

I will continue to randomly select entries from the Centralia Fire Company #1 meeting minutes ledger and attempt to remain as close to the original text as possible. This includes spelling and grammar. If anyone has a request for a particular era, please contact Rick McDonnell through this site.

On December 4, 1908 Centralia experienced its worst fire to date. I guess the fireman and Centralia's residents were quite busy recovering during this month because I do not have a record of a meeting held during December. The meeting held prior to the conflagration was held on November 5, 1908. The ledger reflects the next meeting on January 7, 1909. Please see "Centralia Fire News Articles" folder for additional information.

Jan. 7th 1909

Regular meeting John P. Laughlin (Sp?) Pres. Pro Tem.

Committee on By Laws for Relief Association reported having written to State Firemans Association for copy of constitution.

Committee appointed to confer with Council in regard to purchasing material to fight fires reported having secured 2 coils of rope and 6 pick axes. Report accepted and committee continued.

Propositions- Patk Dempsey, Thomas Laughlin and Thomas Walsh. Motion of Michael McDonald (McDonnell) that By Laws be suspended. Motioned carried.

Motion by H.J. Heffner (?) that committee be appointed by Pres. to bring Mr. Peter Leuahan (?) before this meeting.

Fire Marshal McDonald (McDonnell) reported having selected the following men for the various positions.

Nozzle Men - Thos Griffith (?), Jas Douse, Edw Lawler (?) Norman Pet, William Walsh.

Plug Men - W.J. Yarworth, David Beibe (?), Mich Madden, Cap Heffner.

Ladder Men - Geo Troutman, Geo Jones.

Line Men - Jas O'Donnell, Jno Holfher (?), Patk Curry, Sam'l McElherny (?).

Advisory com - D. Kellar, J. O'Donnell, Cap Heffner, W.J. Yarworth.

Motion of Reutelhuber (?) that trustees be authorized to cover the floor of the parlor with inlaid linoleum the quality to be selected by their judgment. Motion of McDonald (McDonnell) that committee of 4, McDonald (McDonnell), Laughlin, Heffner, O'Donnell be authorized to procure prices on 4 fire extinguishers.

Motion carried.

Mr. Peter Leuahan (?) appeared before this company and admitted that he had given Mr. Dyke permission and begged to be forgiven. On motion he was excused.

Motion that Secretarys have notice printed and posted on door to hose room stating that Hose not be used for any purpose but fire. Motion of McDonald (McDonnell) that committee be appointed to investigate the payment of teamsters who hauled the Ashland Fire Co's apparatus to this town for the fire of Dec. 4th, also to insert notice of thanks in Ashland papers to Ashland Fire Companies.

Fire Marshal reported fire of Dec. 4th and that in view of not having water nothing much could be done as they had the hose connection all made in good time.

Adjourned
H.J. Heffner , Secty