

POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 10, 2017
6:00pm – Central Station

BOARD MEMBERS:

President Tom Snair
Vice President Mike Lippsmeyer
Director Freeman Stutzman
Director Dennis King

ABSENT:

Secretary Joe Franko

STAFF:

Fire Chief Ben Stange
DC Mike Mayfield
Office Administrator Susan Shepard
Office Assistant Mary Carlson

ABSENT:

DC Neal Olson

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: President Snair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Note: Minutes will be recorded and kept for 60 months.

AUDIENCE REQUESTING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: Please sign Request List to address the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A) Approval of Disbursements for July 1-31, 2017.
- B) Finance report for the month of July 2017.
- C) Approve July 13, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

President Snair – Asked how the Board would like to take the Consent Agenda.

Director Lippsmeyer – Stated to take the Agenda as a whole.

Director Stutzman – Second.

President Snair – All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing at this time.

CHIEF’S REPORT: Chief Stange changed the order of the Agenda for his report.

B) Surplus Update – **Chief Stange** stated the Durango has been sold and is gone. He added Chief Mayfield has been in charge of surplus items that are of no use to the District and money is coming in from these items.

C) Facilities Update – **Chief Stange** stated the leak is fixed in the resource room. He added the expansion of the fitness room is moving along.

D) EMT Class Graduates – **Chief Stange** stated the EMT Class held at Station 90 is completed and Polk County Fire has two new certified EMT’s. He acknowledged Stephen Hoem from Station 90 and Nic Heller from Station 70. Chief Stange felt the Boards decision to offer the scholarships paid off. Chief Stange stated we now have an EMT in Pedee for the first time in 7 years.

E) Eclipse Preparation – **Chief Stange** stated the District will be hiring back some staff for the eclipse weekend and have opened up the back for camping and offered to purchase food for

volunteers. His goal is to staff all 3 ambulances and 2 engines at Station 90 and we will have home responders available at Stations 80 and 90. Chief Stange added that staging at Station 40 and the Suver location will depend on how the weekend progresses. He reported that he has met with Dallas and SW Polk about sharing resources and public information. He added matching eclipse t-shirts will be worn by the crews and staff. Chief Stange stated no one knows how this event will go but we are just trying to stay flexible and ready.

A) Notable Incidents – Chief Stange stated that for the month of July the District had 259 calls, which averages over 8 per day. He added that if our call volume has that many calls monthly we would average over 3000 calls annually. Chief Stange reviewed the following calls:

1) Buena Vista Fire – The garage and two sheds were fully involved but the house was saved. Within 8 minutes 15 seconds we had 21 people enroute.

2) High Risk Grass fire on River Rd. – Fire occurred on a very hot red flag day and upon arrival many truck drivers had the fire mostly extinguished. Within 6 minutes we had 13 enroute.

3) Two CPR Calls nearly simultaneously – While M91 was at the hospital, there were two simultaneous CPR calls. The first was handled by the remainder of the on duty crew. Chief Stange responded to the second call and was relieved when the engine showed up with another paramedic and two EMT Basics. The transport was handled by Dallas ambulance.

4) Extrication Call – A call came in that a car left the road and went down an embankment. Upon arrival the man in the car was semi-conscious, trapped and a fire had started. A bystander, police officer, and Chief Stange all used up their fire extinguishers but were unable to extinguish the fire. Crews showed up, extinguished the fire, and extricated the patient in 6 minutes 29 seconds. He was transported to the hospital but he ended up passing away in the ER.

5) House Fire – Fire occurred about 2am yesterday morning, claiming the life of a one-year old. Two firefighters were injured with burns with one firefighter being referred to the Burn Center for consultation. Both firefighters will be fine. Chief Stange stated he was more concerned with the mental injuries, especially of the firefighters who had to do the recovery. He spoke with Steve Brodehl, Chaplain for Oregon Fire Chiefs Assoc. and Hillsboro Fire, and our Chaplain, Ted Gibson. They lead the defusing for our personnel Wednesday night. The Board and Budget Committee approved this fiscal year to extend the EAP (Employee Assistance Program) to all volunteers. This last week they all received information on how to contact EAP for help, which allows for additional help if they need.

President Snair – Asked Chief Stange if our PPE is adequate since 2 of our firefighters received burns.

Chief Stange – Stated an internal investigation is being done by Chief Mayfield regarding the incident.

President Snair – Asked if there was failure with the PPE of our firefighters.

Chief Stange – Stated there is no reason to believe at this point that there was any failure of the PPE.

Director King – Asked if there are any better helmets out there with more protection?

Chief Stange – Stated our helmets and PPE meets the NFPA Standards.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated it is one of the hazards of the job.

TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA:

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None at this time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Director King – Asked who controls the Laudahl funds?

Chief Stange – Stated a committee has been formed. The committee has met and brought ideas on how to use the money left to the District. He added he wants the money to be used to honor the Laudahl's.

Director King – Stated he sees in the financial report that the balance is just under \$700,000 and asked about the interest earned.

Susan Shepard – Stated the Laudahl Fund money is in a separate account with LGIP.

Director King – Asked if maybe the interest could be used for other protection gear for our firefighters?

President Snair – Stated he feels the interest earned needs to stay with the account and used for the purpose intended.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Commented on each other watching out for one another after this last house fire. He added mental injuries can show up sometimes days or weeks after the incident. He thanked everyone for what they do.

Director Stutzman – Nothing at this time.

President Snair – Thanked everyone.

President Snair adjourned the Board Meeting at 6:19pm
Minutes by Mary Carlson.