

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

April 16, 2004

PRESENT: Cheri Avgeris, Teri Thomas, Mary Jo Trainor, Peg Stewart, Peggy Moore, Steve Avgeris, Andy Herskind, Mike Engelsten, Lisa Buttrey, Sharron Halvorson, Matt Damon, Nancy Carlson, Carole Herskind.

ABSENT: None

VISITING: Carl Barak, Jeff Kesier, Ron Torres (US Forest Service)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri reported that we have \$18,062.92 in the State fund and \$13,822.21 in the General fund.

BUDGET REPORT

All three members of the budget committee were present. They reviewed the proposed tentative budget and thanked Teri and Cheri for the excellent work in putting the budget on line [in a spreadsheet]. It was M/S/P (Avgeris/Trainor) to accept the proposed budget, sunshine it for the required 30 days and bring it back to the May meeting for final adoption with any community comment.

The Board thanked the Budget Committee for an excellent job.

REPORT FROM THE US FOREST SERVICE

Foresters Carl Barak, Ron Torres and Jeff Keiser outlined the project they hope to embark upon this year. Briefly, after the 1935 Hilt Fire the Forest Service replanted (in 1937). Many of the trees did not take. In 1965-66 the vintage trees were of a size that needed thinning. In the early 1970's about 300 trees were thinned. In the last two years the bug infestation has increased dramatically. There are simply too many trees in the Plantation area (about 400 acres).

The Forest Service proposal is to thin the area with 25-28 foot spacing and to treat the slash by either burning or selling. They are asking for non-financial support and would appreciate a letter of support from the Fire District for this project.

The project will cost about \$200,000 and they currently have about \$70,000. More money is expected from organizations that protect wildlife since if the trees are not thinned they will be destroyed by the bugs.

It was M/S/P (Avgeris/Thomas) that once we receive a letter outlining the project, the District will write a letter of support for the fuel reduction project and invite the community, through a letter, to attend an informational meeting about the project on May 21st at 6 p.m. at the Hilt Church. Carl and members of the US Forest Service will be available to make the presentation and to answer questions.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that the District has received two calls since the last meeting. One was a big rig fire on the freeway the other was a false alarm.

We have received the radio pagers. 44-13 is supposed to be completed in the next two or three weeks, in time for fire season.

The District has ordered property tags. Thanks to John Ames, we will tag all District property from pagers to shovels. Volunteers will sign out for each item. Teri has volunteered to develop a spreadsheet to keep track of the inventory.

The District presented a plaque to Fruit Growers for all their support.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on May 21st at the Hilt Church. The community information meeting will begin at 6 with a Board meeting immediately following.

The meeting was adjourned at 7: 40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore