05 p.m. Trustee Hoel motion to adjourn. Trustee Konitz second. Motion passed unanimously.

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R. Jack Clapp, Chair            Drew Hoel, Secretary-Treasurer
POLSON RURAL FIRE DISTRICT AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday April 22, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.
Fairgrounds Station

OLD BUSINESS: (Continued from April 8, 2015 regular monthly meeting).

New truck update/completion
(Review components)

New Business: (Continued from April 8, 2015 regular monthly meeting).
New Firefighter Process
How to become a firefighter

Public Input on Non Agenda Items:

**All residents of the Polson Rural Fire District and interested general public are encouraged to attend. Resident’s questions and ideas help to keep the trustees informed and assist them in formulating their decisions. Any member of the public wishing to submit items for Board review/consideration needs to submit them to the Board Clerk at least ten (10) days in advance of the meeting. For a full text of approved minutes and the agenda please go to [www.polsonfire.org](http://www.polsonfire.org)