

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

November 13, 2011

PRESENT: Alissa Lipking, Pam Haunschild, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Cindy Warzyn,
Steve Avgeris.

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm at the Hilt Church

MINUTES

It was M/S/P (Haunschild/Lipking) to approve the minutes of the October meeting as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Teri reported that we have \$9,801.29 in the general fund and \$32,665.99 in the State Treasury Fund. The tax bills are due to the County by November 15th so we should receive a good deal of our share shortly after that. Teri received a letter from Shannon Bell, County Finance Director, estimating that our share of the 2011-12 property tax levies is calculated to be \$36,109.65 which is an \$801.96 difference (less money) from 2010-11.

Teri reported that the taxes were filed on time and no extensions were necessary this year. The Board thanked Teri for handling this.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported we had 3 calls since the last meeting. One medical, one burn and one false alarm. Peggy asked about what appeared to be a number of controlled burns. The Board commented about the excessive amount of smoke in the area. Steve reported that there were several controlled burns including one on the Fugas property, one from Fruit Growers and one from the Forest Service. He will coordinate with the various agencies next year so the burns will be staggered to avoid the excessive smoke we are seeing this year. It is hard to coordinate given the undependable weather, potential rain and snow, etc.

Steve will deal with getting the hose bed project coordinated this week.

Steve reported that we are having a major problem getting day time responders to calls. A number of fire fighters are working outside of the valley during the day. All volunteer agencies are having similar problems but it's one we need to address.

The fire training which will begin after the holidays will begin with the 20 hours of structure training.

Steve informed the Board that we purchased 15 GPS units which will be reimbursed by the grant.

MONUMENT

Peggy has been playing telephone tag with Nancy Ames. Nancy did leave a message that Howard will meet with us and she will contact Howard and Nancy to get a sense of the timing. Bernie Paul and Greg Alexander are also willing to meet.

GRANTS

Cindy outlined what is left to do to complete the grant. The GPS's have been purchased. Steve is working on the hose bed and this must be completed by Dec. 31st. The Board suggested that he ask for a Dec. 15th completion date which he will do. Boots must be purchased. Alissa mentioned that Black Bird gives a Fire Fighter discount and has a generous return policy. Steve reported that we will provide the sizes and purchase the boots from one store. Michael Englestein will handle this. If they don't fit, the fire fighters will have to go in and exchange them and get the right size but with the individuals providing their boot size this should minimize the problem.

The last item to purchase to complete the requirements of the grant is the generator.

Cindy handed out a sheet which provided the different options available to us for a generator. Drew did a lot of work researching the different options and Cindy scoped out the fire house and reviewed the literature as well. The Board had a very lengthy discussion, outlining the pros and cons of propane vs. diesel generators and the size necessary.

Briefly, propane generators are cheaper but also do not last as long. They would require subscribing to a propane service, plumbing for propane, renting a tank. Diesels are more reliable, last longer, require less maintenance and we already have diesel available by the fire house. The Board discussed the fact that we would not use the generator very often during the year but if it is needed, as it was in 2007, it would need to be able to be run 24 hours a day for up to a week. After much discussion the Board agreed to purchase a diesel generator and the best one for our budget is a Perkins 10 KW. The 12 KW is \$514.00 more but the Board felt we could probably be fine with the midsize (10 KW). Cindy would like to look at all of the information and the location in the fire house one more time. As a licensed electrician with years of experience, the Board continues to rely on Cindy's expertise. It was M/S/P (Thomas/Lipking) to purchase the KW 10 Perkins but allow Cindy to upgrade it to a 12KW Perkins if after her further investigation, she thought the 12 would be better for our needs. The motion passed 4-0-1 abstention (Warzyn).

ROAD ISSUES

Teri brought up concerns by Lisa Buttrey about the top road. The Board agreed that people drive that road (actually all of Colestin Road) at unsafe speeds. There have been fatal accidents and injury accidents. Lisa has proposed that the District put up "berma shave" signs, cautioning people to slow down. The cost would be \$140.00 for the entire project. Lisa is willing to pay for

them herself. The Board agreed to purchase and install the signs on the right away. It was M/S/P (Lipking/Haunschild) to approve the purchase and installation of the signs. The Board thanked Lisa for her concern and the recommendation of a solution.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Peggy reminded the Board that we will need to set the timelines for the 2012-13 budget. Working backwards to the due date, we should proceed with our usual pattern. Preliminary meeting with the budget committee at the February Board meeting, preliminary review of the tentative budget at the March meeting, “sunshine” the budget for public comment in April, approval of the permanent budget in May and submission to the state in early June.

Peggy asked if the Board wanted to invite the current Budget committee to serve and they enthusiastically agreed. Peggy will invite them (or plead with them, as they case may be) to serve.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Board meeting will be on the regularly scheduled time and date, Friday, December 9th at 6 pm at the Hilt Church.

It was M/S/P (Lipking/Warzyn) to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.