**POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1**

**Board of Directors**

**March 14, 2024**

**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 (Absent)

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer DC Frank Ehrmantraut (Absent)

Director Curtis Cole (Virtual) DC Troy Crafton (Absent)

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 February 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financials:

**3a**. Approval of Disbursements for February 1-29, 2024

**3b**. Finance report for the month of February 2024

**President Hamilton** – Asked how the Board would like to take the Consent Agenda.

**Vice President Von Derahe** – Stated to take the Agenda as a whole.

**Secretary Lippsmeyer** – Second.

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

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Appoint Budget Officer

The State of Oregon requires that public employers appoint a “Budget Officer” each year. The duties of the Budget Officer are within the job description of the Fire Chief

**Vice President Von Derahe –** Motioned to appoint Chief Stange as the Budget Officer for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

**Secretary Lippsmeyer** – Second.

**Vice President Von Derahe** – All in favor, none opposed, carried – passed unanimously.

**CHIEF’S REPORTS:**

1. **Review Budget Committee Calendar**

- Budget calendar in section 5:

- Secretary Lippsmeyer might have issues with the May 14th date. (Travel for daughter’s graduation).

- Chief Stange explained that the first budget meeting is the most important (May 14th). We want both budget committee members, as well as board members present if possible.

1. **Firefighter Stair Climb**

- Took a group of 10 people up to Seattle to participate (led by Chief Ehrmantraut).

- Did some fundraising events beforehand and raised over $9,000 for the cause (Leukemia and Lymphoma).

1. **Falls City Fire Chief, Bob Young, Retirement**

- Served for over 40 years! There was a ceremony to recognize all his doings for the community.

- John Gilbert is taking over this position.

1. **Recognition of Kent McKnight – Firehouse EVT**

- Manager of Dallas City Shops

- He has been extremely supportive of Fire and EMS over the last 6 years, and always prioritizes our units. He also works with City of Dallas, Falls City, and DPSST, and we got all four agencies to sign the nomination letter for EVT Technician of the year.

- He was runner-up, and made it into the magazine. Got surprised at the City Council Meeting in Dallas with a large framed poster showing his accomplishments.

1. **Strategic Planning Update**

- We have a contract with them and had our first meeting on Monday, March 11th (virtual).

1. **Annual Awards Banquet**

- Acknowledged the Top Responders from all stations, along with Years of Service.

- Awards: Resident of the Year (Scott Johnson), Rookie of the Year (Colton Biggs), Board Member of the Year (Christi Emerling), Chief’s Award (Mayor of Independence, John McArdle and Mayor of Monmouth, Cecelia Koontz), Instructor of the Year (Brady Andersen), Employee of the Year (Frank Ehrmantraut), Officer of the Year (Adam Chinnock), Paramedic of the Year (Brady Andersen), and Firefighter of the Year (Garrett Hardwick).

1. **AGRiP Conference**

- Association of Government Risk Insurance Pools (Florida)

- A lot of talk about Insurance and Artificial Intelligence

1. **Notable Incidents**

**-** Two young females experienced cardiac arrest for medical reasons. Unfortunately they passed away later at the hospital.

**-** Large dumpster fire (2/23). Took two tanks of water to extinguish.

**-** Dallas had three working fires that we helped with.

1. **Member of the Month**

- John Frost (Station 70)

**TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA**: The Special Districts is involved in the National Special Districts Coalition, which is to advocate for Special Districts nationally. There is no way to define “Special Districts”. Every state has a different definition.

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

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**:

**Secretary Lippsmeyer:** Congratulations to all of the award winners at the annual banquet. It is wonderful that we can recognize these types of things.

**Vice President Von Derahe:** It is good that this group finds ways to honor people whenever it is possible. These unsung heroes keep the place moving. Continue building these relationships and honoring the people that are doing the work, career staff AND volunteers.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** According to ORS 192.660(2)(d) – to conduct deliberations with persons designated to carry on labor negotiations. Will not continue to regular session afterwards.

**ADJOURNMENT: President Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 6:23pm. The executive session was adjourned at 7:06.**

**Minutes by Maliyah Thompson**