

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BOARD MEETING [MINUTES]**

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Teri Thomas, Peggy Moore, Cindy Warzyn, Steve Avgeris, Alissa Lipking, David Lipking, Khloe Lipking, Michael Englestein, Keith Callison.

**ABSENT:** Pam Haunschild

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

**MINUTES**

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Warzyn) to approve the August minutes as distributed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Teri reported that the checking account has \$9,656.91; the State Treasury account has \$32,213.59. All bills have been paid. Teri mentioned that there is a \$200 request for a check to be paid to the Soda Mountain Lookout people. This is an annual expense and helps defer some of their expenses since they volunteer their time. She suggested we incorporate that item in future budgets as a regularly budgeted amount.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Peggy reported that she spoke with Pam and she is interested in serving on the Board as Cheri's replacement. The Board expressed their appreciation and even joy that Pam is willing to serve. It was M/S/P (Warzyn/Thomas) to approve the appointment of Pam Haunschild to complete the term of Cheri Avgeris which ends in May of 2013.

The Board invited Alissa Lipking to fill Tod Davies position on the Board. It was M/S/P (Thomas/Warzyn) that Alissa serve the next three months which is our policy before making a permanent appointment to the Board.

**OFFICERS**

With the change in the Board, it was M/S/P (Thomas/Lipking) that Cindy Warzyn be appointed Vice Chair. Cindy accepted.

Cindy mentioned that perhaps Pam could take over the Grant position. We will ask her when she returns. We typically have one standard grant we apply for a year. Tod has "greased" the path for this and we get a lot of help from the grantor. If a need arises, we could write another grant but typically this is not an agency that applies for many grants.

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Steve introduced Michael Engelstein, whom most of us know. Michael has kindly offered to serve as our purchasing agent and he proposed that we include the cost of the chargers in the purchase of the radios and batteries. We didn't and he and the Board believe that these are simply part of the package. He also discussed the generator. Cindy and Steve walked through the station so that Cindy could assess the size of the generator we'd need to hold the load. She said ideally we'd get one that would cost about \$10,000 but this can be scaled back to a 7,500 which would cost about \$7 – 8,000. The Board agreed with Cindy that we don't want to get only an inexpensive generator but one that is reasonable but well built and will last.

Cindy offered to donate her time and expertise to do the labor on the project once the generator arrives. The Board thanked her as this will be a considerable savings to the District.

Steve reported that there have been five calls since the last meeting. One mutual aid, one traffic, two vegetation fires and one vehicle call.

Steve reported on the issues surrounding one of the vegetation fires. It was within our District and when Steve got to the fire, District 5 was serving as Incident Command, which was fine. ODF and Cal Fire were both on the scene. ODF ordered a dozer out. Shortly after that a Biologist with the BLM arrived and told the fire personnel that only he could make the decision about whether or not a dozer could be on the fire since it was in the Monument Area.

There was much discussion about the fire and the position that the BLM was taking on it. The fire was within a mile and a half of the Temple area and while in the Monument, had the winds been normal, the fire could have grown to over 100 acres very quickly and been a serious threat to life and property.

The Board discussed options and agreed to invite Howard Hunter assistant monument manager for BLM, Cal Fire and ODF to a meeting to discuss fire fighting inside the Monument Area. Peggy will contact Greg Alexander of ODF and ask for a copy of the agreement between ODF and BLM.

Keith mentioned that most wilderness protected area is exactly that – wilderness. The small piece in our District that is not wilderness is still inside the monument area. One option would be to request that it be removed from wilderness designation since it does not fall within that category and not to do so potentially could cause serious threat to lives.

Steve reported that on this fire the agreed upon communication plan failed. The plan is between Cal Fire, ODF and CRFD in terms of which frequency is used. The agreed upon frequency was not used. Keith reported that Cal Fire is working on it and it should be corrected for future communication.

Steve reported that the Hilt/Colestin merger is stalled at the moment. Bernie Paul did present to the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors and they have some concerns. Peggy asked what these were and we really don't know.

Steve, Keith and Bernie will meet to develop a proposal to present to the Board of Supervisors and speak with County Counsel prior to presenting to address any concerns. Peggy also suggested we meet one on one or call each supervisor and offer to answer questions they might have.

### **KIOSKS**

Steve reported that the kiosk on the Ski Road looks great. Chuck did a great job putting it up and the Board thanked Betsy for all her work and leadership on the project. Steve said he saw several people reading information. Cindy said one person said it has “too much information.” Peggy indicated that this is noted but that individuals can choose to read what information they wish to read and have time for. It is up there for the community.

### **PICNIC**

Steve has invited Cal Fire and ODF. The Board agreed to buy a grate and store it for vegetarian burgers this year and for future use. Shop ‘n Kart has donated two cases of corn. Cindy shared the list from last year of the food we actually consumed. We have one case of bottled water and some chips. Cindy and Teri will shop for the rest of the food. Alissa said we can use her freezer and frig for the food until Sunday.

Cindy asked that the Board come about 10 to set up. She and Teri will come at 9:30 to clean the church. She asked that the Board bring bowls. We will buy ice at the All Star Liquor Store.

Cindy asked what we wanted to sell the shirts and hats for. We agreed hats would be \$15 and all shirts but XXL would be \$15.00. XXL will be \$18.00

Peggy will speak briefly and also speak about Cheri’s contributions. Others will be invited to say a few words about Cheri if they wish.

### **ROAD SAFETY**

Due to the lateness of the hour, Teri asked that we defer the discussion of road safety for the October meeting.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be at our regularly scheduled time – 6pm on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Hilt Church. Peggy will be returning from Los Angeles and not arrive home before 10 so will miss the meeting. Cindy will chair.

It was M/S/P (Lipking/Warzyn) to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore