

Jackson County Fire District 3

Minutes - Board of Directors

March 19, 2020 at 5:15 PM, Crater Lake Room, Administrative Building

ATTENDANCE

Board Present: Directors Harvey Tonn, John Dimick, Steve Shafer, Bill Leavens, and Cindy Hauser via videoconference

Board Absent: None

Staff Present: Robert Horton, Stacy Maxwell, John Patterson, and Margie Calvert

Staff Absent: Mike Hussey, Justin Bates, and Dave Blakely

Visitors Present: Lorin Myers via videoconference

President Tonn called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. pursuant to ORS 192.640 and as advertised in the Mail Tribune dated March 12, 2020.

MINUTES

Motion by Director Leavens to approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting dated February 20, 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue for the month of February totaled \$136,443. Revenue resulted from current year taxes.

Expenditures for the month of February totaled \$965,582. Noteworthy expenditures were the security card access systems for the Central Point and Eagle Point stations and expenses for the Scenic station.

Motion by Director Dimick to approve the Accounts Payable and the Revenue/Expenditure reports for February 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chaplain Myers stated he appreciates the ability to attend the Board meeting via the Zoom video conferencing software.

PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing opened at 5:25 p.m. Ordinance No. 22 adopts the 2019 Oregon Fire Code and repeals Ordinance No. 21 (2014 Oregon Fire Code). The ordinance adoption process requires two (2) public hearings at least ten (10) days apart. The first reading of the Ordinance (by title only) was on February 20, 2020 by President Tonn. This is the second and final reading. President Tonn read the title only. Copies of Ordinance No. 22 were made available. The public hearing closed at 5:27 p.m.

Motion by Director Shafer to adopt Ordinance No. 22 adopting the 2019 Oregon Fire Code. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Fire Chief Horton shared the conversations regarding the ASA Ordinance has come to a halt as the concern has moved toward the COVID-19 virus and Jackson County Health Agency needs.

Horton shared the Fire District's has reviewed all essential and non-essential functions, needs, and changes due to COVID-19. The Governor's office and Special Districts continues to give information on public meetings. The District is supportive of administrative staff having the opportunity to work from home if they should choose due to childcare issues and health concerns. CEC Heather Sears continues to work behind the scenes regarding school opportunities for the members.

Horton stated that the entire fire workforce for Jackson County is mobilizing and an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) has been enacted at ECSO and the District has found great collaboration in all services.

Horton shared it is not the intent of the District to staff the ambulance but to stay involved in the fire service as well as help move toward the TeleHealth platform. The guidance to the members is to reduce exposure to themselves and manage the calls to the best of their ability.

Horton shared that the District has continued to move forward with the different hiring processes; there are three of the Community Care Provider – Paramedics in backgrounds, one of the nine Administrative Assistant candidates will go to backgrounds, and the Battalion Chief process continues with many changes.

OPERATIONS

Fire Chief Horton shared the Type III Interface engine is due to be delivered to Springfield for a final inspection. The preliminary inspection will be done virtually.

Firefighter Brian Anders has been promoted to Engineer and will begin his new position March 31, 2020.

TRAINING AND SAFETY

Fire Chief Horton shared that the firefighter recruit academy continues, however the graduation ceremony has been postponed to a later date.

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY

Fire Marshal Patterson shared the departments four year comparison of fire calls and the investigations of fires the years 2016-2019.

Patterson gave a quick update on the Scenic fire station. The District is on schedule to open June 1, 2020. All items that are reasonable to move from the Table Rock station will move to the Scenic station.

STRATEGIC SERVICES

Fire Chief Horton stated that Engineer Tom Kerley has been promoted to Captain and will lead the Community Risk Reduction efforts beginning March 30, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

TOPICS FOLLOWING PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA

RESOLUTION No.20-02 CONTINGENCY TRANSFER TO DEPARTMENTAL EQUIPMENT

Fire Chief Horton explained the need for a contingency transfer of \$77,000 from the Capital Fund to Departmental Equipment to acquire the software program FirstWatch which connect to the computer aided dispatch (CAD) system and ECSO during the global health pandemic known as COVID-19. This software will monitor types of calls, location of calls, and trend call types based on an established criteria that will provide emergency responders and health care systems the ability to see clusters of emergent incidents and connect to the District's record management system, ImageTrend, providing the District the capability to run filters and detailed response statistics.

Motion by Director Dimick to adopt Resolution No. 20-02 authorizing the contingency transfer of \$77,000 from the Capital Fund to Departmental Equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Fire Chief Horton thanked the Board for their support and shared the cooperation of the partnerships the District has, Superintendent Samantha Steele donated N95 masks that the school district had left over from fire season.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

John Dimick shared that the larger community is extremely fortunate to have Chief Horton on the Fire Defense Board. He is the right guy for the right situation.

Steve Shafer agrees with Director Dimick regarding Chief Horton and stated that Fire Marshal Patterson has done a great job leading out on the Scenic station.

Bill Leavens that appreciates the fact that with all that is going on, we still have fire season right around the corner; would like to compliment Chief Horton as he has reached out to create a better relationship with Mercy Flights, he sees great progress with the Scenic station, and he is happy to see the news media being collaborative between political parties.

Cindy Hauser thanked Justin Bates for being patient with her as she learned the Zoom videoconferencing. Costco opens at 8:00 am for the older people and she is happy to see the community supporting the small businesses.

Harvey Tonn agrees with Director Dimick as we are fortunate having Chief Horton's leadership and reminded everyone that we are going to be okay. We have an organization of well-trained, intelligent, and compassionate people who will make good decisions.

The next Board of Directors meeting is April 16, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:25p.m. by Director Shafer. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED BY:

Submitted by:


Board of Directors


Margie Calvert, Scribe