

## **COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – July 14, 2020**

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

**ABSENT:** Michelle Rooker

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm on Zoom. A quorum was established for the purposes of conducting business.

#### **MINUTES**

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

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Teri distributed the financial report prior to the meeting. We have \$30,508.91 in the checking account and \$ 64,108.39 in the Treasury account. Teri deposited the \$ 22,100 check from the Josephine County Foundation. This represented a \$ 12,100 grant matching our \$10,000.

The District will reimburse Betsy and Peggy for the \$20,000 no interest loan towards the purchase of the property for the future fire house.

Teri will send the Board a copy of the reimbursement list for Fire Fighters. One of the Fire Fighters who has left the Valley was not reimbursed since the practice has been NOT to reimburse if a person leaves the Valley and is no longer a volunteer.

The Board discussed this and believes that this is NOT a good practice even though the reimbursement policy was developed to encourage longevity for volunteers in the Department.

It was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) that a volunteer should be paid the stipend for the calendar year for work done.

#### **ELECTIONS**

July (the first month in the new fiscal year) is the month we elect officers. The following individuals were nominated and approved for the following positions.

Board Chair – Peggy Moore

Board Vice Chair – Tod Davies

Secretary – Brian Dwyer

Treasurer – Teri Thomas

#### **LAND UPDATE**

Brian reported that we are waiting for [wet] weather to burn the pile on the land. Tod thanked Brian for clearing the path to the water behind their place, where the District's water source is located.

The Board again extended their deep appreciation to Brian taking charge of the property project.

Peggy suggested that the majority of the August meeting be focused on a mini Strategic Plan, which basically involves the plans for the land, both short and long term.

The Board agreed this was important and we will focus on it.

Teri left at 6:20. A quorum was still present to transact business.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Steve reported we had four calls since the last meeting. 1 Brake fire on I-5; three traffic accidents. One was on I-5 and two were on lower Colestin Road. One was a head-on collision and one was related to drugs and alcohol, in which the car went over the cliff.

Steve stated that this will only get worse. The board discussed the issue. The problem with speeding on Colestin Road has gotten significantly worse, because of transient traffic. The problems are two-fold. Colestin Road is a no fault road. As a result, unless there is a crime committed the Sheriff's office is not interested in patrolling. Steve has been talking with them and we hope a law enforcement presence will be possible in the future. Steve received three calls complaining about the dangerous drivers.

Steve attended a border meeting with Cal Fire, BLM, ODF, District 5 and Ashland Fire. It was a very successful meeting which resulted in an automatic aid agreement between the agencies. Those that have water tenders (Ashland Fire and District 5) will bring one and an engine to every fire. Colestin will send an engine, if we have one available, to their fires outside city limits. ODF will respond only to seasonal wild land fires.

Steve reported that the follow engines are housed in various places

44-12 on the Ski Road (with 2 volunteers)

44-10 in Hilt with one volunteer

44-13 and 44-30 staffed with five volunteers.

There is a new volunteer on the Ski Road who will be assigned to 44-30. This is a retired ODF firefighter with 30 years experience.

The Cal Fire Engine will be available by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. CAL FIRE is behind due to the COVID issues.

Cascade Fire is filling the equipment list which is covered by the \$22,100 grant from Josephine County Foundation.

### **PIO REPORT**

Tod will be at the Coast for the month of August. The ideal person to work here on communications is a person who can ride with Steve. Teri is on the water tender but can do this if Steve's car is at the same site. Otherwise, it will need to be done with either another volunteer or as planned with Teri and Tod communicating.

There is a potential person on the Ski Road who is a retired ODF PIO and may be interested. Steve will check.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm through ZOOM. Tod will reserve ZOOM and send the log in information.

There being no further business it was M/S/P (Davies/Dwyer) to adjourn at 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore