

POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1

Board of Directors

August 12, 2021

6:00pm – Central Station

LOCATION: Central Fire Station – 1800 Monmouth St. Independence, OR 97351

Also streamed via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88501558202?pwd=NWdWOWx6SWdYbHQ0MUZ5TVJidTj4QT09>

Meeting ID: 885 0155 8202 - Passcode: 707682

President Mike Lippsmeyer (at Station 90)
Vice President Jeff Hamilton (at Station 90)
Secretary Cord Von Derahe (at Station 90)
Director Curtis Cole (at Station 90)
Director Dan Miller (at Station 90)

Chief Ben Stange (at Station 90)
DC Neal Olson (at Station 90)
Office Admin. Stephanie Hale (at Station 90)
Office Assistant Mary Carlson (at Station 90)
ABSENT:
DC Mike Mayfield

President Lippsmeyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Lippsmeyer stated anyone wishing to address the Board to please sign the sheet on the back table with your name and topic that you would like to discuss.

He added the Meeting Minutes will be recorded and kept for 60 months.

Open for public comment on any of the agenda items.

Captain Paoli – Presented “The Local News” handout to the Board. Captain Paoli stated that Alex Rose completed his probationary year in July 2021. He added Firefighter/Paramedic Josh Dalrymple celebrated his birthday July 9th, and the MDA Fill the Boot will be September 25th 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1) Board Agenda
- 2) Approve July 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- 3) Approve August 3, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes
- 4) Financials:
 - 3a. Approval of Disbursements for July 1-31, 2021
 - 3b. Finance report for the month of July 2021

President Lippsmeyer – Asked if there were any questions. None at this time.

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

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

Secretary Von Derahe – Second.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) EMS Chief Medical Leave

Chief Stange stated that Chief Mayfield went on medical leave Tuesday, July 6th. Captain Kissell has been working as an Administrative Captain taking on many of Chief Mayfield’s duties and Fire Fighter Wagner has been acting as the Captain on B-Shift. He added Chief Mayfield’s

recovery has been delayed and we extended Captain Kissell and Firefighter Wagner's temporary assignment through the end of August.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) **Oath of Office for new Director** – Dan Miller

President Lippsmeyer proceeded with the swearing-in of New Board Director Dan Miller

b) **Auditor Contract for Services**

Chief Stange stated that Polk County Fire District No.1 contracts with Certified Public Accountants to conduct annual audits. He added that in the past our audits have been completed by Grove, Mueller, & Swank, P.C. Chief Stange stated this firm has consistently provided auditors who offer and present professional and thorough reports to the Board. He added the firm provides auditing for many public agencies in the area. Chief Stange stated it is notable that its firm rotates its auditors, ensuring that we do not get audited by the same individual more than a couple years in a row. Chief Stange put a copy of the Agreement in the Board Books. Chief Stange presented two options:

1. Contract for auditing services from Grove, Mueller, & Swank, P.C.
2. Instruct staff to locate alternative auditors.

President Lippsmeyer – Asked the Board what they would like to do.

Vice President Hamilton - I move that we accept the Service Agreement with Grove, Mueller, & Swank P. C. dated July 2, 2021.

Director Cole - Second.

President Lippsmeyer – All in favor, none opposed, carried – Service Agreement approved.

c) **Chief Stange reported the following mobilizations in July, 2021.**

Jack Fire:

- Personnel: Mike Kissell
- Dates: July 6 – July 12
- Apparatus: D464

Bootleg Fire:

- Personnel: Stephen Hoem, Brian Burchfield, Bo Camero
- Dates July 7 – July 17
- Apparatus: E469

- Personnel: Mike Kissell
- Dates: July 14 – July 23
- Apparatus: D464

Chief Stange – Stated currently we have two volunteers, one career firefighter/paramedic and an Engine at the Skyline Fire.

d) New OSHA Rules

Chief Stange stated there are three new rules that OSHA is issuing. He reviewed them as follows:

1) Protection for Workers Laboring in Excessive Heat

The Rule: This rule is mostly aimed at the agriculture industry but it explains that workers must have access to shade and drinking water when the temperature exceeds 80 degrees. It also provides extra cooling down breaks when temperatures exceed 90 degrees.

Our response: The district carries bottled drinking water on all emergency apparatus. We have several canopies that can be brought to a scene for extended operations and have added one to the duty rig. Chief added the cabs on our vehicles are air conditioned and we have an air conditioned ambulance on larger scenes.

2) Wildfire Smoke Exposure

The Rule: Beginning August 16, 2021, employers must ensure workers who are exposed to AQI 101 or higher are trained in several areas including health effects. AQI's 201 and higher require the use of N95 respirators.

Our response: Most importantly, this Rule likely will not apply to people responding to an emergency. Also of note, it only applies to exposures lasting longer than 15 minutes within an hour. The only time this could impact us would be doing drill activities. Last year, we already reduced our outdoor drilling during these days. If we feel it is necessary, we have plenty of N95 masks and the ability to continue to fit test our members.

3) COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing for Healthcare Providers

The Rule: Beginning September 30th, 2021, all persons working in a "healthcare setting" (which specifically includes ambulances per the draft Rule) are required to either be fully vaccinated or submit to COVID-19 testing at least weekly.

Our response: We are still waiting to see the final Rule and are keeping an eye on impacts groups such as labor unions may have on modifications to the Rule. Currently, 83% of our line staff is fully vaccinated. The larger impact it could have would be in the use of our volunteers who are certified as EMT's. At times, these EMT's may drive an ambulance to the hospital or take a patient from an MVA scene or when we run out of staffing. As written, for those EMT's who are not fully vaccinated and who had not been tested within the week (since they don't know then they may be needed in an ambulance) would not be able to assist in these patient transports.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- a) **Saturday, September 11th BBQ** – **Chief Stange** stated the volunteers are working hard to put together a fun event with music, a catered meal, family games and activities. He added it should last from 3:00 – 9:00 pm.
- b) **Don Milligan Service Friday, October 1st at 2:00 pm**

- c) **Notable incidents – Chief Stange** stated we had 291 calls for the month of July. He added we had a high risk grass fire on Corvallis Rd on July 10th. Chief Stange stated we went with Adair Fire as mutual. 1.5 acres, it was accessed through fence and kept out of the trees. Chief Stange stated there were several other high risk calls throughout the month. On July 11th a mattress fire in house on Monmouth St. On July 28th a MVA with heavy extrication.
- d) **Member of the month – Chief Stange announced** Brian Burchfield and Marie Hardwick were the Member of the month.

TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA:

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None at this time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Director Miller – Stated he saw HB94 at Whites Collision.

Chief Stange – Stated that the bumper needs to be repaired from a previous conflagration, but beings it is out again on the current conflagration we decided to wait.

Secretary Von Derahe – Extended his thanks to everyone.

President Lippsmeyer – Extended his thanks to everyone.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- According to ORS 192.660(2)(d) – to conduct deliberations with persons designated to carry on labor negotiations. The Board will not come back with a decision.

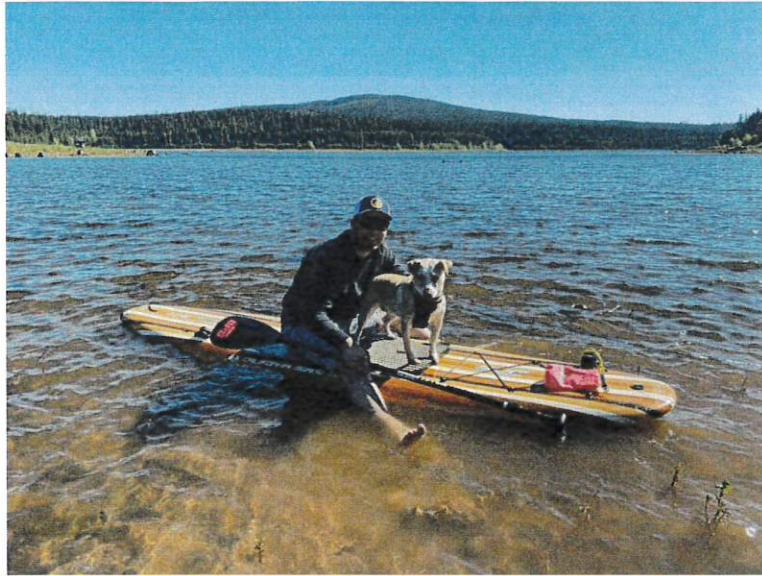
ADJOURNMENT:

President Lippsmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:22 pm.

The Local News

July Highlights

Member Spotlight



ALEX ROSE, A Shift Engineer/Paramedic

Alex started in the fire service in 2012, working at Washington County District #2, Sheridan Fire District and finally here at Polk County Fire.

Alex's favorite food is anything served from a French/creole restaurant. His favorite hobby is anything that takes place outside from riding his motorcycle to skiing or backpacking. A fun fact about Alex is he's traveled to every country in North America from Canada to Costa Rica. Alex completed his firefighter probationary year this month here at Polk County Fire.

Birthday Celebrated

Josh Dalrymple July 9th



FILL THE BOOT September 25th 2021

Local 4196 would like to invite District Board members to participate in FILL THE BOOT. The hours will run from 1000 to 1900. No need to sign up just show up and we will put you to work.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Rusher, Vice President

Polk County Professional Firefighters Local 4196