

MINUTES

Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue
Board of Directors Meeting
Training Room, Station 1
1400 West 8th Street, The Dalles, Oregon
November 17, 2014

1. **ROLL CALL / AGENDA CHANGES**

Board President Robin Miles called the November 17, 2014 meeting of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue to order at 5:30 pm.

Directors present: Robin Miles, Dick Schaffeld, Tom Ashmore, John Willer and Bill Wolfe.

Staff: Bob Palmer, Fire Chief; Dave Lapof, Division Chief; Dana Woods, Office Manager.

Others: Tom Peachey, Legal Counsel; Erik Wright, Firefighter; Steve Biehn, Captain; Eric Blumenthal, Lieutenant; Brock Bryant, Firefighter; Walt Denstedt, Engineer.

Excused: Division Chief Jay Wood and Division Chief Dan Hammel.

2. **MINUTES**

Director Ashmore moved to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2014 Regular Board meeting. Director Wolfe seconded. The motion passed with Miles, Schaffeld, Willer, Wolfe and Ashmore voting yes.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

4. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Cash Accounts Summary: Included in board packet. President Miles asked why the Payroll Expense line item is so far over budget. Dana explained that this line item is to pay Social Security taxes for Temporary Employees, and we have had more Temporary Employees this year than expected.

Ambulance Service Financial Report: Included in board packet.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Miles reported that the Urban Renewal Committee granted Jim Martin / Sunshine Mill an extension on his payment. Jim Martin asked Urban Renewal to pay \$6000 for an Audit that would show that he couldn't pay his lump sum that's due.

6. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Incident Report: There were 230 total calls for the month of October, with 198 of them being EMS calls.

911 Usage: 11% usage for the month of October. Chief Palmer informed the Board that Wasco County will be having discussions with Frontier (formerly Tri-Com) about contracting the dispatching.

Training Division Report: Included in board packet.

Prevention Division Activities: Included in board packet.

Volunteer R&R Division Activities: Included in board packet.

Other:

1. Board Policy Review: At the most recent conference, Ken Jones recommended that Boards review at least 1 or 2 policies at each meeting for familiarization and possible modification. President Miles agreed that this is a good idea. Chief Palmer will send out 1 or 2 policies with each Board Packet for review the following month. President Miles would also like to see the Strategic Plan reviewed.
2. MOU between Fire District and Local 1308: Has been signed by both parties effective 11/1/14. Some changes take affect 1/1/15.
3. SCBA Grant Update: Division Chief Hammel is working on finalizing pricing and options. He has taken input from each shift and should have a recommendation for the Board at the December meeting.
4. Safe Personnel Training: Each employee and Board Member has been assigned a training log-in by Division Chief Wood. This training site will contain mandatory and recommended training for each person. Board Member training will help with SDAO Best Practices.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. BIA Fire Protection Contract for Celilo Village: Chief Palmer provided Information Sheet with an update on where we're at with the Contract.
- b. Station 2 Renovation Update: Chief Palmer provided the Board with an update regarding construction bids. Also included was a City of The Dalles Agenda Item in which Nolan Young will ask the City Council to consider designating money from its Contingency fund to cover the project shortage. That money would be paid back to The City from future Enterprise Zone fees that were allocated to MCF&R. This would still result in an additional \$4872 being needed from the MCF&R budget to cover the remaining overage. Director Ashmore made a motion to move forward with the renovation – expending the additional \$4872 out of the Building Reserve Fund. Director Schaffeld seconded, with all Board Members voting yes.
- c. Staff Vehicle Replacement: Per Board direction, Chief Palmer did research into the option of purchasing a used vehicle. Additional information regarding the vehicle purchase was provided to the Board. Director Wolfe inquired as to how many staff vehicles we currently have and how many are really needed. Chief Palmer indicated that we currently have 4 staff vehicles, one of them being a vehicle that had been declared surplus property in the past. Director Wolfe expressed concern over spending down the Contingency line when we have a construction project with potential overruns.
- d. Resolution No. 2014-10:

MOTION: Director Ashmore moved to adopt Resolution 2014-10 “A Resolution authorizing the purchase of a new staff truck with associated safety equipment and up fitting and transfer of funds from General Fund Operating Contingency to line 6533-00 Capital Outlay Firefighting Equipment”. Director Willer seconded. The motion passed with Miles, Ashmore and Willer voting yes. Directors Wolfe and Schaffeld voted no.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Resolution No. 2014-11 – Restatement of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue Length of Service Award Plan (LOSAP). OFDDA has recently approved revisions to the LOSAP plan which are designed to enhance the value of the plan for its members. This restatement will incorporate those enhancements into the MCF&R Plan.

MOTION: Director Schaffeld moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11 “Restatement of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue Length of Service Award Plan (LOSAP)”. Director Wolfe seconded. The motion passed with all voting yes.

- b. Resolution No. 2014-12: As a result of Contract Bargaining, one of the items agreed upon is a change in the Employee Health Insurance Plan. This plan change will also result in the establishment of an HRA / VEBA for each employee.

MOTION: President Miles moved to adopt Resolution 2014-12 “A Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of the Health Reimbursement Arrangement / Voluntary Employees’ Beneficiary Association (HRA/VEBA) Plans”. Director Ashmore seconded. The motion passed with all voting yes.

- c. Staff Compensation: Chief Palmer asked for Board Direction as far as Staff Wages are concerned. In the past, Staff has received the same wage increases that the Union receives. The most recent comps. that Chief Palmer has are from several years ago, and they show that the Division Chief positions are about 10% below average, and the Chief position is about 14% below average. Director Schaffeld made a motion to provide Staff the same wage increases that the Union receives. Director Ashmore seconded. The motion passed with all voting yes.
- d. President Miles indicated that she would like to implement the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each Board meeting.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. Adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660(2) (d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

The regular board meeting adjourned into executive session at 7:23 pm.

The executive session ended and the regular board meeting reconvened at 7:50 pm.

11. **BOARD OF DIRECTOR REMARKS**

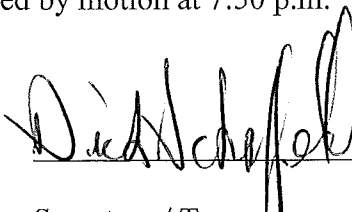
None

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion at 7:50 p.m.



Board President



Secretary / Treasurer