

POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
Board of Directors
August 17th, 2023
6:00pm – Central Station
Location: 1800 Monmouth St., Independence, Or 97351

Also Virtually at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83280363029?pwd=NGRDbTVmOHJNMIRQR3ZSV055Um1wZz09>

Meeting ID: 832 8036 3029 - Passcode: 801072

President Mike Lippsmeyer
Vice President Jeff Hamilton
Secretary Cord Von Derahe
Director Curtis Cole
Director Dan Miller

Chief Ben Stange
DC Neal Olson
DC Frank Ehrmantraut
DC Troy Crafton
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 July 13th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- 3) Financials:
 - 3a. Approval of Disbursements for July 1-31, 2023
 - 3b. Finance report for the month of July 2023

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

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

Vice President Von Derahe – Second.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

CHIEFS REPORT:

- a.) **Skate park Ribbon Cutting** – **Chief Stange stated** PCFD participated in the ribbon cutting. The seasonal wildfire staff as well as other volunteers were encouraged to show and help the first aid booth at the event.

- b.) **National Night Out – Chief Stange stated** National Night Out was on August 1st. PCFD brought food for about 170 people. There were 8 volunteers who helped. There were games and meet and greets with people of the community at National Night Out that Chief Crafton lead up.
- c.) **WOU Football Season Standbys – Chief Stange stated** being the medic standby at the Western Oregon University (WOU) football games has been going on for a while. Chief Ehrmantraut has done a great job at establishing relationships with people at WOU, as well as establishing good frameworks, like a specific Standard Operating Guideline (SOG). For the last two or three years WOU has been paying to have PCFD staff on standby. The result of Chief Ehrmantraut’s work should be a more uniform look and consistency.
- d.) **Conflagrations – Chief Stange stated** PCFD is currently on it’s third Conflagration since the last Board meeting. PFCF was Task Force number 34. The deployments were as follows; Golden Fire – July 23rd, Engineer Champ as Strike Team Leader on a Duty Rig, as well as Type 3 Engine with Chief Ehrmantraut, Capt. Martin, and Capt. Rusher. Wiley Fire – August 10th, Captain Martin on a Tender with a firefighter from SW Polk Fire District. Bedrock Fire – currently, Engineer Dalrymple is Strike Team Leader, as well as Capt. Martin, Engineer Champ, and Engineer Camero on a Type 3 Engine. The duration of the deployments have been short thus far.
- e.) **Use of Wildfire Season Staffing Grant – Chief Stange stated** the part-time volunteers agreed to a 10am – 8pm shift and are being supervised by Chief Crafton. The OSFM Grant has also been used to up-staff during the Red Flag Warnings. At 3pm there was a grass fire in Monmouth and the exterior of the house caught on fire. Because of the increased staffing, there were 10 people on scene in 5 minutes and 28 seconds. It was a good use of increased staff on a high risk day.
- f.) **Update on Hiring – Chief Stange stated** Evan Allen started in April of 2019 and has worked around 12,000 hours and been on over 2,400 calls in four short years. He will be working in Sunriver, Oregon. Working with Civil Service, the remainder of people on the list have been called. There is nobody left on it that is available and interested. Chief Stange also stated that there will be re-testing for a Paramedic position since the list was thoroughly exhausted. The Civil Service Chair person is currently out of the country, so there will be no decisions made for the next few weeks. At this time Chief Stange will be testing for Paramedic and FF/EMT position. Since there was an increase on ambulance service revenue at the end of the last quarter, Chief Stange will speed up some of the FF/EMT basic hires.
- g.) **Notable Incidents – Chief Stange stated** since the July Board meeting there have been 15 fire related incidents. Not all were PCFD, some were Mutual Aid. On August 4th, a four unit, two story apartment building that had a fire in the kitchen while the apartment was occupied. It was extinguished and the fire was stopped from spreading.
- h.) **Member of the Month – Chief Stange stated** the member of the month for the month of August is Scott Lamoreaux. He was in the recruit academy and is a U.S. Postal Worker. He sweats harder because he works harder and has a great attitude. If he’s not out back in turnouts doing drills, he’s asking what else he can help with.

TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA:

Chief Stange stated that yesterday he received the final report regarding the Polk County ASA contract with ESCI. The first draft Chief Stange and Chief Ehrmantraut reviewed it, and noted there were errors that misrepresented the agency. Chief Stange and Chief Ehrmantraut offered a lot of follow up and facts to back up what was shared with them. Several of the errors they were hoping to have corrected that were not corrected. It was noted in the contract not to change the PCFD boundaries.

Vice President Von Derahe – stated that he struggled with the unrealistic expectations to the changes being proposed. He is glad [ESCI] made the change seeing as the taxpayers are paying for PCFD services that are blended.

Director Miller – asked who was impacted the most?

Chief Stange – answered the biggest impact was for Dallas Fire. Dallas Fire currently provides ambulance services in SW Polk’s ASA. With the changes, SW Polk will get most if not all of their fire district as ASA. Most others haven’t changed.

Vice President Von Derahe – Is there still ASA compliance reporting criteria?

Chief Stange – answered yes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None at this time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

President Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm

Minutes by Tirzah Romero-Reddick