**POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1**

**Board of Directors**

**May 13, 2025**

**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 Jeff Hamilton Chief Ben Stange

Vice President Cord Von Derahe DC Neal Olson

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer DC Frank Ehrmantraut

Director Curtis Cole DC Troy Crafton

Director Dan Miller (Absent)  Office Administrator Stephanie Hale

Office Assistant Maliyah Thompson

**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 April 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financials:

3a. Approval of Disbursements for April 1-30, 2025

3b. Finance report for the month of April 2025

**Secretary Lippsmeyer** – Motion to take the Agenda as a whole.

**Director Cole** – Second.

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **OSFM 2025 Wildfire Season Staffing Grant**

**-** We have received this grant the last three years. We will be receiving it again this year for $35,000 for our seasonal employees.

**-** We hired 6 people for these positions and they will begin on June 9th and will be working the same schedule as last year which is 7 days a week, 10 hour shifts.

**-** These seasonal positions help with station maintenance, address signs, and emergency calls as well.

**Vice President Von Derahe –** Any problems getting the money spent?

**Chief Stange –** No. We usually keep extending employment towards the end of the season. Some workers are qualified for PERS, so that makes the money go quickly.

**Vice President Von Derahe –** Do we have enough to backfill if seasonals get sent on conflagration?

**Chief Stange –** We have not done that in the past. We don’t keep the list active, but it is something we could look into. We typically don’t have people experienced enough to jump in during those times.

**Secretary Lippsmeyer –** What are the overhead costs associated, is it just payroll stuff?

**Chief Stange –** Yes. Just staff time. We have had some employees file for unemployment when the season ended and there is a cost (about $2000) associated with that.

**CHIEFS REPORT:**

1. **Active Attack Integrated Response Grant**

- Chief Crafton led this training at Station 90. There were instructors from Washington, Idaho and Texas and we had 12 participants from multiple agencies.

- There were some last minute cancellations due to the training landing on Easter weekend.

1. **Legislative Update**

- PFOS foams (We don’t have any)

- OSFM Budget. The final forecast before the final budget comes out tomorrow at 8am. This budget did include the seasonal staffing grant that is typically funded at $6,000,000 but the Governor’s recommended budget has it at $5,000,000 for the next two years which would mean 22 agencies missing out on this grant and we very likely may be one of these 22.

- Balance billing (HB 3253)

- The two PERS bills have been reduced to one bill.

- Wildfire funding bill is moving. Pretty complicated, we will see where it goes.

- EMS modernization is still moving forward,

- DPSST has a good bill for their funding with a few policy option packages that would benefit us: Learning management system, two wildfire positions (a coordinator and a trainer), and some capital construction on campus to allow fire trainings to happen.

1. **OFCA Conference**

- Lots of talk about legislation

- The George Fox students that did our transport studies over the last few years presented their findings from Polk County Fire on super-users. They did an excellent job and many people had questions after the presentation.

1. **Recruit Academy**

- We will be swearing in the new recruits on July 2nd.

1. **Notable Incidents**

- Mutual aid call for SW Polk – water supply

- Mutual aid call for Falls City – water supply

- Structure fire on Gun Club in the afternoon. Our goal is to have 6 on scene in 9 minutes, we had 7 on scene in 7 minutes and 23 seconds.

1. **Member of the Month**

- Chaplain Freddy Moran

- Spends a lot of time helping our members with many things.

**TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA**: None at this time.

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

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None at this time.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Vice President Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 5:46PM**

**Minutes by Maliyah Thompson**