

CROOK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

The regular meeting of Crook County Fire & Rescue was called to order by President Steve Lent at 9:02 am on November 21, 2019.

Board members present were Steve Lent, Dennis Merrill, and Dennis Bauldree (by phone). Jerry Brummer and Gary Abrams were absent.

Staff present was Chief Matt Smith, Chief Dave Pickhardt, Chief Russ Deboodt, Paula Landrus and Jerimiah Kenfield.

Guest present was George Ponte and Matt Hummel.

MINUTES

Dennis Merrill made a motion to approve the minutes from October 17, 2019. Dennis Bauldree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Report- Dennis Merrill reported that the Committee met with the Union executive Board on November 12, 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the nine points outlined in the Union's letter of no confidence of Chief Smith. The meeting participants consisted of seven people: Chad Grogan, Matt Hummel, Todd Olheiser, Sam Scheideman, Dave Pickhardt, Steve Lent and Dennis Merrill. The participants agreed the District needed to create a "road map to develop and enhance communication and trust between the parties including the Chief, management and labor. Numerous topics were addressed and specific items of contention identified. Also discussed were possible mechanisms for the organization to move forward including (not limited to):

- Following current labor agreement
- Effective utilization of labor management and safety committee meetings to address areas of concern and implement solutions in a frank and timely manner
- Access to the Board of Directors to include meetings and work sessions

The Committee met with Chief Smith on November 19, 2019 and reviewed and discussed the issues concerns resulting from the meeting with the Executive Board. The Recommendations were: 1. The Chief and the district management need to move forward in facilitating an environment of trust and open communication with its members utilizing all available mechanisms. 2. Maintain the Boards Labor Management Committee to help facilitate and enhance labor/management relations as needed and/or appropriate.

Dennis Bauldree made a motion to accept the Committee Report. Dennis Merrill seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan- Chief Matt Smith stated that in the packet is a letter to the editor of the Bend Bulletin authored by Prineville's Mayor Steve Uffleman and Roger Lee CEO of Economic Development for Central Oregon. Earlier this year, the US Census Bureau ranked Prineville as the No 4 fastest growing micropolitan area in the US. Chief Smith

stated that we are staffing all three stations. Only 3 to 4 days a month, station 1203 is not staffed. Chief Smith stated we are working on the Strategic Plan that will be a roadmap to the future. Next month we will be reviewing the Ends statements and we would like to broaden them. In the past we have had a one year strategic plan. Guessing at the growth of the County and the State will be part of building the Strategic Plan.

Steve Lent stated that we canceled the Work Shop because two Board members were absent. Steve Lent stated that we need to involve the staff in the Strategic Plan. Chief Smith stated that he will work with the staff and meet with the Board members one on one to inform them on the direction we are headed.

NEW BUSINESS

Apparatus Finance Policy- Chief Matt Smith stated that we did not receive the Federal Grant to purchase the SCBA'S. A majority of the SCBA'S will expire in March. We have to replace them and the whole unit needs replaced. Chief Smith gave an overview of the policy. The policy states that in the event debt financing is used, the District must maintain a balance of 75% of the loan principle in the appropriate apparatus reserve account for the type of vehicles being purchased. Chief Smith suggests changing the policy so that we will not maintain the balance of 75% of the principle in the reserve account. The Board will review the policy at the December Board meeting.

Deployment Review-Chief Pickhardt stated that we have been staffing all three stations. There are some days we do not have a part time person. On those days, the career person is at station 1201. Our response times have dropped. This is a big accomplishment for the District.

Property Tax Exemption-Chief Smith reviewed the tax exemption policy with the Board. The Fire Board believes in supporting our municipal partners' efforts to create jobs and promote economic development, and believes that property constructed property tax exemption zones attract private investment and increase assessed value within our district. If a project intends to utilize the Enterprise Zone, Long Term Enterprise Zone, Rural Renewable Energy Development Zone or other tax deferred programs and the estimated assessed value at completion of the project is \$6,000,000 or more, the Fire Board supports seeking reimbursement from the project to the Fire District. Chief Smith stated this was just information for the Board.

GEMT-Chief Matt Smith stated that we received an updated invoice from the State for the 2017-2018 year. We will be receive about \$60,000. We are in the process for the 2018-2019 year. It will be due November 30, 2019. We will be receiving about \$40,000 for 2018-2019.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dennis Merrill made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Dennis Bauldree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

George Ponte stated the he encourages the Board and management to get the public involved in developing the Strategic Plan. George stated that the public could look at or comment on the draft copy.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chief Matt Smith stated that the Christmas party is December 9, 2019.

Chief Matt Smith stated that we have a draft copy of the audit from the auditor. We are very pleased with the auditor and her work.

As there was no further business for the Board, Dennis Merrill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 am. Dennis Bauldree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Landrus

Steve Lent