

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 12, 2020**

PRESENT: Tod Davies, Brian Dwyer, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Steve Avgeris, Lisa Buttrey, Michelle Rooker.

ABSENT: None

The meeting came to order at 6:10 pm via Zoom (electronic platform) and a quorum was established.

WELCOME

The Board welcomed Michelle Rooker who is attending as a potential Board member, replacing Pam Haunschild who resigned her position.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Teri emailed the financial reports prior to the meeting. We have \$73,528.44 in the State Treasury account and \$6,853.34 in the checking account. Teri reported nothing remarkable about the finances. We took money from the reserve fund (\$40,000 for the property purchase), which along with the \$30,000 from the TIDES Foundation and the \$ 20,000 no interest loan from Betsy and Peggy accounted for the purchase of the property (\$99,420) This amount included the \$90,000 for the land and an additional \$ 9,420 for fees, and other legal documents.

BUDGET

Our Budget Officer Lisa Buttrey confirmed that we have received no comments from the public and our next step is to approve the final budget for 2020-21. It was M/S/P (Davies/Dwyer) to approve the preliminary budget as is.

Lisa will send Peggy the document for signatures and then send it to the State prior to mid-June. The Board thanked Lisa for her leadership and work and the two electors Karen Dwyer and Sharron Halverson for their participation in the process.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that things are slow (no complaints). We received one call (medical) since the last meeting. Steve added his welcome to Michelle.

Steve reported that we did not receive an engine in the first round of surpluses through Cal Fire. They had 50 model 14 engines coming in from around California. We are in line for one of these which should be available prior to July 1st. Steve reported that while we had hoped to be in the first round, these next engines have aluminum tanks (no rust) and more powerful engines. We have the TIDES grant from last year that we will use to purchase this engine. Steve will need to make two trips to Davis. The first to pick out the engine and the second to pay for it and drive it back. He will need a person to go with him on the second trip.

Steve has been working with Taylor Wilkerson from ODF on the upcoming fire season. Taylor will have an ODF engine patrolling the area. Steve will also be paroling this summer and recruit available volunteers to do so as well. Particularly in the south end of the Valley.

Steve predicts this will be a very difficult fire season since we are facing a water shortage, a drier summer and our volunteers have not had training for this season. Because of COVID training was halted for volunteer departments as well as paid departments. This all combines to make a difficult season.

Steve promised a physical presence this year, particularly in the south end of the valley.

Thanks thanked Brian for all his work and leadership in getting the property in shape. Steve commented that Brian's work has literally transformed the area.

Peggy raised the question of consequences for violation of restrictions. In the past, we have issued warnings but no further consequences have happened. Steve, in consultation with Chief Wilkerson has agreed that this year a first violation will result in a warning. A second violation will result in a citation into court for the violator.

Steve reminded the Board (and has followed up with this information to several landowners) that the landowner, not the tenant is legally responsible for any violations occurring on their property.

Brian suggested Betsy make some flyers that are larger to post on telephone poles in the valley, containing some of the messaging on the cards. Steve reiterated that the cards make a huge difference. He receives calls and questions every time they go out so some people are paying attention.

Michele suggested possibly putting together a newsletter underscoring important points and information. She offered to take this on. The Board thought this was a good idea. Peggy will follow up with Betsy to put Michelle and Betsy in touch.

The final item in the Chief's Report is that he will need to get firefighters to sign applications for insurance purposes but this will have to be done individually since there is no physical training.

PROPERTY

Brian reported that the property is almost complete (on the house side.) The well house area is clean and he has been worked with the owners of the spring area on the property. The rest of the clean up debris will fit in one dumpster.

The "grow side" of the property will be excavated and then a dozer used on it.

Peggy inquired when the sign can go up on the property. Brian said sometime in June. The wording and sign process will be discussed at the June meeting.

The Board thanked Brian for all his amazing work and for taking the leadership on this project.

PIO REPORT

Tod will be out of the area for a while and Cindy, who currently has the phone, will get it to Steve and Steve will get it to Teri. Tod will convene a PIO meeting soon (via Zoom).

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Michelle excused herself from the meeting. A discussion was held and it was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to approve Michelle Rooker as a Board member to replace Pam Haunschild. Peggy will check into the length of Pam's remaining term and when the next ballot elections are to be held.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Peggy asked if we received the money from the student project in grants Pass. Steve reported they are still thinking about the banquet where they awarded the check last year. It is doubtful that they will be able to hold the banquet so when that decision is made, the disposition of the check will become clear.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held through ZOOM (which Tod agreed to set up) on Tuesday, June 9th at 6 pm.

There being no further business it was M/S/P (Davies/Thomas) to adjourn at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore