

MINUTES

Lawton Fire Department
Vehicle Accident Review Board
September 12, 2024
3rd Floor Conference Room
Lawton City Hall
8:30 am

1. **Roll call – meeting called to order at :** 08:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dustin Way, Sergeant
Matthew McKinney, Captain
Candy Brown, Deputy HR Director
David Miller, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor
Kyle Nyhart, Chairman

GUEST MEMBER:

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Fisher, Corporal and Kyle Elam, Sergeant

OTHERS PRESENT:

2. **Minutes**

A. Approval of minutes from July 9, 2024.

Motion by McKinney Second by Way

Roll Call: Fisher- absent
Elam- absent
Way- aye
McKinney- aye
Brown- abstain
Miller- aye

AYES: 3 NAYS: Motion carried.

3. **New Business:**

1. J. Marple – E4 (7/03/24)

Discussion: Nyhart read the Chief's recommendation. Way stated the SOG was followed by utilizing two backers and having the window rolled down. He stated he felt they did everything in their power to prevent this accident. Brown asked who would have raised the door. Way explained that it is typically the driver who uses a remote

inside the vehicle. Nyhart brought to the board's committee that one crew member reported an issue with the door, but this issue wasn't reported to Command Staff and other crews did not know about it. Way asked if the policy allows for zero points under any other classification other than A. He restated that the damage to the door was minimal and the policies were followed. Brown asked if the spotters couldn't see the door wasn't open the whole way? Way expressed concern with the driver being recommended for points because he did everything he was supposed to do. Miller asked how close to the top of the door is the vehicle? He recommended marking the door with reflective tape and the side of the building, inside and outside the station so this can be prevented in the future. Brown asked if the policy was written so that a non-operator could receive points. Brown stated that the driver relies on the spotters to assist him with backing and avoiding obstacles. McKinney stating that the backers would be watching the lines on the floor of the station, not the door when the vehicle starts moving back. Way said you'll check to see if the door is open and then you'll watch the line.

Motion by Brown to table the review of this packet, second by Miller.

Roll Call: Fisher- absent
Elam- absent
Way- aye
McKinney- aye
Brown- aye
Miller- aye

AYES: 4 NAYS: Motion carried.

2. A. Swedlund- SQ4 (7/07/24)

Discussion: Nyhart read the Chief's recommendation.

Motion by Way _____ to go with Chief's recommendation, C-3
, second by McKinney _____.

Roll Call: Fisher- absent
Elam- absent
Way- aye
McKinney- aye
Brown- aye
Miller- aye

AYES: 4 NAYS: Motion carried.

3. N. Smith- E4 (7/08/24)

Discussion: Lydon stated that Chief's office forwarded this to the VARB committee so they could see Class A recommendations even though the policy states Class A are not required to go for review by the board. Nyhart read the Chief's recommendation of Class A, zero points.

Motion by Way to go with Chief's recommendation, Class A, zero points
, second by Brown

Roll Call: Fisher- absent
Elam- absent
Way- aye
McKinney- aye
Brown- aye
Miller- aye

AYES: 4 NAYS: Motion carried.

4. W. Fisher- E5 (7/12/24)

Discussion: Nyhart read the Chief's recommendation. Way stated he failed to find the regulations for what a parking lot is supposed to be built to. He said that he knows fire lanes and approaches have to be built to a standard that will hold the heaviest of vehicles. He stated he had difficulty giving someone points for driving onto an asphalt parking lot because "we go onto asphalt parking lots all the time". Brown asked if he had room to back. Way said the truck did have another alternative, but that this parking lot was the most open area to turn around in. McKinney asked what a trash truck would do in this parking lot for a dumpster and Brown said in the past they have had to go in and push the dumpsters out toward the truck and avoid driving on the asphalt. Brown asked if there were better pictures? None were available at the meeting. Way asked what time of the day they were driving? It was around 8 p.m. Nyhart asked if an experienced driver would have questioned turning around in that parking lot. Way stated that an experienced driver might have found an alternate way, but the department is very young and some just don't know about asphalt. He told a story about a structure fire where he sunk the ladder in hot asphalt at Cameron. McKinney said he didn't think this asphalt was done correctly, but it doesn't negate the fact that there was another alternative.

Motion by Brown to go with Chief's recommendation, B-2
, second by Miller

Roll Call: Fisher- absent
Elam- absent

Way- aye
McKinney- aye
Brown- aye
Miller- aye

AYES: 4 NAYS: Motion carried.

4. **Communication/Discussion:** None.

5. **Adjournment:**
Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Way _____, second by McKinney.

Meeting adjourned at 08:55 a.m.