

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 11, 2011**

PRESENT: Nancy Ames, Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Cindy Warzyn, Steve Avgeris, Sharron Halvorson.

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm...

APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY BOARD POSITION

As indicated in our recently adopted Board Policy on Board replacements, it was M/S/P (Davies/Warzyn) to approve the appointment of Nancy Ames to fill the vacant position created by Cheri Avgeris due to her retirement, for three months.

MINUTES

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

ELECTIONS

All Board officer positions need to be filled.

It was M/S/P (Warzyn/Davies) to appoint Peggy Moore as the Board Chair

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Warzyn) to appoint Tod Davies as the Vice Chair

It was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to appoint Cindy Warzyn as the Secretary

It was M/S/P (Warzyn/Davies) to appoint Teri Thomas as the Treasurer.

The Board agreed to hold annual officer elections in January of each year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Teri passed out copies of the expenditure and revenues as of February. The state treasurer's account has \$30,703.71. The checking account has \$27,822.91. Nancy asked if we plan a percentage of the budget for reserves. We do not, but Teri commented that our floor is \$10,000.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

As Budget Committee Chair, Sharron led a short discussion on needs for this year, after receiving Steve's "wish list." There are 5 items listed for a total of \$77,000. The list is in order: Generator for Station 1 (\$5,000), 7 portable radios (\$7,000), Hose Bed for 4413 (\$10,000)

Expand Station 1 (\$25,000), Replace engine 4412 (used engine \$30,000). Steve and the Board discussed the need for each item. Tod took notes in order to apply for a grant again this year for some of the equipment needs.

Sharron reminded the Board that budget committee member and fire fighter/first responder Karen Dwyer is hosting a gourmet dinner and evening of belly dancing in June to fundraise for a new AED. The battery alone is \$500.

The budget committee representatives will attend the March meeting with a preliminary budget. After discussion they will rework the budget for presentation in April as a tentative budget. This will be sun shined to the community for one month and at the May meeting the Board will approve the final budget to be submitted to the state in June.

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Peggy mentioned that she has been receiving bulletins from our insurance agent (Teri does as well) regarding issues that concern rural fire districts. The most recent suggested that firefighters get physical exams. After discussion, the Board suggested that on the form volunteers fill out we might suggest that they might want to get a physical.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that we had one roll over on I-5 since the last meeting.

Steve passed out a booklet from Special Districts for elected officials to each Board member as information.

Steve has been in contact with the Elections Department regarding Cheri's position. This May 17th three of the seats on the Board are up (Tod's, Teri's, Cindy's). Cheri's and Peggy's seats are up in 2013. However, Jackson County has a regulation that if a seat is vacated more than 62 days prior to the next election, that seat must be on the ballot to be filled. In doing so, CRFD would have four of the five seats up for election, thus destroying the staggered term practice that most elected boards follow. Oregon State law says you cannot have four out of five seats up for election in the same year. The County admitted these two laws are in conflict and asked Steve to decide which law we would follow. Steve opted, correctly the Board stated, in following the staggered term law. Thus, Position # 1 (Cheri's former position) will not be on the ballot on May 17th and we will continue that position as appointed by the Board and available for election in 2013.

Steve reported that he has been in contact with the ISO (or vice versa). Steve had filled out the paperwork (no small feat) to continue us as a Class 9 because although we have come a long way in meeting equipment requirements, etc. to go to a Class 8B the two areas that concern him are 1) 24 hours of structure training and 2) the requirement that 6 fire fighters show up at every structure fire. After discussion with the ISO, it appears that because of the automatic aid agreements with Cal Fire, Hornbrook, Hilt and ODF, we might be able to meet the second requirement of 6 fire fighters.

The ISO is suggesting that Steve fill out the paperwork for a Class 8 B (which will reduce the premium costs for individual resident's insurance and would fulfill the Class 9 paperwork requirement should we not meet the Class 8B).

Insurance companies are projected to be trying to phase out insuring Class 9 properties in the future and the ISO is encouraging all districts to qualify for a Class 8B. They have given CRFD until April 2nd 2012 to meet the requirements of a Class 8B. They will be up to spend 8 hours with Steve on April 2nd of this year, to see where we stand at the moment. They look at records for the last three years. Steve reported that we are in excellent shape in the "save rate" for structures. The national average (and this includes all fire departments – city and rural) is 8%. Our save rate is 50%.

TRAINING

In preparation for the 24 hours of structure training that will occur in the fall and winter of 2011-12, Steve is proposing 12 hours of training for this year. The dates will be on Fridays from 6 – 8 pm at the Hilt Church. The dates are March 11, 25, April 8, 22, May 6 and 20th. The first session will be paperwork and review. The training on the 25th will focus on first responder and medical and the trainings beginning on April 8th and forward will be hands on, outside.

TIRES

Steve reported that a fatal accident happened with a medical unit up north. The tires broke down and caused a crash. Apparently they now know that radial tires internally break down after five years. They can appear, externally, to be in good shape but are weakened inside. There may be a new law coming down, requiring fire districts to replace all radial tires on all rigs after 5 years. Steve said we have two vehicles that have tires exceeding the 5 year limit and the Board suggested that since there is money in the repair budget that he do 44-40 now (\$870.96) and 44-10 – which is out of service at the moment – out of next year's budget (\$1,192 for 6 tires).

Steve will be keeping an active "tickler" file with the dates of all tires on all district vehicles.

TEMPORARY POSITION

After discussion and given the confusion with the two laws regarding board elections, Nancy offered to extend her service to July 1st. It was M/S/P (Thomas/Warzyn) to approve the extension until July 1st.

CHECK SIGNERS

Teri is implementing some new policies and procedures for the budget and financial aspects of the District. One of these is having additional check signers. It was M/S/P (Ames/Thomas) to approve Cindy and Tod as signers on our checks.

NEXT MEETING

Due to fire training, it was M/S/P (Warzyn/Thomas) to hold the next Board meeting on Thursday, March 10th at 6 pm rather than Friday the 11th.

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore