

Crook County Fire and Rescue

Board Meeting

April 18, 2019

Call to Order

Jim Dean called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Roll Call of Directors

Board members present were Jim Dean, Dennis Bauldree, Jerry Brummer, Dennis Merrill, and Steve Lent

Staff present were Matt Smith, Russ Deboodt, and Jerimiah Kenfield

Members of the public present were Todd Olheiser and George Ponte

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Steve Lent to approve the minutes, motion was seconded by Dennis Merrill, motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Old Business

Elm Street Walking Bridge – Chief Smith reviewed the request for a permanent walking bridge behind the station. We should not lose any parking spaces. The current plan is to pursue a lot line adjustment to allow the City to own the bridge. The department is still in discussion on some consideration for the lot line adjustment. Current ideas include fencing and/or lighting.

New Business

Appoint Budget Committee – Chief Smith reviewed the two applicants for budget committee. They are both previous committee members, and the advertisement for the positions was consistent with past practices. Motion was made by Dennis Merrill to accept Tim Deboodt and Scott Smith as budget committee members, second by Dennis Bauldree, motion passed unanimously.

Budget Schedule – Chief Smith reviewed the proposed budget schedule. May 29th at noon at CCFR's main station is currently scheduled as the first budget meeting. Chief Smith reviewed that it is important to have a quorum for the budget committee meeting. A majority vote of all members of the committee, not just the ones present, must vote to pass the budget.

Strategic Plan – Chief Smith reviewed the draft of the upcoming strategic plan for 2019-2020. Chief Smith stated that this document is used to solicit feedback from all members of the department for the direction of the upcoming year, communication of projects, and priority of

funding needs to be considered in the budget process. Chief Smith stated that this has been historically a year to year document, the goal of the department is to construct a longer term strategic plan to show 5 and 10 year goals and overall direction of the department. Chief Smith handed out a written Strategic Plan Review Process to show where we have come through the last year, and how we are going to solicit information, and then organize it into a useful and meaningful document. This is to help improve communication of the direction of the department. Chief Smith suggested two dates, 4/30 or 5/2, for a board work session on how we can improve this process and have a positive impact on the level of communication throughout the organization. The Board generally stated that a Thursday date works better for the majority of the group. Board agreed that Thursday May 2nd, at 9:00am would be a good time for a work session.

Executive Session

Jim Dean closed the public meeting and opened executive session per **ORS 192.660(f) to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.**

Jim Dean reopened the public meeting.

Public Meeting

Board Response on pending ULP complaint and related – Jim Dean read the following statement into the record:

Regarding Unfair Labor Practice UP-11-19, the Board has reviewed the Recommended Rulings as written by Administrative Law judge, Julie Reading. The legal process allows for the submission of objections for the consideration of the Employment Relations Board before a final ruling and order. After the Recommended Rulings were issued, the District was notified by the Chair of the Employment Relations Board the ALJ Reading had accepted an attorney position with the law firm represented by the Association's attorney within days after the Recommended Rulings were issued. In a disclosure provided by ALJ Reading, there were independent communications between ALJ Reading and Association Attorney Jason Weyand regarding employment with his law firm during the period that ALJ Reading was writing her opinion. Her ruling was in favor of the Association.

The Fire Board is deeply troubled by this information and is greatly concerned about the ethical and professional conduct of the ALJ and Association Attorney. Subsequently, the Fire Board seeks to file objections as permitted by process. Furthermore, the Fire Board seeks to submit a complaint with the Oregon State Bar and/or other appropriate authorities for concerns regarding the ethical and professional conduct of the Administrative Law Judge and the attorney representing the Association. The Fire Board has no reason to believe that the Local #5115 was involved in the newly disclosed information. The Fire Board does not want to prolong conflict with Local #5115, however, in light of the current circumstances, the Fire Board is compelled to use the legal process to have the Recommended Rulings and the conduct of the ALJ scrutinized.

Discussion: Jim Dean wanted to reiterate that this has nothing to do with Local 5115 and was brought to the Board's attention by the ERB Chairman. Dennis Merrill reiterated Jim's statement and said the Board should be compelled to pursue this process. Dennis Merrill

motioned to file the objections with the Oregon Employment Relations Board and to submit a complaint with the Oregon State Bar and/or other appropriate authority. Motion was seconded by Dennis Bauldree. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Quarterly Reports – Chief Smith reviewed the quarterly reports, highlighting that revenues will most likely come in slightly higher than budgeted, mostly due to an unforeseen impact fee and an increase in ambulance billing revenue. Chief Smith stated that future revenue could possibly be impacted by an enterprise zone agreement with the City of Prineville and Crook County. Most of the expenses are also coming in on budget, except for the legal services line item. Chief Smith reviewed the cause and that it could mean that we don't fund some of the reserve accounts. Chief Smith reviewed some of the largest expense that we might see in the coming years including SCBA's, cardiac monitors, and a replacement ambulance.

Bills – Jim Dean read through the expense report. Jerry Brummer motioned to accept the bills, second was made by Dennis Merrill, motion passed unanimously.

Good of the Order

There is a large wildfire simulation occurring today in Redmond, regarding whether or not Central Oregon could be the next Paradise, California.

Jerry Brummer stated that ODOT should have some drawings to the County on a proposed secondary egress road for

Adjournment

Dennis Bauldree made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Steve Lent, motion passed unanimously. Jim Dean adjourned the meeting at 10:30am.

Submitted by:

Russ Deboodt

Jim Dean