

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 10, 2011**

PRESENT: Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Cindy Warzyn, Steve Avgeris, Chuck Biegert, Betsy Bradshaw.

ABSENT: Pam Hunschild

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 at the Hilt Church.

MINUTES

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) to approve the minutes of the May meeting as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Teri reported that we have \$9,467.00 in the checking account and \$41,584.36 in the state treasury account.

Teri reported that she paid the Worker's Comp bill and was informed that we owe some "back money" because we had a reporting error. Each volunteer costs us about \$90 per year for worker's comp. We had been figuring the hours on only those hours the volunteer put in. In fact we need to calculate a standard in terms of hours unless the person takes a leave of absence from firefighting. Teri will be checking in with the Chief monthly, in case someone has requested a leave for a month.

We have purchased the radios and the current budgeted amount covered the cost with the exception of about \$200. Since some of the radio money has been budgeted and approved for the 2011-12 budget, we are covered on this expense.

Teri did comment that working with Tod and Cindy on the grants, she is more acutely aware of the necessity of cash flow. We are solidly covered in terms of expenses but since the grants generally require a 50% district match and we must often "float" the money prior to actually receiving the grant money, we can be caught short between the purchase of the item and the reimbursement from the grant.

BUDGET

Peggy reported that she signed the budget document on June 1st and Sharron mailed it off to the state immediately after. The earliest the document can be sent is June 1st. The Board expressed its appreciation to Sharron, budget committee chair and members Lisa Buttrey and Karen Dwyer.

CHIEFS REPORT

Steve reported that we received two calls since the last meeting. One was a TC and one was a “man down.”

This year the multi-agency meeting will be held in Hilt. CRFD will be the host agency. The date is July 7th. Betsy will send out cards to the community, announcing fire season which will begin by July 1st and she will include an announcement of the fire training on the 7th. There will be three helicopters and lots of engines so residents at the south end of the Valley will notice that the training is occurring.

Steve was informed that due to the significance of an increase in drugs along the I-5 corridor, and that fact that CRFD responds to I-5 incidents, he will need to take the law enforcement training this year.

Steve informed that Board that Teri Thomas (position 3); Cindy Warzyn (position 4) and Tod Davies (position 5) were elected to the Board in the May 2011 elections.

Steve expressed his deep appreciation to Tod, Teri and Cindy for their work on the grant.

Steve reported that in the recent past, since we did not need new engines, he has not applied for the FEPP (Federal Excess Property Program) which supplies volunteer agencies with surplus fire vehicles when the Forest Service upgrades their vehicles. This year he will be applying since 44-12 needs to be replaced on the Ski Road. It may take six months to a year for this to happen. If we are successful in getting an engine through FEPP, we will offer 44-12 for sale through a sealed bid process.

COLESTIN/HILT MERGER

Steve reported that he has had additional conversations with Siskiyou County Fire Warden Bernie Paul. Chief Paul supports the merger. The Board discussed several reasons why this merger, although it is unique, makes sense for CRFD/Hilt and might for other fire districts that are boarder states and often rely on each other for mutual or automatic aid. The Board members cited the following reasons for endorsing this merger: it is a better husbanding of resources, it will increase efficiency for both departments, and it will allow Hilt residents to get a Class 9 ISO rating immediately upon the merger. There are other examples of states cooperating across state lines including colleges and career programs like fire science and nursing.

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) that CRFD propose the merger of the Colestin Rural Fire District with the Hilt Fire Company, effective July 1st. The new District would become one district with one Board of Directors.

Peggy was asked to send a letter to Siskiyou County Fire Warden Bernie Paul, notifying him of this action and requesting that a process begin which will bring about the legal merger. Steve will contact the Supervisor of District 2, in Siskiyou County, to make her aware that this action is being proposed. Hilt is in District 2. Then Chief Paul will bring the matter before the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors for discussion and hopefully their approval as the Board that oversees the Hilt Fire Company.

BOARD RESIGNATION

Tod Davies informed the Board that she will be moving to Boulder Colorado with her husband who has accepted a job at the University of Colorado. The resignation is effective October 1st. Tod said she will be resigning, “with deep regret and with appreciation for her work with the present Board.” She will be providing the Board with a letter of resignation.

The Board will discuss a replacement for Tod. There is some interest in looking to members of the current Hilt Board as a possible candidate.

COMMUNITY PICNIC

Cindy outlined the menu for the picnic and brought up the need to purchase tee shirts and sweatshirts for sale. Currently there are requests for tee shirts, in other than blue. Cindy has researched the buying history of apparel. The Board suggested she pick the larger sizes and purchase \$600 worth of clothing. When that begins to sell out, more can be ordered. Teri suggested we don't want to tie up money in inventory.

The Board agreed to have the picnic on Saturday, September 10th at the Hilt Church. Karen Dwyer has offered to provide an information booth on health at the event.

Cindy will head up the picnic with help from the rest of the Board.

GRANTS

Tod and Teri cautioned the Board that we need to pay more attention to volunteer hours, particularly hours put in by board members and others that are not in the field. Many of these hours count for in kind credit for grants. Last year a number of volunteers went through the First Responder Course and these hours all counted. This year, that is not the case so people need to keep hours and get them to Teri.

Chuck suggested a spreadsheet that can list each person contributing and the dates and hours.

AUTHORIZATION OF SIGNATURES

In order to have more than one authorized signature on our account it was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) to authorize Cindy Warzyn as the second signer on the CRFD accounts.

NEXT MEETINGS

Cindy will be out of the state for the August meeting so the Board agreed to hold its regular meeting on the third Friday (August 19th) instead. Pam has indicated that she is fine with that date.

July meeting will be on the 8th at 6:00 at the Hilt Church.

It was M/S/P (Davies/Warzyn) to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore