

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 14, 2020**

PRESENT: Tod Davies, Brian Dwyer, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Steve Avgeris.

ABSENT: Pam Haunschild

ALSO PRESENT: Lisa Buttrey, Karen Dwyer, Sharron Halvorson

The meeting was called to order at 6:05. A quorum to conduct business was present.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Teri distributed the financial information electronically and also passed out a hard copy. We have \$3,116.90 in the checking account and \$ 81,197.17 in the State Treasury account. Brian requested that we put about \$5,000 in the checking account to deal with upcoming land clearing and dump fees etc.

APPOINTMENT OF ELECTORS FOR THE BUDGET PROCESS

Karen Dwyer and Sharron Halvorson (both community members and former budget committee members) have agreed to serve as Electors for this 2020-21 budget process. We have invited several other community members but several do not live in the District. We are pursuing adding up to three more people but we meet the required minimum with Sharron and Karen.

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) to appoint Karen and Sharron as electors.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Lisa in her role as Budget Officer presented the group with a tentative revised budget as required by the state. This year's unusual circumstances (the purchase of the property for use as a future place to house volunteers who are firefighters during fire season, the Tides grant and the grant from the Josephine County Foundation which were not budgeted since we were unaware of that potential income) put us in a situation where we spent more than we budgeted. The Secretary of State sent a letter, reminding us of this and asked that we comply with the legal mandate to develop a supplemental budget to account for the increase in revenue.

This year we know about the TIDES money and anticipate another grant from the Josephine County organization. We will budget for the potential money which will save us from a supplemental budget in the coming year.

Lisa walked the Board and Electors through the budget and answered any questions. It was M/S/P (Davies/B. Dwyer) to approve the tentative supplemental budget. Lisa will provide Betsy with the final document for posting. It will be posted at the three kiosks and on the web site for 20 days prior to the next Board meeting at which time a final budget will be presented and adopted.

DISCUSSION OF THE JOSEPHINE COUNTY GRANT

The Board received the correspondence between Chief Frank Alt and Pam regarding the grant. We sent a check for \$5,000 which will be matched by \$5,000 raised by this organization. We are able to send another \$5,000 and receive another \$5,000 (a total of \$10,000 plus our \$10,000 for a total of \$20,000) from this program which has been created to support small fire districts with equipment purchases in Jackson and Josephine County.

Steve clarified that this foundation is bonded and insured which made the Board comfortable.

There was a lengthy discussion of equipment needs. One of the real needs is for hose that is designed for wild fire use rather than structure use. We do not have any and we use the structure fire hose which is very cumbersome and heavy. In addition there are nozzles and other equipment that we need and this extra \$10,000 would be very welcome.

It was M/S/P (Davies/B. Dwyer) to approve sending a second \$5,000 which would net us our \$10,000 amount plus \$10,000 from the Foundation. This rescinds the motion made at the January meeting NOT to send a second \$5,000.

LAND UPDATE

Brian led a discussion about the status of the land. His goal is to get the land cleaned up this year through encouraging volunteers to attend a couple of work days. Steve will use his equipment to collect and haul a lot of this away.

Brian mentioned his concerns NOT to “burn people out.” There is a lot of garbage on the property which must be cleaned up.

Once it is, Brian suggested we put a sign up to announce the intent of the Fire District’s use of the land and to develop interest in helping us with the project going forward.

Lisa suggested we develop an “elevator speech” about the property to encourage community interest and perhaps donations.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that we had one traffic incident, one medical and one smoke check since the last meeting.

He is sorry to report that Cal Fire will NOT be surplusng any Model 14 engines since the state has no money to fund the purchase of the 600 new engines. They will purchase about 300 statewide but are keeping the current model 14's. A few trucks that are all 2 wheel drive will be sold but they are not useful for us. The cheapest used Model 14 he could find was \$69,000 which we cannot afford.

Tod will speak with TIDES about this and see if they will allow us to use the money they donated for a different purpose.

Steve hopes to begin training in March. The first meeting will be a business meeting with potential volunteers and training on the new CBTs will be provided. Trainings will occur on Friday nights.

PIO REPORT

Tod reported that she has been in contact with District 3 to discuss the use of students as volunteers and housing but they are playing telephone tag. Steve gave her the contact information for the Chief at District 5 whom she will contact.

GRANTS

They are on track.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Friday, March 13th at the Hilt Church at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore