

Jackson County Fire District 3

Minutes - Board of Directors

August 18, 2022, at 5:15 PM, Crater Lake Room, Administrative Building via ZOOM

ATTENDANCE

Board Present: Directors Harvey Tonn, Steve Shafer, Tim Snaith, Bill Leavens, and John Dimick

Board Absent: None

Staff Present: Robert Horton, Mike Hussey, Justin Bates, and Stephanie Cowan

Staff Absent: John Patterson, Stacy Maxwell, and Margie Calvert

Visitors Present: Bryan Cohee, Lorin Myers, Samantha Didion, Marisa Lehnerz, Josh Platt, Jason Allen, Andy Cardinal, Cole Hornbrook, Jared Hooper, TJ Lockwood, Damonn, Sophia Bradley, and Brian Mortensen via Zoom

President Tonn called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. pursuant to ORS 192.640 and as advertised in the Mail Tribune dated August 12, 2022.

MINUTES

Motion by Director Dimick to approve the minutes of the Executive Session and the regular Board Meeting dated July 21, 2022, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue for the month of July totaled \$61,580 with the majority coming from grant revenue and wildfire season staffing support.

Expenditures for the month of July totaled \$1,584,505 with personnel services at \$1,121,080 and \$239,072 from materials services.

Accounts payable equated to \$771,874 with noteworthy items being SCBA masks, lenses, and harnesses, four gas sensor calibration stations, several routine annual technology subscription expenses, debt payment for the Scenic station financing, and funding towards the Scenic park project.

Motion by Director Shafer to approve the Accounts Payable and the Revenue/Expenditure reports for July 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chaplain Lorin Myers thanked the Board for the District's support regarding his wife's diagnosis. The District has come together to help them, and he is thankful for the help. Myers reported that she is doing very well, and the gift cards have really helped. Myers thanked the District for being his family and he is grateful for being the District Chaplain.

INFORMATION ITEMS

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Fire Chief Horton gave an update on the Rogue Valley Fire Rescue Alliance second meeting.

Horton shared he was in North Carolina to visit the Insurance Business Institute Research Laboratory regarding what we can do to keep our patron's home insurance rates and be more resilient towards wildfire. Mitigation not reflected in scores that were received so they are advocating for this.

Horton shared the District hosted Senator Ron Wyden at our facility touring the intelligence center and met with the Heavy Brush 21 crew. The District has asked for federal appropriation funds for a regional Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) mobile command vehicle. Senators Wyden and Berkley have endorsed and support the Districts request. Senator Wyden commended the collaboration of the Alliance.

Horton reported the ECSO director search still ongoing. There will be an Interim director for 2 to 6 months.

Horton shared that PSA Marisa Lehnerz has been hard at work collaboration with RITA on the workshop "Presenting Your Best Self" and spoke on what this means.

OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND SAFETY

Deputy Chief Hussey shared the District has seen some challenging fires due to high temperatures, siting the Corey Road fire at 114 – 115 degrees and heavy fuels, which is a testament to our readiness. BC Cohee did an excellent job in command while ODF assisted and OSFM authorized payment for aircraft to cover the expense. The added assistance helped turn the corner on this event.

Hussey shared that HB21 got in quick on rapidly moving grass fire on Worthington Road.

Hussey shared this past month the District has been busy testing skills in a promotional exam and finished the interview processes for the different Battalion Chief positions.

Hussey offered information on the Linn Road fire that happened this morning involving a manufactured home and storage buildings. This fire required resources from other agencies in the valley allowing crews to mitigate the hazards quickly.

President Tonn asked questions regarding the Corey Road fire. Hussey shared that the Executive Team is currently discussing options. Deputy Chief Bates added that as a community risk reduction standpoint, Fire Marshal Patterson has reported that properties of this type have many code enforcement citations which limits our ability to do much. Patterson is looking into code enforcement and bringing all agencies involved to the table to work on a solution.

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY

Deputy Chief Bates shared there has been an issue regarding access to homes on Beagle Road. An access road to property farther up the road goes across one resident's property. The owner of the property has begun to denied access by fencing off the road, which has caused the other residents to go to social media and has named the Fire District in the complaints. Most of the homes are not in the District. Fire Marshal Patterson created a different route/road for the homes that we protect and has settled the issue and allows the District access to the properties within our area.

STRATEGIC SERVICES

Deputy Chief Bates shared the department has been busy with the home assessments due to the release of the OSU maps that went out. Captain Kassab has been doing a great job of sharing information with our patrons. This has also created a great demand on the fuels trailer.

Bates reported the District is gearing up for fuels reduction work in the Wren Ridge area that is funded through a \$380,000 grant received with ODF. Focus is community outreach events to share information on the services available through this grant.

Bates reported that Community Care will go back to providing coverage through a 7-day work week beginning in early October. Bates shared a Community Care success story in which the unit has been working with an elderly woman who has called 911 a lot. They have worked hard to get her assistance with other agencies and have been able to get her into a care facility. This is another example of what the Community Care Unit does.

Bates recognized Administrative Assistant Stephanie Cowan for her service. She has been integral to the Training Department before she became the assistant to Strategic Services. Stephanie will be moving to Montana.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

TOPICS FOLLOWING PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA

NONE

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chief Horton thanked Administrative Assistant Cowan for her service to the District.

Horton shared a thank you note from the Rogue Girls Fire Camp as well as a letter of thanks from a family from Eugene who had an incident at Crater Lake recognizing the great work and comfort she received from the team.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

John Dimick complimented Community Engagement Coordinator Samantha Didion on another great social media report.

Tim Snaith thanked the District for Corey Road getting it handled. Appreciates the good relationship with other agencies.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. by Director Shafer. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED BY:


Board of Directors

Submitted by:


Stephanie Cowan and Margie Calvert