

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
December 12, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Cheri Avgeris, Carolyn Brafford, Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Steve Avgeris, Jeff Burns (Cal Fire).

**ABSENT:** Teri Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 5:55 pm at the Hilt Church.

**MINUTES**

It was M/S/P (Avgeris/Davies) to approve the November minutes as distributed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Cheri reported that the checking account has \$11,946.34, the Savings account has \$1,667.46 and the Treasury account has \$45,613.08 (taxes are coming in).

Cheri reported that she received a letter from the state, notifying CRFD that the State may borrow money from the treasury account. The Board believes, without seeing the letter that no action should be taken on our part. We believe they can't do that.

Steve reported that he will be starting vehicle projects and to be sure that the receipts for Hilt and CRFD are kept separately.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

Steve reported that there have been two incidents since the last meeting. One was a vehicle accident and the other a vehicle fire. He further reported that he spoke to the funders of the communication grant and got our share reduced from \$50,000 to \$40,000 since we don't need quite that much funding. This will reduce our matching share (10%) to \$4,036.23. Given that we are out of fire season, Steve will arrange to have the radios programmed and installed by July.

Brush 44 is in service in Hilt. Fruit growers is allowing us to use the small red fire house in Hilt for 44-10. Hilt will pay \$10 a month towards heating.

Jeff Burns reported that to insure both engines (in the Hilt, lower Colestin area) for insurance and liability will be about \$2,800 a year. Siskiyou County provides each Hose Company in the county with \$1,000 towards insurance. Since Hilt has no tax base they have no means to raise the additional \$1,800. Jeff is proposing to Siskiyou County that since Cal Fire also uses the engines and a unique relationship exists between Hilt Hose Company and Cal Fire, that they be allowed to have the County Fire Warden cover the

difference in insurance. The money that Cal Fire pays when borrowing the engine would be reduced to make up the \$1,800. If that does not work, CRFD will pick up the insurance. Peggy suggested that in order to keep things clean, financially, between the two entities, Hilt reimburse CRFD from money generated from the use of the engines from rental fees up to the amount borrowed. The Board agreed that Captain Burns' plan would be best but if that cannot occur, we move to the second option.

Steve reported that he has accelerated the purchase of the two SCBS's and 2 bottles for 44. He is purchasing the MSA's (light weight). These need to be compatible with those used by Cal Fire.

Steve mentioned that Teri had encouraged him to get some help with the mechanical work he is undertaking on the trucks. He finally agreed that he couldn't handle all the tasks himself. He asked the Board to authorize hiring, at a reasonable rate, some mechanical help. The Board agreed. It should be under \$2,000.

### **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Peggy presented a plan for a different configuration and process for the safety committee. On the advise of our insurance agent and based on the success Steve has had with a similar model in his business, we would like to have safety committee meeting immediately following an incident. These would be "tail gate" sessions, where responders would discuss the response, bring up any safety concerns and the Chief would take these, to the Board. Those participating would need to sign a sheet, indicating they were involved. These sheets would be kept and made available to OSHA and the insurance company, if requested. Steve reported that OSHA likes this method and it has worked well in the logging industry and other similar businesses.

No objections to the proposed change were raised so we will move forward with this method of dealing directly with safety concerns by those most immediately involved.

### **MAP BOOKS**

Jeff reported that the map books would cost \$65.00 each if 100 were ordered. Thus far, 44 have been ordered and he's checking with CHP and other emergency agencies to see if they want them as well. If the order is under 100, the cost per book will be slightly higher.

### **GRANTS**

Tod has been busy and reported on three grants. The first is the community assistance grant (which is secured). It provides \$400 per acre and is "good" until the end of 2009. The grantors will do aerial shots of the land and notify landowners of the need to participate. It is, of course, voluntary. If a person does her/his own land they receive the \$400. If they hire it out, they receive the \$400 towards the estimated \$800 per acre it would take to clean up.

The second grant is a Federal grant through the Natural Resources Conservation program and provides \$600 an acre for thinning of stands. Individual landowners have to apply and it is not applicable to commercial operations.

The third grant is one Tod applied for to support the installation of the alarm system, which is already in.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Hilt Church.

It was M/S/P (Brafford/Davies) to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore