

Harlan Fire Special Department Meeting 07.06.26

Special Department Meeting was called to order by Interim Chief Bruce Blum at 18:05. Need to acknowledge the resignation of Chad Butler as he stepped down last meeting. We also need to nominate a new President since Chad was also the President. Captain Ryne Nelsen nominated Jacob Hazen. Mike Keinast made a motion to cease nominations. Motion was seconded by Alex Blum. All were in favor. Nominations ceased. Jacob Hazen accepted Presidency. With Jacob moving to President, this opened up Jacob's Board Member position for the remainder of this year. Patrick Gaul nominated himself. Alex Blum nominated himself. Mike Keinast made a motion to cease nominations. Motion was seconded by Chris Bylund. All were in favor. A secret vote was done and counted.

No new member applications. We did have one candidate present who was interested in joining. He introduced himself as Brandon Gray and gave us history. He is originally from California, joined the Army and moved to North Carolina. He moved to Nebraska when he got out. He moved to Harlan August 2025. He lives in Harlan and works at Dollar General. He has family and friends in the volunteer fire service. He would like to join. We will read his application at the next meeting. He remained for the meeting.

Alex Blum was voted in to finish the open Board Member position. Alex accepted.

The following items were discussed:

- We need to clean the trucks inside and out for the parade this Thursday.
- Tractor pulls are this Wednesday. We will meet at the Fire Station at 5:15 pm. Those volunteering are Traci, Butchy, Bruce, and maybe's are Patrick and Mary.
- We need to clean the station before RAGBRAI. TICs and radios that are not good can be pitched or put upstairs to determine what to do with them later. Butchy will take care of radios.
- Fireworks are this Friday at 8:30.
- RAGBRAI
 - o There will be a reefer outback possibly. We will be out in the bay area for taking orders, etc.
 - o There will be people using the meeting room, the grassy area, the shower, and possibly the basement.
 - o We need to determine where to put the freezer truck/HyVee Seafood truck.
 - o Venmo has been set up. They will need to call or text their order in. We will need to confirm and possibly have an order form to complete.
 - o We need to have a way to communicate – radios, Tango/Tango, landline, etc. Maybe get a dedicated TAC channel. Private probably won't work.
 - o We need to have bank bags for each gator and a QR code. We are selling for \$8/bag. We need to determine how much money will be in each bag, i.e. we need \$100 in ones, \$20 in fives, \$100 in tens, \$100 in twenties, etc. They will have

large bills since Harlan is the first stop. Have a bank box at the station so we can use to exchange money – can have \$200 of each at the station. Traci will take care of the money. We will have seven (7) gators – Justin 2, Mike 1, Richard 1, Butchy 1 & extras. Jim Zimmerman needs to know this week how many bills we need.

- We have back up in case there are accidents or fire calls. They may dispatch Dunlap, Portsmouth, or Avoca cause we would have to “buck” traffic. Calls might come out of order. Can have helpers come in too in case we get calls. Honoraries have not been contacted. We can check with a few of them.
 - We will need food and drinks here. Maybe ask SubWay. Traci offered to get food cooked and have it here for those of us working. Stock the fridge downstairs with pop, water, and Gatorade. ScotchARoos were offered.
 - Shirts will be done on the 9th.
 - We need to charge radios or have back up radios. Mary will get her radio to Bruce for back up.
 - All businesses on the square have been told to go through the Fire Department for ice. We will need to go through on the other side of the square or against Court St.
 - We only have one pre-order (Tim Miller). The City, beer gardens, and Cindy/Westside will need also.
 - Bruce will be stationed at the Comm Center.
 - Can use a pick up truck for large orders. Ryne offered his truck.
 - We will start at 8:00 am until we run out or 8:00 pm driving around. We will be having to provide to the businesses until at least 10:00 pm. Report to the Fire Station at 7:00 am on Sunday. If we run out, HyVee will have some. Monday we should be up at Highway 59 where the vehicles, not bikes, are leaving.
- Zach, Troy, and Jacob will do fireworks on Friday night.

Meeting adjourned at 18:51.

Submitted by Mary Yates, Secretary

These minutes are as recorded by the secretary and are subject to Department approval at the next regular meeting.