**POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1**

**Board of Directors**

**April 13th, 2023**

**6:00pm – Central Station**

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

**Also Virtually at:**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88501558202?pwd=NWdWOWx6SWdYbHQ0MUZ5TVJidTj4QT09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88501558202?pwd=NWdWOWx6SWdYbHQ0MUZ5TVJidTj4QT09)

**Meeting ID: 885 0155 8202 - Passcode: 707682**

President Mike Lippsmeyer Chief Ben Stange

Vice President Jeff Hamilton DC Neal Olson (Absent)

Secretary Cord Von Derahe DC Frank Ehrmantraut (Virtual)

Director Curtis Cole DC Troy Crafton

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 March 9th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financials:

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

3b. Finance report for the month of March 2023

**President Lippsmeyer – asked** about ambulance billing service. We are almost over 100% burn rate on it. Is it billed in big increments?

**Chief Stange – answered** there was a lot of ambulance billing in the beginning of this year. We have also submitted to the GEMT program.

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

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

**Director Miller** – Second.

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

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Grant Award from OSFM for Water Tender – Chief Stange stated** Oregon State Fire Marshals (OSFM) through Senate Bill 762 was granted $25 million to purchase apparatus to deploy throughout the state to increase the ability to respond. The apparatus is specifically supposed to be used for wildland fire fighting. For example water tenders, type 6 engines (grass rigs), and type 3 engines (hybrid of structural engines, and grass rigs). 76 agencies received apparatus. 30 agencies will receive water tenders, 26 agencies will receive type 3 engines, and 20 agencies will receive 6 engines. PCFD has been selected to receive a water tender. The way this program works, PCFD will not actually own the water tender. The State will continue to own the water tender. It will be white and have an Oregon State Fire Marshal logo on it, as well as the PCFD logo on it. PCFD will also receive $3500 a year for maintenance on that apparatus. It will be sent for mutual aid wherever it needs to go. For mutual aid and conflagrations, it is not required to deploy the water tender. However, if two water tenders are sent then the OSFM water tender will be one of the ones deployed. Typically, more than one is not deployed because of personnel. One of PCFD’s apparatus would still be deployed, but the OSFM water tender would still be had as a resource. When water tenders are deployed from Pedee or Airlie on conflagrations it will be a big benefit to have one more tender to back fill it. It was a very successful grant and PCFD is happy to receive it.

**President Lippsmeyer –** That doesn’t show up on the equipment budget, it will just appear in the garage.

**Chief Stange –** Yes. Deliveries are expected throughout 2023 and 2024. It won’t happen for another year and a half.

1. **Information on Potential Polk County ASA Changes – Chief Stange stated** the County has been looking at potential changes to the Ambulance Service Area Plan. Right now, there are (8) eight ASA’s throughout Polk County. They match up very closely to the fire districts with the exception of the City of Dallas covering SW Polk area. Chief Stange shared that he and Chief Ehrmantraut went over the report and read all 80 pages. Discussion ensued - Chief Stange continued to share details and data with the Board members about the report.

**The Board Members** expressed their questions and concerns about the report. They requested a revision of the data and offered ideas of alternative changes and feedback.

**CHIEFS REPORT:**

1. **Update on Fire District Levy - Chief Stange** and President Lippsmeyer attended the Monmouth City Council meeting and the Independence City Council meeting. At these meetings, Chief Stange handed out literature whilst explaining about the levy. President Lippsmeyer followed with a brief explanation of the Board Members’ perspective. Both city councils formally voted to endorse and support the district levy.

**President Lippsmeyer –** shared that Chief Stange was presenting in Monmouth and two people shared they had received Polk County Fire District No.1 services in the last 3 months. Chief was ready with his double-sided pamphlets with all the information. He answered questions.

**Chief Stange –** shared he was on a radio interview with KEZI9 and gave a 20-minute presentation for the Rotary Club on the levy.

1. **Recruit Academy – Chief Stange** stated there are now 12 recruits. One student has left the academy. He was one of the recruits from Buena Vista. It is unfortunate to see him go. Of the remaining, four of the recruits are going with Chief Crafton for the Live Fire Exercise in Keizer tomorrow (April 14th). Two of the recruits have passed enough of their tests to be interior.
2. **Trolley Ribbon Cutting – Chief Stange** stated all sorts of people from the community, both city councils and their families all gathered at the Station 90 for the ribbon cutting. The Trolley runs from Independence to Monmouth.
3. **Notable Incidents – Chief Stange** stated no bad injuries. There was a collision by Taco Bell in front of the station at 4 pm on a Friday. There were five patients, no major injuries, and there was traffic because of the location and timing. There was a brush fire on March 17th out on Airlie Rd. started by a burn pile. It burned a quarter of an acre. It was taken care of by Engine 71, Tender 71, and Brush 91 from Pedee Station 70. There was a fire at an apartment complex. It was extinguished prior to our arrival but units were still deployed to that call. There was also a house fire on Talmadge behind Mendi’s on March 25th. The house fire was a double wide that was a total loss insured for $132,000. There were 26 or 28 people on scene for that incident.
4. **Member of the Month – Chief Stange** stated one of our newer support members Christi Emerling, is the member of the month of April. She helped substantially for the banquet and is going to support tomorrow at the training in Keizer. The Joint Committee on Tax will be meeting at the station and she has volunteered to help with that as well.

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

**Chief Stange** asked the Board Members if they were available to reschedule the next Board Meeting on May 11th. There is a schedule conflict for a Rotary Club event that he must attend since he is the current President.

**The Board Members all agreed the next Board of Directors meeting is now rescheduled for Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at 6pm.**

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

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Secretary Von Derahe –** stated thank you for the quality service, dealing with ASA, payroll, etc.

**Vice President Hamilton –** stated command staff is doing a lot of work. Good job. Looking forward to the Budget Hearing next month.

**President Lippsmeyer –** asked how the transition with Umpqua Bank is going.

**Stephanie –** answered that it’s great! Umpqua has a lot to offer online more than Columbia Bank did. So it’s going very well.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**President Lippsmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:33pm**

**Minutes by Tirzah Romero-Reddick**