

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

September 4, 2009

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

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm at the Hilt Church.

MINUTES

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Avgeris) to approve the August minutes as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri provided the Board with the budget detail (Profit and Less Budget vs. Actual, Bank Account Detail and the rental activity for the Hilt Volunteer Fire Company).

We have \$11,883.18 in the General Fund, \$20,544.08 in the State Treasury account and \$1,667.67 in the Savings Account.

Cheri restated that the grant money was received, allowing us to purchase the equipment requested. Because the company we purchased the Personnel Protection Equipment (PPEs) was more reasonable than we had expected we were able to purchase 7 sets rather than 6.

Peggy asked the Chief if there was some procedure for selecting which volunteers would receive the first of the new PPEs. Steve responded that those who don't have any and actually go into structures will be the first to receive them, then those who have older ones and respond to structure fires. His hope is that by October (when the next round of grant money is available) we will be able to outfit the entire active department. Steve is using the list Teri developed, listing the number of calls each volunteer responded to for this procedure.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Board had asked Peggy to speak with Cindy Warzin about the possibility of her filling the Board seat vacated by Carolyn Brafford. Cindy agrees to serve. The appointment is until the next election, May of 2011.

It was M/S/P (Avgeris/Davies) to appoint Cindy Warzin to the Board for the duration of the vacant term.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that CRFD had three calls since the last meeting. One was a non-injury vehicle incident and two were wild land fires. Currently one of those fires, although almost contained, is still engaged. The water tender has been out for 40 hours on the fire and 44-10 for 6-8 hours.

Steve reported that the clutch on 44-12 is almost gone and will need to be replaced. Hopefully, it will make it through the rest of this fire season. There will be some necessary repairs on some of the vehicles, including the water tender which must meet Cal Fire's standards, since they rent the tender.

Steve called Slim Maddox (from the railroad) to thank them for taking care of the railroad ties, which are now gone. Thanks especially to Tod for her continued pursuit of the removal of this fire hazard.

Steve thanked Peggy for drafting a letter for Hilt about the road. Since it is primarily the road in Siskiyou County, it was appropriate for the Hilt Department to sign the letter. They were out fixing the road the next day. It is much better but has some distance to go before being really fixed.

HOUSEHOLD INSURANCE

Steve and Cheri have received additional inquiries about our Class 9 status from insurance agents. This is becoming a problem since it appears that some companies wish to remove rural properties from their insurable rolls.

Peggy suggested that perhaps a letter be sent to rural districts in Oregon, asking the depth of this problem. It might be necessary to form a coalition and work with legislatures to protect the rural homeowners and their insurance. Tod suggested we have an ally in Peter Buckley and that we might work with him as well. Tod also suggested that she check with the Fuel Reduction Committee, particularly the Applegate representative on a number of issues. She will pursue this.

Steve suggested that we might want to explore the possibility of seeking a Class 8 status. About 80% of the District would qualify for a Class 8. The biggest issue is the 24-7 response of at least five firefighters to each fire. Steve will contact Brian Ballou on this issue as well.

This item will continue to be discussed. It is important to get ahead of the issue and not wait for the insurance companies to try and get legal changes.

COMMUNITY B B QUE

The Board reviewed the menu, amount of food and general agenda for the September 20th gathering. Some folks will arrive at 10:30 to set up. It goes from 12-3. Tod will MC the

brief program. Peggy will introduce the Board and the Chief and Assistant Chief. Tod will then review some history of the District, the relationship between Hilt and Coestin, and where the money goes and some possible goals for the future.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Friday, October 9th at 6 pm at the Hilt Church.

It was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to adjourn at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore