

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
April 14, 2005**

**PRESENT:** Cheri Avgeris, Mary Jo Trainor, Teri Thomas, Peggy Moore, Peg Stewart, Steve Avgeris, Lisa Buttrey, Sharron Halvorson, Karen Dwyer, Art Trainor.

**ABSENT:** None

**VISITING:** Jim Douglas (Maintenance Manager - Jackson County)

Peggy called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**MINUTES**

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

**COLESTIN ROAD**

Cheri introduced Jim Douglas who is the Maintenance Manager for the Ashland District for Jackson County Roads. Jim has been working with Steve over the past several months to improve the road situation on the upper Colestin Road area where there have been a number of accidents.

He explained that the County does not place guard rails on gravel roads because of maintenance issues - snow removal, the need to raise the guard rails and they simply don't have the staff to deal with these kinds of issues.

He suggested several things that might cut down on the number of accidents and incidents that occur on this part of the road. They include:

- . cut the corner back, which will be done in the fall.
- . put signs showing that it is a dangerous corner. Lisa suggested, to avoid being covered up during winter, the signs could be placed on trees.
- . make the road wider on the outside edge.
- . cut back on the inside.
- . put a sign at the top of the straight away, warning people of the curve
- . place a tree between two trees so that if someone goes off they would hit the tree and it would stop them going into the ditch.
- . maybe cut some trees down to get sunlight in the area, particularly during winter.

Jim also mentioned that people need to report an accident, even if they don't report it to their insurance company so that his office will have data to present to the Safety Engineer about the number of accidents that occur. CRFD has some records but they are incomplete since reporting is sketchy.

The Board thanked Jim for attending the meeting and Peggy agreed to send him a copy of the minutes so that we could all follow up on the proposed efforts to make the road safer.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Cheri reported that the General Fund has \$4,271.01, the State Fund has \$22,387.75 and the Water Tender account has \$17,532.56. The Tides Foundation will probably donate \$5,000 towards the water tender and the Neil McDonald Foundation will donate \$10,000 if we can provide documentation of matching money for the tender.

Peggy asked if we had sent the Neil McDonald Foundation a thank you and picture of the structure engine. Steve reported that pictures will be taken at the next training and the picture sent off.

Cheri reported that our Worker's Comp bill will be around \$900 for the year and this is the only major bill outstanding at this time.

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Sharron introduced Karen Dwyer (to those few who do not know her). Karen is a volunteer and has joined the budget committee to replace Matt. Lisa reported that taking 8% off the top of the estimated tax revenue for the income figure seems to be working well.

Sharron reviewed the budget, line by line. The Board and the Chief made a few suggestions to increase or decrease several items. The committee will revise the proposed budget and have it ready for the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Between now and then, the budget will be "sun shined" in the community for public comment, which will occur at the May meeting. Taking into consideration any changes, the budget as amended (or not) will be approved in May and submitted to the state.

Both Peggy and Lisa suggested that with almost \$2,400 left in this year's budget for equipment that the three volunteers without gear be outfitted from this money.

The Board thanked Lisa, Sharron and Karen for an excellent job.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Steve reported that the new fire shelters are about \$400 each. Lisa suggested that we apply for a grant for these.

Steve mentioned that legally every person on the duty roster needs to be equipped according to the law. Anyone NOT on the fire line should be listed on the roster in the capacity in which they serve, i.e. dispatch. Steve assured the Board that this was the case and that no one is allowed on the fire line or involved with equipment that is not listed and outfitted.

Steve reported that we received three calls since the last meeting.

The pressing issue is the proposed annexation of the ski road up to the 1 mile marker. A petition is being circulated asking residents to approach District 5 . Dan Marshall has agreed to take this

area into District 5 but will first do a "test" run to see the response time to the Ski Road. Both he and Steve agreed that they do not want a "checker board" in the area. That is, all residents will either be in CRFD or District 5. Peg believes that most people will opt for inclusion in District 5 because they have paid staff. The cost would be \$3.19 per thousand for District 5 as opposed to \$1.95 for CRFD.

Steve shared his frustration with the Ski Road. Many of the structure fires have been in that area. Response from residents up to the one-mile marker has been slim (with the exception of the Stewarts) and there are lots of complaints. We have been unable to find a place to locate a permanent station for an engine.

Steve recommended to the Board that should the residents petition the County Commissioners for annexation into District 5, CRFD should not oppose it. It was M/S/P (Trainor/Thomas) not to oppose annexation into District 5 should that be the wish of the majority of the residents in the effected area.

### **KNOW YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Art Trainor outlined a proposal to have a day of appreciation/information about CRFD. All the equipment (engines, medical, etc) would be at the Hilt Church and residents would be invited to come and see the equipment, have a b-b-que and get a chance to see what they have available for fire protection in the valley.

The Board agreed to set aside June 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 for this event. Lisa will have an hour meeting from 11-12 for the community to discuss and receive further information on the fire plan. In addition, tables will be set up providing information about the fire plan, fire safety, etc.

Teri agreed to head up the clean up for the day, Peggy agreed to purchase the food and supplies (hoping for a donation of sodas from Stateline) and Art agreed to head up the cooking. We will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, garden burgers, soft drinks and chips for about 75 people. Mary Jo will head up the advertising and Betsy will include it in the Newsletter that should go out in early May.

The Board thanked Art for his great idea and promised to let him run the siren that day.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be at the regular time, Friday - May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Hilt Church. Peggy reminded the Board that she will be absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore