



Mid- Columbia Fire and Rescue
Board of Directors Meeting
In Person / Virtually Held
1400 W 8th Street, The Dalles, OR 97058
December 16, 2024

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Jacobs called the Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Jacobs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Directors Present: David Jacobs, Diana Bailey, Dick Shaffeld, Corey Case, and Walter Denstedt.

Staff Present: Chief David Jensen, Division Chief Jay Wood, Division Chief Josh Beckner, Division Chief Adam Cole, and Office Manager Stephanie Ziegler.

Others Present: Auditor A.J. Olson with RTO & Company and Legal Counsel Andrew Myers was absent due to illness.

4. AGENDA CHANGES

Chief Jensen advised that there would be no need for Executive Session.

5. MINUTES

- a. Minutes from November 18, 2024, Board Meeting stand approved as written.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Audit Presentation – RTO & Company: A.J. Olson presented the audit report for the board members, giving a broad overview of the audit. He stated that it was RTO & Company's opinion that this audit was a clean audit.
- b. Cash Accounts Summary – There were no questions regarding the Cash Account summary, however Director Case asked that the board receive less of the financial summary sheets. Director Case requested to see just the Combined Cash Investment Sheet and the General Fund Balance sheets along with Revenues with Comparison to Budget and Expenditures.



- c. Ambulance Service Financial Report – There was no Ambulance Service Report for November, due to it not being ready by the third-party billing contractor. Chief Jensen said he would send it out to the board when it was completed.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Renewal Report – Director Denstedt stated that the meeting was December 17th so he had no report, however he did attend the City Council meeting stating that the council did vote to extend the Urban Renewal.
- b. Enterprise Zone Report – President Jacobs had nothing to report, however he stated that Chief Jensen would be meeting with the City Manager on Tuesday and would find out when the district would be receiving the Community Service Fees.

9. FIRE CHIEF REPORT

There were no Chief's reports in the board packet, Chief Jensen stated he would email the Chief's Reports to the board members. Chief Jensen went over a few highlights from his report stating that he attended a legislative session last Thursday. The legislative session was primarily about end of year spending; however, it was also regarding funding of the Apprenticeship Program and the Wildland up staffing grants. Chief Jensen stated that the Fire Marshal's office requested that the district attend. Chief Jensen and some other Chiefs did attend, and it was well received. He also mentioned the Ambulance GEMT cost report and property taxes. He also mentioned ELFF, the admin staff and the line crew went to the three grocery stores in town and collected money and canned goods December 3rd, 4th and 5th. It went very well. Bargaining is ongoing but going well. He also stated that at this time he has no plans to hire an assistant chief. He stated that DC Wood has submitted his letter of intent to retire. His last day will be March 31, 2025, and the District had someone on the Division Chief's list and Chief Jensen has offered him the Fire Marshal's position which he has accepted.

Chief Beckner gave a brief report stating that the apprenticeship program is now open for applicants. It will close in 3 weeks with at least 4 positions to fill but are hoping to fill 6 positions. Of our 4 existing apprentices, 3 have transitioned to career and are going to school to achieve their paramedic license. Chief Beckner stated there has been a lot of interest in the apprenticeship program.

Chief Jensen stated that he and DC Cole had attended a meeting with Columbia Gorge Community College and Chemeketa College. Chemeketa will be bringing a satellite paramedic program to The Dalles and will coordinate with CGCC. According to Chemeketa representatives, the satellite program will be offered even if there is only one person to attend.



10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter received from Adventist Health Columbia Gorge giving notice that they will be discontinuing Occupational Health. Chief Jensen stated we have been using a company out of Tualatin.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. ASA contract Amendment 7- Chief Jensen stated the County is still waiting for approval from OHA on the new ASA Plan, the plan was submitted but was sent back for some fixes that don't concern MCFR, however he stated it will probably be in April when the approved plan is ready for signature. Director Bailey made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to execute the seventh amendment to the contract between Wasco County and Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue to continue providing ambulance service to ASA 2. Director Denstedt seconded. All in favor; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion passed.
- b. Resolution 2024-08 – Chief Jensen stated this resolution is to remove Robert Palmer as trustee but maintain Chief Jensen and Captain Biehn. Director Bailey made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-08 "A Resolution Amending the Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue Qualified 457 Deferred Compensation Plan to restate the trustees of the plan". Director Case seconded. All in favor; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion passed.

14. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. Board members to attend Christmas dinner at Casa el Mirador which is open to the public at their own expense.

15. ADJOURNMENT

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary/Treasurer