

MINUTES

Mid- Columbia Fire and Rescue
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtually Held
1400 W 8th Street, The Dalles, OR 97058
January 25, 2021

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board President David Jacobs called the January 25, 2021 meeting of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue to order at 5:31pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by President David Jacobs.

3. Roll call

Directors present via video conference: David Jacobs, Dave Peters, and Mike Cronin. Diana Bailey and Dick Schaffeld was excused absent.

Staff via video conference: Division Chief Jay Wood. Staff present: Fire Chief Bob Palmer, Division Chief David Jensen, and Office Manager Stephanie Ziegler. Division Chief Fred Coleman was excused.

Others: Tom Peachey and Andrew Myers, Legal Counsel via Video Conference. Tom Ashmore joined meeting via phone and Jesse Metheny via video conference in listen only mode.

President Jacobs went over the Compliance and ground rules with the Public Meeting Law, stating that due to the protective measures implemented by the State of Oregon in response to the COVID-19 pandemic relative to social distancing, the District will be complying with legislative action enacted by the State of Oregon regarding Public Meeting law. Public meetings for the time being will be conducted remotely to mitigate the transmission of the Coronavirus in accordance with Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-12 to suspend all public gatherings. Public access information was made available prior to the meeting. The District had one attendee by telephone and one attendee by video



conference in listen mode only. There were no other requests for accommodations by the public.

4. AGENDA CHANGES

None

5. MINUTES

The Minutes for the December 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting were approved as presented.

The Minutes of the January 5, 2021 Board Work Session were approved as presented.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Palmer received an email at 4:30pm before the Board Meeting at 5:30 regarding the Staff Salary Survey. The deadline for public comment was 12:00pm, therefore the email did not meet the deadline. However, Legal Counsel Peachey stated that the email could be made part of public record if they wanted to read the email. President Jacob's decided not to read the email and make it part of the public record at this board meeting.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Cash Accounts Summary: No comments made.
- b. Ambulance Service Financial Report: No Comments made.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Renewal Report – Director Cronin stated the Urban Renewal Meeting had been cancelled.
- b. Enterprise Zone – Director Jacobs had nothing new to report.

9. FIRE CHIEF REPORT

- a. Incident Report: There were 251 calls for service in the month of December, there were 259 in 2019. YTD was 2,956 calls and in 2019 we had 2,965.
- b. Fire Chief Update: Chief Palmer briefly ran through his report, which was included in the Board packet.
- c. Division Chief Jensen's Report: Included in Board Packet. No comments were made.
- d. Division Chief Wood's Report: Included in Board Packet. No Comments were made.



- e. Division Chief Coleman's Report: Included in the Board packet. No Comments made.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None

11. OLD BUSINESS

Information Sheet – Staff Salary Survey. Director Jacobs asked the board if there were any additional questions for the Staff. The Board had no additional comments. Chief Palmer will continue to study the feasibility of incorporating a new wage scale into both the current and next fiscal year budget. Chief Palmer plans on presenting the results at the February 2021 Board Meeting.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Information Sheet – Reimbursement of Director attorney fees. Background statement attached to Board Packet. Legal Counsel Tom Peachey advised the Board that he had contacted the Ethics Commission seeking their input on how to handle the attorney fees. The total amount owed to Legal Counsel was \$13,182.50. The District's insurance paid \$5,000.00 towards the amount owed. The Ethic's Commission stated that each Board member had to reimburse the legal fees out of their pocket, however the District would then reimburse each Director.

Legal Counsel will invoice each Director, they will then bring their check to Chief Palmer who will then do a Check Request to reimburse them. This will serve as the documentation. Chief Palmer will deliver the checks to Legal Counsel Peachey. Retired Board Member's Tom Ashmore and Bob Delaney will also be invoiced and will need to bring a check to Chief Palmer. They will also be reimbursed for attorney fees after they pay the fee.

No other New Business.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Adjourn to Executive Session at 6:05pm in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(d) to conduct deliberations on several grievances that the District is dealing with.

14. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:52PM




15. GOOD OF THE ORDER

There was no other business to discuss.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Director Jacobs at 6:53pm



Board President



Secretary/Treasurer