**POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1**

**Board of Directors**

**June 8th, 2023**

**6:00pm – Central Station**

**Location: 1800 Monmouth St., Independence, Or 97351**

**Also Virtually at:**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83280363029?pwd=NGRDbTVmOHJNMIRQR3ZSV055Um1wZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83280363029?pwd=NGRDbTVmOHJNMIRQR3ZSV055Um1wZz09)

**Meeting ID: 832 8036 3029 - Passcode: 801072**

President Mike Lippsmeyer Chief Ben Stange

Vice President Jeff Hamilton (Virtual)  DC Neal Olson (Absent)

Secretary Cord Von Derahe (Virtual) DC Frank Ehrmantraut (Absent)

Director Curtis Cole DC Troy Crafton (Absent)

Director Dan Miller  Office Administrator Stephanie Hale

Office Assistant Tirzah Romero-Reddick

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Anyone wishing to address the Board please sign the sheet on the back table with your name and topic that you would like to discuss. If you are online, please use the raise hand feature when it comes time for public comment. Comments are limited to three minutes but the Board welcomes additional information in writing. Typically, a speaker’s comment is taken under advisement to allow time for the Board to review an issue; however, the Board may ask a speaker for additional information or may convey to the speaker some information that addresses their comment.

Meeting minutes will be recorded and kept for 60 months.

**Open for public comment on any of the agenda items.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Board Agenda
2. Approve May 9th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financials:

3a. Approval of Disbursements for May 1-31, 2023

3b. Finance report for the month of May 2023

**President Lippsmeyer** – Asked how the Board would like to take the agenda.

**Director Miller** – Stated to take the Agenda as a whole.

**Director Cole** – Second.

**President Lippsmeyer** – All in favor, none opposed, carried – Agenda approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nothing at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Resolution 2023-05 – Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget – Chief Stange read the resolution.** (See attached Resolution 2023-05)

**The Board** voted to pass Resolution 2023-05. All in favor, none opposed, carried – Fiscal year 2023-24 Budget Adopted.

1. **OSFM Wildfire Staffing Grant – Chief Stange stated** this grant PCFD applied for last year. A new criterion was created this year, where there was a second round of considerations. PCFD was in the second round because of their taxable value. PCFD received the grant for $35,000. Last year PCFD staffed 5 additional FF/EMT. Each has gone on to pursue their professional careers. Staffing will look different this year, since there is not the same level of certifications and experience. At the onset, there will be a rural presence during wildfire season. The goal is to additionally staff 5 days a week from 10 am to 8pm, on a type 6 (or brush) rig. Their objective will be to go to the out stations and perform maintenance, put up address signs, fuel mitigation, etc. It is very important to increase PCFD’s rural presence this summer.
2. **May 9th, 2023 Election Results – Chief Stange stated,** the local option levy passed, by just under 68% of the vote. As a reminder of how significant this levy is, ten years ago, PCFD went for a $0.35 levy and it failed. Five years ago, PCFD went on to maintain a $0.19 levy and it passed by 75%. This year’s levy passed by 68% and it was going from $0.19 to $0.78 per $1,000. A margin everyone is pleased with. Congratulations to President Lippsmeyer, Secretary Von Derahe, and Director Cole whom all were victorious in their elections. The official certified voter results will not be in for a few days.
3. **Thank you to Captain Rusher for work on CAD project – Chief Stange stated** PCFD switched CADs (the dispatch systems). Dispatch said they would need a representative from the agency to work with them to make sure that everything worked out. Captain Rusher was appointed to this task. Not only did he work diligently for PCFD, but in speaking with other agencies, he helped others too. Even on his days off there are messages and calls about where everything is, concerns, and updates. Unfortunately, he is not present today. Captain Mike Rusher is currently at his son’s graduation so he is unable to attend today. However, he will be presented with an award of appreciation signed by Chief Stange and Scott Lavelle, who is from the City of Salem.

**CHIEFS REPORT:**

1. **Touch-A-Truck Event – Chief Stange stated** this event began in 2019 by the City of Independence. Their idea was bring every weird vehicle you can find, (tank, combine, helicopter, fire engine, etc.) where children can flip switches, push buttons, and have a participatory experience. Since there was an instance where a child nearly started a helicopter this year, next year there will be different safe guards in place. Chief Crafton led several recruits there. The event had about 2,000 to 3,000 children.
2. **Micro Community Project – Chief Stange stated,** there is a project going on at the church on Whiteman St. (Christ’s Church) having to do with unhoused people needing services. Chief Stange and Chief Crafton were invited to a meeting next Wednesday to talk with them. This meeting is specifically for Police, Fire & EMS to talk about the public safety aspect of this project. This was the first invitation to the meeting. Chief Stange wanted to clarify for those who may have received emails, calls, or questions about “a green space” behind the Central Station. There are members of the community that believe that space is appropriate for the micro community project. However, not everyone understands that it is a flood plain, and an impermeable surface cannot be put on it. This area is used for emergency services; it would not be safe or logical to have people passing through.
3. **Fire Service Day – Chief Stange stated** Fire Service Day took place at the capitol [in Salem]. Chief Stange had the privilege of organizing the apparatus. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R), Jefferson FD, Salem FD, Jefferson County Fire & EMS, Silverton FD, Albany FD, and Dundee FD all attended. At this event, Chief Stange was able to speak with some senators, and quite a few members of the house. It was a beneficial experience.
4. **WVCC Advisory Board Position – Chief Stange stated** City of Salem runs the dispatch for 29 agencies: Marion, Polk, and Lincoln County.Like any board with user agencies in electing president, vice president, etc., they elect someone from the police department or fire department. This year in July, it was supposed to be Chief Brumfield from Dallas. However, he recently retired and will not be serving after all. Since no one else from fire departments has volunteered to take Chief Brumfield’s position, Chief Stange emailed WVCC to let them know he was interested and willing to serve. Beginning July 1st, 2023, Chief Stange will be serving as the President of the board for WVCC user group.
5. **Stan Peterson Memorial – Chief Stange stated** he was on the Board of Directors for 8 or 12 years. Mr. Peterson started at PCFD as a captain and then continued on to start the Chaplain program at PCFD. He was a pastor at Monmouth Christian for a while, and decided to serve on the board once he was done serving as a chaplain. He passed on Saturday of Memorial weekend. His memorial services are being held at Central High School, on Sunday (June 11th). Prior to his passing, he wanted to ensure PCFD would be present. Chief Stange said he would be in attendance as well as several others from PCFD.
6. **Staff Families – Chief Stange stated** Mike McIntosh had his second daughter, born a week ago. He has his hands full with two kids under the age of two. Chief Ehrmantraut is getting married on Saturday. PCFD is happy for both Chief Ehrmantraut, and Engineer McIntosh.
7. **4th of July Festivities – Chief Stange stated** PCFD is in preparation for the pancake breakfast and parade. It was discussed and decided to staff the First Aid tent this year with paid employees. This will result in a better use of resources.
8. **Notable Incidents – Chief Stange stated** on Sunday the 28th, there was a call of 2 people in the river drowning. Dispatch location was very confusing. Eventually PCFD arrived to the right place. There were multiple language barriers. The victims spoke a language that only a few thousand people speak. The people that pulled them out spoke a different language. There was a lot of confusion. PCFD transported code 3 to the hospital. Life flight transported the first victim to OHSU and the second victim was also taken to OHSU. By Tuesday, they were both discharged to home with no cognitive complications. Friday the 2nd at 2:45pm, there was a high-risk grass fire, (a burn pile that got out of control) on Orville Rd. It was hot, and became really dry, really fast. Saturday the 3rd at 8pm, there was a chest pain call in Pedee. The engine holds 5 people, and someone was turned away because the engine was full to respond to a chest pain call in Pedee. The highlight is there were 6 volunteers in Pedee who were willing to respond to a call to help their neighbor. Last night there was a Bite1. Chief Stange read the updates. “Update 1: ball python. Update 2: just hand, cannot get snake to release. Update 3: has hand in mouth. Update 4: Never happened before. Update 5: hand in snakes mouth, snake completely wrapped around hand. Update 6: tried release option from google, instructions making snake bite harder”. Engineer Champ arrived, pinches its jaw, and gets it to release, dropping it immediately in its enclosure. Great job Engineer Champ! As recently as today there was an individual who was burning, and since it is dry and hot there was a fire. SW Polk, Corvallis, and Dallas all responded to the call on Corvallis Rd. There were some power line concerns, and now mop up has begun.
9. **Member of the Month – Chief Stange stated** the member(s) of the month are the recruits. There are at least 4 recruits at the current fire. They attended and helped the Touch-A-Truck event. Every event that PCFD has done, the recruits have been present. Most afternoons someone will go into Chief Stange’s office asking for an air pack and permission to do some drills. They have been working hard and been diligent in their training. They are a truly phenomenal class of recruits.

**TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA:**

1. **Ambulance Update - Chief Stange stated** the ambulance is looking like an ambulance. Chief Stange shared pictures with the Board. Delivery is still estimated to be late August.
2. **Board Elections – Chief Stange stated**, next month there will be board elections, in the month of July. Every two years there are elections for president, vice president, secretary.

**President Lippsmeyer** – asked, on the bank and payroll, all is going well? No news is good news?

**Stephanie** – answered, it is flowing very nicely.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None at this time**.**

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Vice President Hamilton –** on that drowning call, we were lucky on where Dallas’ ambulance was. While it was confusing, we got lucky in some ways too. And to all involved in passing the levy, congratulations.

President Lippsmeyer – I second what Jeff said. It also speaks to the goodwill of the community. You are out in the community and that presence builds that goodwill. Congratulations and thank you.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: According to ORS 192.660. If necessitated by business. None anticipated.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**President Lippsmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:37pm**

**Minutes by Tirzah Romero-Reddick**