

POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
December 14, 2017
6:00pm – Central Station

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

ABSENT:

Secretary Joe Franko

STAFF:

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

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.

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Approval of Disbursements for November 1-30, 2017.
- B) Finance report for the month of November 2017.
- C) Approve November 9, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.
- D) Approve November 9, 2017 Board Workshop 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 King – Second.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) **Standard of Cover – Final document complete – Chief Stange** stated there have been two workshops on the Standard of Cover. He stated this document sets goals and benchmarks for the District to work towards. Chief Stange stated he would like the Board to accept this final document.

President Snair – Stated he is impressed with the Standard of Cover that the Chief has presented. He added this document is the first one since he has been on the Board that he has seen.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Stated the article in the newspaper was a good article and was wondering if it can be added to our web page.

Susan Shepard – Stated when it is adopted we will add it to the web page.

President Snair – Asked if there were any questions.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Motioned to accept the Standard of Cover as presented.

Director Stutzman – Second.

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

NEW BUSINESS

- a) **2019-2023 Levy – Presentation – Chief Stange** presented the Board with a handout regarding the District going for an Operating Levy and reviewed the following:

- Status of Current Taxing Amounts
- Needs of District in the coming years
- Funding of the District in the coming years – Revenue
- Funding of the District in the coming years – Expenses
- Amount the District would need to levy to meet the district's needs
- What a continuation of the current rate would offer the District
- Repercussions of a levy not being pursued or not passing
- Summary of Options:
- Timeline should the Board decide to pursue an operating levy

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Asked if Polk County was going out for a Bond and how much would it cost the taxpayers.

Chief Stange – Stated the County is going out for a Bond and thought it would be nine cents but he was not 100% sure.

President Snair – Asked if the different agencies would ever stop going to the public with levy and bonds.

Chief Stange – Stated he did not think so. He added that a permanent tax rate was set in 1995 and cannot be increased.

Director King – Asked what the Fire Marshal does.

Chief Stange – Stated the Fire Marshal is involved in new construction, fire codes and inspections. He added the State inspects health care facilities and schools.

Director King – Asked Chief Stange about a contract for the Fire Marshal and how it works.

Chief Stange – Stated Dallas does not have a Fire Marshal and there has been a discussion between the two agencies to hire one for both Polk Fire and Dallas Fire. Chief stated it has only been discussed and asked the Board to think about it, and come in and talk to him.

- b) **Resolution 2017-07 – Ambulance Rate Increase – Chief Stange** stated Chief Mayfield has worked on this. He added Corvallis Fire does a rate comparison from other agencies and in reviewing the chart; Polk Fire is 3rd from the bottom. Chief Stange stated this Resolution is a recommendation to increase the ambulance rate to meet medium cost.

President Snair – Read aloud Resolution 2017-07 Ambulance Rate Increase effective 1/1/2018.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Motioned to accept Resolution 2017-07.

Director King – Second.

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

CHIEF'S REPORT

- a) **Conflagrations – Chief Stange** stated last Tuesday at 7pm, Polk County Fire put a crew together of three firefighters to help with the California wildfires and by 9pm, the crew was on the road. He added the crew should be back next Wednesday or Thursday (20th or 21st). Chief Stange also reported that we have received our reimbursement from the two conflagrations we were on over the summer. Chief stated we received around \$130,000 which includes money spent on personnel. Chief Stange reminded everyone just because you see it we do not have an extra \$130,000. Chief Stange stated the use of the apparatus that we sent generated approximately \$60,000 of revenue.
- b) **Apparatus Update – Chief Stange** stated January 8, 2018 is the target date for the new ambulance to be picked up in Washington.

- c) **Contracts for Service – Chief Stange** stated he met with the Fire Chiefs from Sheridan, SW Polk and Dallas Fire and they discussed the future of the three Districts and about contracting administrative services. Chief Stange wanted to mention this to our Board because it came up at the Sheridan Fire Board Meeting and the SW Fire Board President was there. Chief Stange stated he is having conversations about what integrating administrative services would entail. At this point any unification of the Districts would not involve operations. Chief Stange added the conversation is out there and no commitments have been made. He feels it is important to consider where we may be able to save and improve.
President Snair – Asked what would be the benefits?
Chief Stange – Stated a reduction in redundancy in many things we do.
Vice President Lippsmeyer – Asked when you say administrative are you pertaining to payroll and those kind of services.
Chief Stange – Stated it would be OSHA Compliance, apparatus maintenance tracking, compliance with fit testing, and other things. An exact list has not yet been established.
President Snair – Asked if when you speak of consolidation if he meant one Fire Chief for the three Districts.
Chief Stange – Stated it is just a preliminary conversation at this time.
- d) **Member of the Month – Chief Stange** stated Jimmy Libke from Station 70 was the member of the month. Chief added Jimmy is a hard worker and responds to most of the calls and drills for Station 70.
- e) **Notable Incidents – Chief Mayfield** – State the Paramedics delivered two babies this last month; one at home and one in the ambulance. Everyone was doing well!
- f) **Christmas Party – Chief Stange** stated P1FFA had their annual Christmas party last night. It was well attended and a very fun evening.

TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Director King – Nothing at this time.

Vice President Lippsmeyer – Nothing at this time.

Director Stutzman – Nothing at this time.

President Snair – Nothing at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – (IF NECESSITATED BY BUINESS) - Nothing at this time.

President Snair adjourned the Board Meeting at 6:48pm.

Minutes by Mary Carlson.