

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 9, 2009**

PRESENT: Cheri Avgeris, Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Cindy Warzyn, Steve Avgeris, Andy Herskind, Betsy Bradshaw.

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm. The Board welcomed Cindy and thanked her for agreeing to serve on the Board.

MINUTES

It was M/S/P (Davies/Avgeris) to approve the minutes of the September meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri passed out the financial statements. We have \$8,943.87 in the checking account, \$1,667.70 in the Savings account and \$20,894.96 in the County treasurer's account. Cheri reported that we are in good shape in terms of the rate of spending of the adopted budget.

CHIEF'S REPORT

CRFD received a copy of the inspection done on August 27 of this year from the Special Districts Association of Oregon. A copy of this report goes to OSHA and Tod commented that she could use the findings for grant applications. The report was very favorable, commenting on the quality of the services provided to the community through CRFD. The search and rescue functions were praised. The report concluded with the statement, "For a smaller fire district, I was impressed with their training and the steps they have taken to ensure the safety of their volunteers."

Steve reported that there have been 10 incidents since the last meeting, probably the most in any month for the past several years. Five of these were vehicle accidents (several serious); two were wild land fires, one vehicle fire, one structure fire and one false alarm.

Steve asked Peggy to draft a letter to Siskiyou County to thank them for the excellent work they have done on the road.

Steve reported that Brush 44 is gone a lot because Cal Fire is using it, which is part of the agreement between the agencies. Steve and Andy will be meeting with Bernie Paul, Jim Sweet and others to discuss the revenue situation with B 44. The proposal is that CRFD receive half the revenue (since we put about \$10,000 into the rig) and Cal Fire would receive the other half.

Steve reported that the insurance issue with Class 9 rating is widespread throughout rural communities across the country. The insurance companies and representatives of the fire service are trying to negotiate a system for rating, probably a 1-10 scale, which would address the “protectability” of a structure. Problems abound with this including who does the rating, how often is it done, etc. This is an ongoing discussion.

Steve cancelled a contract with a person who has not paid the District for the past 18 months. The person asked if there was an appeal process. Steve said he’d take the action to the Board. The Board discussed the situation and in fairness to all, supported the Chief’s decision to uphold the cancellation of the contract. The person will need to apply for annexation or attempt to come under Fire District 5.

Cindy asked how many contracts were held and Steve reported about six. She suggested that we prorate them this year, thus allowing a single month, in the future, when the contracts would come due. It would make tracking them far easier.

Steve reported that the 15acre fire, which began last night, had serious communication problems. Cal Fire has 300 channels, as does Oregon. Steve will be meeting with representatives from Cal Fire, Forest Service, ODF, Klamath National and others to attempt to have one frequency at boarder responses. He has requested that both the Hilt and CRFD Boards be in attendance.

Steve mentioned that he was extremely proud of the volunteers who responded to this fire. They were professional, performed well and were a credit to the fire service.

Steve is concerned with the liability involved with engineers who are not certified for both night and day responses. He is going to have people sign up as either day or evening responders, or both.

Teri suggested that appointments be set with the engineers and Steve will pursue this.

GRANTS

Tod shared with the Board a request from the Applegate group to attend a meeting to discuss a collaborative. The Board suggested she present the project done here with clearing and how effective it has been.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on November 13th at 6:00 at the Hilt Church.

There being no further business it was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to adjourn at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore