

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 14, 2009**

PRESENT: Cheri Avgeris, Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Steve Avgeris, Betsy Bradshaw, Andy Herskind.

ABSENT: None

GUEST: Kevin Pardy (Wilson Heirgood Insurance)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri reported that we have \$11,972.83 in the checking account, \$1,667.67 in the savings account and \$20,521.33 in the state treasury account.

Teri prepared and handed out a profit and loss statement, which needs to be revised, based on the final, adopted budget.

The activity in the rental account (the money earned through renting the water tender and engines) shows we spent \$29,075.34 and we have \$10,572.66 left. Most of this money was spent on several vehicles, to bring them into excellent running order. In addition, necessary safety equipment was purchased as well.

Cheri reported that we ordered T shirts (the hottest job on earth) as a fundraiser. Tod suggested we sell them for \$12.00, which would provide a modest profit. We ordered 24 large, 24 medium, 12 small, 6 extra large and 6 double extra large.

The water tender was rented out to the Forest Service on July 30th. The engineers are paid directly by the Forest Service. We will realize \$412.50 of which one fourth will go to the Hilt Department. Cheri was advised to charge the 16.51% of the total bill as administrative costs, which is allowed.

INSURANCE REPORT

The Board thanked Kevin Pardy for attending the meeting. Kevin handed out a booklet, showing our existing coverage and asked for any revisions to coverage or vehicles Steve requested that we get comp insurance on the 1994 pickup but no collision. That will be added.

Peggy asked what the proposed increase might be. Kevin reported that the most it can be for us, due to our record and the agreement is a 3% increase. Our total premiums were \$3,600 for all vehicles.

We have an Accident Death and Dismemberment policy which pays \$25,000 for the death of an off duty firefighter and \$50,000 if the person is killed while on duty. The minimum required in Oregon is \$10,000 coverage.

Steve asked Kevin to provide new beneficiary cards so that he can hand these out when training begins.

Kevin reminded the Board that CRFD receives safety credits when Board members, the Chief or firefighters attend various trainings. He suggested that Steve apply for a scholarship for the Chief's meeting as few apply.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that we had five wild land fires since the last Board meeting. All were vegetation fires. In addition, there are six "spot" fire areas up Cottonwood Creek canyon that they are watching.

The railroad ties have been removed. Tod has already called Peter Buckley to thank him for his help and support in making this happen. Steve will call Slim Mattox from CORP and thank him for following through on this project.

The firehouse has been painted.

Peggy will write a letter to the Siskiyou County Road Department about the road in the Hilt area, which is tearing up the large trucks. In addition it is a safety issue since the trucks have to go so slowly through that area that response time is extended.

Teri provided Steve with a list of the active volunteers, the number of their responses and the number of times they were on stand by for the past year and a half. This is helpful in understanding the pattern of responses.

Steve has received phone calls from 6 or 7 insurance companies about our Class 9 status. This could become a problem in the future. Peggy suggested that since the class status is issued by the ISO, the District should simply respond to these inquiries with a copy of the ISO document awarding us a Class 9 status. It is not up to CRFD to provide insurance companies with specific information about individuals in the District in relation to their distance from a fire station, etc.

Steve reported that it would cost us about \$25,000 in improvements to get to a Class 8. This may become an issue in the future. In addition to the money, which can be managed, a certain number of volunteers must be available and respond to each call. This is the larger problem.

Finally, the Mt. Ashland Ski Area is claiming that they are within our District. They are not. CRFD has been asked to assume them into the District, which Steve recommends we not do. We simply do not have the person power, especially in the winter, to deal with the traffic accidents that occur on the road nor is the speed of response satisfactory to the Chief.

BOARD REPLACEMENT

On behalf of the Board, Peggy accepted Carolyn Brafford's letter of resignation, which she asked be effective on August 12th. According to Board policy, the Board must discuss potential candidates for appointment to the position.

Several names were mentioned as possible candidates. None have been spoken to since the policy requires the Board discuss individuals prior to any discussion with individuals. Cindy Warzin was endorsed by the entire Board. Cindy would bring the rancher/farmer perspective; she is a small business owner and has a clear understanding of the fire district's responsibilities. In addition, she lives at the lower end of the valley, which is not well represented. Peggy will call Cindy and discuss the possibility of her joining the board as an appointed member.

COMMUNITY GATHERING

Tod has agreed to MC the program and the Board discussed possible topics to be covered. They include a brief history of where we were, where we are and where we are going. In addition, the relationship between Hilt and Colestin will be covered. Some discussion of both rental income and "where your tax dollars go" will round out the program. Lisa has asked to present an award to David and Martha Stan for the most improved property under the program Lisa has been instrumental in organizing.

The Board will provide hot dogs, veggie burgers, hamburgers, chips, green salad and a sheet cake plus water and soft drinks. The event will be from 12-3 on Sunday, September 20th. Betsy will send a post card out, outlining the program and the menu. The Board suggested that the water tender, the rescue vehicle and at least Brush 44 be present as well.

GRANTS

The Board thanked Tod for writing and securing the VFA application with is a 50/50 matching grant. Our portion is \$11,407.00, which we have already met through rental income from the trucks. This purchased necessary equipment. The grant matches \$11,407.

Tod suggests we put off spending for next year's grant until October. Her contact Mary Helen Smith suggested that we should have no trouble getting a similar grant next year.

Once again, Tod has been successful in securing a very necessary grant and the Board is very grateful for her work.

NEXT MEETING

Both Tod and Peggy will be unable to attend the meeting on September 11th, the regularly scheduled meeting date and the Board agreed to move the meeting to September 4th instead.

It was M/S/P (Davies/Avgeris) to adjourn at 7:40

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore