**POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1**

**Board of Directors**

**August 14, 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 (Absent) 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  Office Administrator Stephanie Hale

**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.

**Director Dan Miller**- Agenda error corrections.

**Chief Stange**- Month says June but it’s for July.

**Director Dan Miller**- Motion to accepted agenda with corrections.

**Director Curtis Cole**- Second.

**Vice President Von Derahe**- All in favor, none opposed, passed.

**Open for public comment on any of the agenda items.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Board Agenda
2. Approve July 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financials:

3a. Approval of Disbursements for July 1-31, 2025

3b. Finance report for the month of July 2025

**Vice President Von Derahe** – Asked how the Board would like to take the agenda.

**Director Miller**–– Stated to take the agenda as a whole.

**Director Curtis Cole** – Second.

**Vice President Von Derahe**. All in favor, none opposed, carried – Agenda approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant**

Chief Stange updates on the statues of the Grant

* No questions at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Auditor Contract**

Chief Stange -Options, One didn’t respond, one wasn’t interested, conflict of interest, three-year contract increased rate. Auditor from last year has reached out ready to get started. Get started with them or find another.

**Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer**- The auditor that your thinking of continuing with is housed in Texas is the other one local? Would it be better service if it was local?

**Chief Stange-** I don’t think it would make a difference.

**Stephanie Hale –** No, it won’t make a difference everything is online.

**Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer-** Any benefit of using an Oregon auditor?

**Chief Stange-** no, more expensive to transition to a new auditor.

**Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer-** Motion to continue auditing services from current company.

**Director Curtis Cole-** Second.

Vice President Von Derahe. All in favor, none opposed, passed.

1. **Purchase of New Staff Vehicle**

**Chief Stange-** reviewed document for Board.

**Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer-** Motion to replace the staff vehicle.

**Director Curtis Cole-** Second

**Vice President Von Derahe.** All in favor (3), 1 opposed, passed.

1. **New Fire District Logo**

**Chief Stange-**PowerPoint presentation

**DC Neal Olsen**- I like 2,4.

**Director Curtis Cole-** 1,3,5 are hideous. Doesn’t fit the Fire District, don’t like that our current patch is stolen but it is a more impressive logo as a patch.

**Discussion Ensued.**

**Discussion Tabled.**

**CHIEFS REPORT:**

1. **Lifesaving Recognition**

- Johnson

- Wooldridge

- Homer

**Chief Stage**- Reads Letter of Commendation and provided challenge coin.

1. **Mechanic Update**

* Matt Connery hired as a P/T Mechanic.

1. **Lexipol Connect Recognition**

- Silver Plaque.

- Figure out how to get gold.

1. **Office Assistant Hiring Update**

- Hiring in progress, have not gotten background check back name not disclosed yet.

1. **Light Rescue Inspection**

Chief Stange- just about done, final inspection on September 15.

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer- How does it get to Oregon?

Chief Stange- It will be hauled.

1. **Swearing-in of Career Firefighters**
2. **September 2**

* Caleb Taylor (Engineer)
* Alex Schilz (Paramedic)

1. **National Night Out**

* Successful Pub Ed at the church.

1. **DPSST Forcible Entry Prop**

* Forced entry prop.
* Goes around the state can be borrowed and used for training.

1. **Notable incidents**

* Pioneer, Godsey Rd fires.

1. **Member of the Month**

* -Harmony Alverez

-seasonal

-PT/EMT-B.

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

1. Class for deaf Blind Community.
2. Heron Point Drill.

-impressive Drill.

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

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Director Cutis Cole** – Good work this month.

**Vice President Cord Von Derahe** -I would agree

**Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer-** Second the good work from the evacuation drills to keeping the equipment running, congratulations to everybody for keeping it running. Thank you.

**Director Dan Miller-** I know a bunch of time and effort into the patches and I feel bad that we did not like them, but good job to Harmony.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** According to ORS 192.660(2)(d) – to conduct deliberations with persons designated to carry on labor negotiations.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**President Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 7:04pm**

**Minutes by Victoria Zimmerman**