

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 7, 2006**

PRESENT: Cheri Avgeris, Carolyn Brafford, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Mary Jo Trainor, Steve Avgeris, Andy Herskind, Katherine Brafford.

ABSENT: None

MINUTES

Cheri pointed out a needed correction in the minutes of the May meeting. The item needing work is the exhaust brake. With that correction, it was M/S/P (Trainor/Thomas) to approve the May minutes as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri reported that we have \$ 286.74 left in the water tender fund (she transferred \$5,000 to the checking account in order to pay bills for the additional items that need to be finished on the vehicle), \$14,164.59 in the State Treasury fund and \$10,129.54 in the checking account. The only significant bill due is the Worker's Comp money, which is about \$950.

Teri commented that with only 23 days left in the fiscal year we are in very, very good shape.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that both he and Andy passed the State Fire Marshall's examination and are now certified to act in that capacity.

We responded to one medical and three wild land fires since the last meeting.

The water tender is technically in service but Steve has not put it in service through dispatch until the gearing problem is fixed and the exhaust brake is completed. He has decided to have a certified mechanic do the work because of potential liability should an accident occur. The hose is now on board.

Steve is happy to report that beginning July 10th and continuing for about a month the Forest Service will begin the fuel reduction project. The fire danger from the brush throughout the Valley is significant since the '81 fire and this will solve much of the problem - at least on US Forest Service land. He has heard some rumblings about leaving nature to nature but the Forest Service has provided the public with an opportunity to comment and they are moving forward. Peggy pointed out that this is public land and individuals do not control it. This project will benefit every resident in the Valley.

US Cellular has picked a site for the dish. It will be right behind the firehouse. The box, which is two feet square and seven feet high, will be placed in the firehouse, saving them the trouble of constructing a separate "housing" for it. They will pay CRFD \$100 a month to use our electricity. The cost is significantly under that so that will also be a revenue source for the Fire District.

They will also put a curtain drain around the firehouse, which will be a big help, particularly in the winter.

Steve reported that training is going well but at this time of the year, attendance drops so regular training will be suspended until the winter. However, Engineers and water tender engineers will continue to train. It appears that there will be four to five qualified operators for the larger trucks.

Steve informed the Board that we would probably not be within budget for fuel for 2006-07. The Board based the fuel budget on gas at \$1.98 per gallon. Of course, the increase in costs cannot be estimated accurately and so we will adjust the budget after fire season to reflect unanticipated increases.

SKI ROAD ANNEXATION

Peggy reported that she has not heard from County Counsel or Special Districts regarding the legal issues surrounding the proposed annexation. CRFD is anxious to move forward with the proposed annexation but cannot do anything until the legal aspects have been resolved.

AUXILIARY

Carolyn put a catchy item in the Buzz about the formation of an auxiliary but has not had any response. She believes if people were asked individually they would help but a general call probably won't yield any participants.

OPEN BURNING

Steve reported that he and Andy would be cracking down very hard on illegal open burning. This is the most obvious preventable cause of fires. Teri suggested signs be put up around the Valley informing people of the seriousness of breaking this law. There is a fine of up to \$1,000 for illegal open burns (and at this time, all open burning is illegal). Teri will put up signs.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on July 5th at the Hilt Church at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore