

# VILLAGE OF OCONOMOWOC LAKE

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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARDS OF OCONOMOWOC LAKE AND SUMMIT AND THE SUMMIT FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION, held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, Unofficial until approved by the Village Board. Approved as written ( X ) or with corrections ( ) on 07-18-2011.**

A special meeting of the Boards of Trustees of the Village of Oconomowoc Lake and the Village of Summit and the Summit Fire District Commission was held on June 14, 2011, commencing at 7:00 p.m., at the Village Hall, 35328 W. Pabst Road, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Legal requirements for notification as required by law have been met. Roll was taken with the following in attendance:

VILLAGE OF OCONOMOWOC LAKE TRUSTEES	VILLAGE OF SUMMIT TRUSTEES	SUMMIT FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
Joseph L. Birbaum, President	Jack Riley, President	Matt Dinnauer
Michael Bickler	Kraig Arenz	Kathy Wentland
Jeff Fellows	Jim Breen	Don Wiemer
Joe Owens	Dave Zimmermann	
Chris Shult		

## **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Milt Wegner, Summit Fire Chief, Henry Elling (Village of Summit Administrator), Cindy J. Schlieve (Clerk-Treasurer, Village of Oconomowoc Lake), Dousman Fire Department representatives Robert Buth, Robert Leonard, and Steve Totzke

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING OPTIONS FOR THE FIRE SERVICE**

Mr. Arenz reviewed the results of the small group meeting that was held on May 18, 2011. The initial objectives, as determined by the three entities at their May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, were reviewed and a list of objectives in order of importance was created, noting those that were considered a need or a want.

1. Use the funding formula previously proposed, including the fire station that is now shared with the City of Oconomowoc Fire Department. Discussions should include looking at the equipment and current assets being brought to the table. A merged department should give credit for existing equipment initially; when new equipment is purchased by that merged department, the equipment would then be owned jointly. This is a need for both owners. The proposal will either meet this criteria or it will not.
2. A merged department would have fractional ownership and representation into the governance of entity. This is a need for both owners. The proposal would need to be reviewed to be certain it met both parties' expectations.
3. Determine the cost savings. This is a need for both owners. Both parties would like to show a cost savings. This could be in outright annual expenses or long term spending.

4. The service level should include, but not be limited to, paramedic service, ambulance service, full-time staff. This is a want. There may be a number of options that could exclude paramedic service initially. A point in the discussions should be to either have this service or be able to evolve to this service.
5. Decide if the Villages want one fire district or two within each Village. Currently both Villages have two fire districts in each municipality (Summit is covered by Dousman Fire Department and Summit Fire Department; Oconomowoc Lake is covered by Okauchee Fire Department and Summit Fire Department; Oconomowoc Ambulance service covers both municipalities). This is a want. Each municipality will have to weigh the benefits or drawbacks from having multiple fire districts.
6. Create a coverage map; response time should be equal to or better than the current response times. This is a want. Based on where all other Departments are located there will likely be areas that will have better response time and areas that would have worse response times. This information would need to be reviewed to be certain it was acceptable to each municipality.
7. Determine the time commitment owed to the merger. For example, Lake Country Fire Department's current contract states that there is a seven (7) year minimum before any withdrawal from the merged department. This is a want. We have a great deal of flexibility depending on what we get for a response from any of the interested parties.
8. Determine who can get the merger done the quickest. The goal is to have it done in 2012. This is a want. Based on how many parties there may be for this agreement, it may be impossible to have this completed by 2012.

Discussion followed regarding the order of importance and what next steps to take. Mr. Birbaum noted that the next step should be to talk to the three departments with which a merger might be possible (Okauchee Fire Department, Dousman Fire Department, and Lake Country Fire Department). Find out what their thoughts are on the matter, their receptivity to a merger. Trustees from both municipalities agreed that they would like to go forward as a team with the Summit Fire Department. It was decided that representatives of the small group should make contact with the three departments. It was determined that a minimum of 60 days would be required for making contact with the departments. The Village of Summit will get an update at their September 2, 2011 board meeting, and the Village of Oconomowoc Lake will get an update at their September 19, 2011 board meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion (Owens/Bickler) was made to adjourn at approximately 8:30 p.m., and *Carried Unanimously*.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved and ordered posted by:

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Cindy J. Schlieve, Clerk-Treasurer

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Joseph L. Birbaum, Village President