

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
September 30, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Cindy Warzyn, Steve Avgeris.

**ABSENT:** Pam Haunschild

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm and a quorum was established.

It was M/S/P (Davies/Warzyn) to consider this meeting in lieu of the regular meeting scheduled as the October Board meeting. Pam would not be able to attend the meeting scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup> of October. Under Good of the Order we can consider the boiler plate agenda items.

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Teri reported that the Tax return has been filed as well as the report in Lieu of an audit. We made \$ 635 on t shirts sold at the picnic and received \$ 70 in donations.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

Steve reported that ODF has declared an end to fire season for 2019 at midnight tonight. Betsy has posted this information on the website. Steve reported that, as always, individual districts can enforce more stringent but not less stringent regulations if needed. Steve does not anticipate doing this.

44 is out of service.

We will receive \$ 1,500 from Cal Fire for the use of the water tender on the Copco fire. Drew Pratt and Steve Beamer took the vehicle to the fire and served as engineers.

Steve will be holding a training session for the new SCBA's. Jim Albright will do the actual training.

Peggy asked if the Board was willing to authorize Betsy purchasing a brochure put out by the National Fire Protection Agency that discusses the need for smoke alarms and some other information for people to become familiar with the need to install them. We can purchase 200 for \$ 46.00 and these can be mailed out to the community. Peggy reminded the Board that in terms of mailing costs we did not do a mailing for the picnic nor the fall mailing so the postage would not be over budget. The Board agreed it would be a good community service.

**TIDES GRANT UPDATE**

Tod contacted the TIDES office about extending the deadline for spending the \$10,000 grant. The woman who handles this is on vacation and will get back to Tod when she returns.

### **PROPERTY DISCUSSION**

At the last Board meeting, Tod brought up the issue of future plans for CRFD. She was tasked with the charge of investigating the piece of property that is immediately next to the fire station in the middle of the valley which is up for sale.

While we do not have a formalized Strategic Plan, the Board has discussed aspects of what will become a plan for the District's future given that many of the people involved in the Fire Department are aging and younger people are not moving in.

Part of the discussion has focused on a plan to make some kind of modest housing available to potential trained fire fighters who, on a part time basis, may be contracted to serve and would need housing (in the form of a trailer).

After a great deal of discussion, a review of the District's financial status and a running year by year analysis of expenses and reserves, the following was concluded.

We have an individual who is willing to put up \$50,000 towards the purchase of the land as a matching opportunity. Another entity is willing to provide an interest free loan of \$20,000 which would leave a balance of roughly \$30,000 to fund the full asking price. Of course, as with most real estate negotiations, the price varies as the seller and the proposed buyer would negotiate price. Several details would need to be investigated and discussed. These include the zoning, confirmation of water rights, etc.

Teri informed the Board that if we had expenses of \$150,000 or more in a single fiscal year, it would automatically trigger an audit. The cost of an audit is \$5,000. Our current expenditure budget is \$50,000 so we could not spend more than \$100,000. Loans do not count against this figure.

Tod has also contacted a realtor who has experience with non-profits. It was M/S/P (Warzyn/Thomas) to offer to purchase the property under discussion.

The details involved include: to confirm with the individual who has offered a donation for a matching amount that he will commit to this. The \$20,000 loan has been confirmed. And common details surrounding the purchase of a property will be adhered to.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN**

All Board members have expressed the need to develop a Strategic Plan in the next few months. Peggy suggested that a successful Strategic Plan is no longer than five years in the future and that it have annual goals which are reviewed at the end of the year. Items in the

plan are checked off as completed, not completed and no longer need to be part of the plan due to changes in needs or should be continued into the next year.

She suggested that we can devote an hour at subsequent meetings to begin discussion of this plan with the idea of completing it in the next few months.

It was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Hilt Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore