

MINUTES

Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue
Board of Directors Meeting
Conference Room, Station 1
1400 West 8th Street, The Dalles, Oregon
April 16, 2012

1. **ROLL CALL / AGENDA CHANGES**

Board President Tom Ashmore called the April 16, 2012 meeting of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue to order at 5:30 pm.

Directors present: Robin Miles, Dick Schaffeld, Harry Larsen and Tom Ashmore.

Excused: Charles Rosebraugh.

Staff: Bob Palmer, Fire Chief; Jay Wood, Division Chief; Dan Hammel, Division Chief; Dana Wood, Office Specialist; Jane Herman, Administrative Assistant; Rick Harrington, Engineer; Rob Graves, Engineer, and Walt Denstedt, Engineer.

Others: Tom Peachey, Legal Counsel and Neita Cecil, The Dalles Chronicle.

Agenda Changes: Relates to Oregon Department of Forestry.

2. **MINUTES**

Director Larsen moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2012 meeting as corrected. Director Schaffeld seconded. The motion passed with Schaffeld, Miles, Larsen and Ashmore voting yes.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

4. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Cash Accounts Summary: Included in board packet.

Ambulance Service Financial Report: Included in board packet.

There were no questions of either report.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Urban Renewal Committee Report/Discussion: Director Miles reported the meeting scheduled for April 17th, 2012 has been cancelled. She stated that Wonder Works Children's Museum has been awarded more monies from Urban Renewal.

Chief Palmer discussed the Economic Improvement District proposal. Chief Palmer confirmed that it would not affect the District relative to the Ballot Measure 5 or 50 limitations. More compression is not desired.

6. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Incident Reports: Chief Palmer prepared a quarterly report that shows the calls for service January through March 2012. According to this graph 84.98 % of the 626 calls are EMS. The monthly breakdown for the month of March shows 196 calls for service, 171 were for EMS with 136 being billable calls. There were 11 fires and the remainder was good intent, service and false alarm calls.

911 Usage: Usage is holding right at 12%. Chief Palmer reviewed the meeting he recently attended with Wasco County Finance Director, Sheriff, City Manager and WCCA manager to discuss the 911 fee increase.

Training Division Report: Included in board packet.

Prevention Division Report: Included in board packet.

Other items :

1. Gorge Net Sublease: Gorge Net has been sub leasing space at the Stacker Butte site for 5 years and now their lease has expired. Chief Palmer will contact them and see what their plan is. The consortium will hold a meeting around the first part of May and decide rental costs. Director Miles asked about the Stacker site. Chief Palmer stated it is hard to explain so when the weather is better he will take her there so she can see the site for herself. KCSO is also looking for a site to locate a 120' tower. If they should locate the tower at Stacker Butte all antennas could then be placed on that tower.

2. IGA between MCFR and WCSO for Medical Service Billing: The IGA between MCFR and WCSO has expired. It was promulgated for the purpose of establishing the terms and conditions under which ambulance rates would be established for Emergency Medical Service, both ALS and BLS response to NORCOR. MCFR agreed to perform treatment and transport to all Wasco County inmates housed at the NORCOR facility. WCSO was to purchase seventy Fire Med subscriptions for \$5.00 each and in return MCFR would charge fifty percent of the current ALS and BLS transport rate plus mileage charge. At this time Hood River County is now asking for a similar agreement. After discussion, Chief Palmer will revise the agreement and bring back to the board several options including his recommendation.

3. Surplused Chevrolet Blazer Utility Vehicle: The intention was to replace the Chevrolet Blazer with a larger SUV, but based on budget issues it was determined that it might be smart to keep it and get bids on its repair. The door needs repaired and the vehicle also needs detailed. After repairs it would be placed back into the fleet in reserve status.

The Fire District has also taken receipt of a FEPP unit. It is a 2000, Model 75, Type 3 Interface Engine. This engine helps to offset cuts that were made in Captial Projects. A \$250,000.00 unit was acquired for less than \$8,000.00 which is the cost of a radio and paint job.

4. Hiring of temporary employee Craig Granger: An employee currently is out on injury leave so a temporary employee, Craig Granger has been hired. Chief Palmer said he is an asset to the District and began employment on April 11, 2012.

5. Oregon Department of Forestry Issue: Presently, ODF is experiencing an issue with their communications. After researching options, it was determined issues could be resolved if antennas could be placed at Station 2. It would be within line of sight of their dispatch. Two UHF directional antennas would be placed on the SE corner of the Station 2 bldg. They would be 3 or 4 feet above the height of the building. The problem needs to be corrected prior to Wildfire season which is fast approaching. Chief Palmer reminded the Board of how closely we work with Oregon Department of Forestry and at times communicate on their channels. Chief Palmer is recommending enabling Oregon Department of Forestry to move forward with their communication project.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Pers Update: Five letters were sent to PERS requesting exemption. One was not received by PERS; one was denied; one individual retired, and two employees were allowed an exemption. Presently, Chief Palmer is awaiting a response for the employee that had to resend his letter.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2012-04 – Fund Transfers: In accordance with the adopted 2011-2012 budget for Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue, scheduled transfers of appropriations from one fund to another is necessary to meet current and future financial objectives.

MOTION: Director Larsen moved to adopt Resolution 2012-04 “Transfer of Funds to the General, Reserve and Special Funds”. Director Miles seconded. The motion passed with Larsen, Schaffeld, Miles and Ashmore voting yes.

Director Miles advised Chief Palmer she really liked the email he sent out to Board members advising them of the projects and their status. That way she did not have to ask about them at the board meetings.

Director Miles stated she would like to see what the cost would be to put social security back into effect for employees. The last time Social Security was researched, the approximate cost was close to \$120,000.00. Dana has a spreadsheet that will show the cost and in order to provide accurate figures she will update it. There have been some personnel and payroll changes since it was prepared. Chief Palmer stated it would also be a bargaining issue because it would be a benefit.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 6:25 pm.

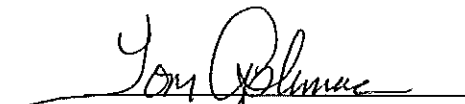
The executive session ended and the regular board meeting reconvened at 7:14 p.m.

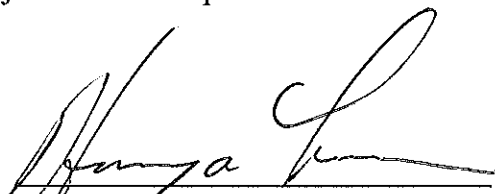
11. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMARKS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.


Tom Ashmore
Board President


Harry Larsen
Vice President