

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 15, 2017**

PRESENT: Teri Thomas, Peggy Moore, Cindy Warzyn, Steve Avgeris

ABSENT: Pam Haunschild, Alissa Lipking

GUEST: Gary Padgett

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. A quorum was established.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Teri passed out financial information. We have \$ 6,485.39 in the checking account and \$ 74,380.03 in the Treasury account. The statement includes the income from the sale of the truck and \$ 2,476 in grant expenses. In addition, we have a bill for \$ 1,205 for the shirts and hats which we just received and most will be sold at the Picnic in September.

Teri reported that the state has switched to some different rules for the Treasury account. They require two authorized signers on the account. Both do not have to sign but two people must be authorized to sign. Teri is the primary signer and Cindy will be added as the alternate signer.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Peggy has requested a letter of resignation from Alissa. She is moving out of the District and cannot legally continue as a Board member. Tod Davies has expressed an interest in re-joining the Board. It was M/S/P (Warzyn/Thomas) to approve Tod Davies to complete Alissa's two year term.

TRAIN

Teri handed out a 2017 Plan for vegetation Management and Fire Prevention prepared by CORP and submitted to ODF. Steve reviewed it with the Board. Steve has been in contact with Lee Winslow from ODF. Currently the train is running only at night. The run is from Weed to Medford with turbo charged locomotives. They no longer run non turbo engines over the Siskiyou.

Steve reminded the Board that the most likely places for a fire to start are on Bailey Hill or in the Gregory Loop. Turbo engines do not have the same opportunities for sparks to be created that could cause a fire.

The CORP proposal is a voluntary management plan. Peggy asked what the consequences are if CORP does not follow the proposal. There are none.

The Board requested that Steve invite ODF and Cal Fire to the October Board meeting to discuss a possible proposal for 2018 and forward. In order to avoid revisiting this issue each year, if CORP agrees to move to running the trains at night once we go to Level 2, it would not be necessary to continue to discuss this issue each year. Steve reminded the Board that the Bailey Hill and Gregory Loop are the steepest grade in the COUNTRY. Because of this the time and type of running the engines are critical.

Cindy suggested that after we meet with Cal Fire and ODF, we sent a letter to CORP, seeking a change in the time of year they switch to running at night.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported this month was the busiest in terms of calls since the beginning of the Fire District. We received 11 calls (4 vegetation, one vehicle, one medical and 5 illegal activities).

Drew and Cindy stripped 44-41 so it is now ready to sell. The low blue book on it is \$1,247 and the high is \$ 3,247. Given the condition of the vehicle and tires, Steve would be happy if we got \$1,500. Steve is going to put it on Craig's List at \$ 1,500. It will include the language "sell as is) and the buyer must come and get it.

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Warzyn) to approve selling the vehicle for \$ 1,500 as is.

Steve reported that a resident would like to donate a Baby Grand piano in excellent condition to the Fire District to sell. It was sold to her for \$ 12,000 and could easily get \$ 5- 7,000 for it. Teri checked with her and she is not concerned about the amount it would be valued at, she just wants to make a donation. The Board discussed possible ways to handle this.

Teri will ask Phillip if he will check with the piano warehouse to explore possibilities. The Board is concerned that we don't have the volunteers to pursue selling it, getting it moved, etc. If we can't work with the local piano warehouse, we will suggest she put it on Craig's list and donate the amount she receives if that's appropriate. This is a very generous offer but the human resources necessary to work this through are simply not available for us.

Steve discussed the increase in the non compliance of people on fire restrictions. The largest issue is parking in dry grass. Steve just issued a written warning to a second time offender for parking in dry grass. The next time it will be a written citation and the person will go to court and probably pay a fine.

This discussion led into Cindy's request to revisit the suspension of red cards. Teri, Cindy and Steve all feel that not sending the cards is having a negative impact on adherence to regulations and a general lack of knowing the rules.

Cindy and Teri offered to get the cards out. Peggy suggested that in the interest of communication, Betsy be contacted to discuss various possibilities. Peggy stated that Betsy's concern is not with the work load of the cards but the lack of timely communication on the part of ODF and the necessary steps needed to get the cards out in time for new restrictions. The text must be developed, the cards printed and labeled and mailed. Often only one day's notice is given thus the cards cannot be sent and received in time for the restriction implementation.

Cindy will contact Betsy and figure out how we might proceed.

The Board also thought focusing on a major concern rather than several in terms of permanent signage would be more effective. "No Fireworks" worked. If dry grass is the issue, get a sign that says "No parking in dry grass". Steve suggested the Cal Fire's study of effective colors indicated orange or bright green as the most effective colors. Cindy will work with Superior sign and get one made.

PICNIC

Cindy has offered to take on the leadership of the picnic. She will contact Jeanne and Frankie Marin to see if they will handle the bbq, etc. It is Sunday, Sept 10th from 12-2 at the church. Board members should bring spoons, bowls and coolers.

Cindy has the new signs and will put them up by September 1st.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is September 12th at the Hilt Church at 6 pm. Peggy will be absent.

It was M/S/P (Waryzn/Thomas) to adjourn at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore