

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES**

July 12, 2006

PRESENT: Cheri Avgeris, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Mary Jo Trainor, Steve Avgeris, Andy Herskind.

ABSENT: Carolyn Brafford

MINUTES

It was M/S/P (Avgeris/Thomas) to approve the June minutes as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri reported that the General Fund has \$9,341.69, the State Treasurer's Fund has \$14,137.98 and the Savings account has \$286.74. We have received the initial payment from US Cellular in the amount of \$1,500. The service is not yet in place but the paperwork has been filed with the County.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that we had two medicals and two wild land fires (out of the District). The water tender is technically in service but is not yet available for rental to other agencies. The exhaust brake is installed and there are one or two other details that need to happen before the truck can be rented out. The rates, as approved by law, are \$128 per hour for the truck and two people and \$115 an hour for the truck and one person.

Steve reported that the annual Mt. Ashland meeting went well. Finally, he has been able to achieve a MTZ (mutual threat zone) designation, which means that there will be automatic mutual aid from both CRF and ODF within a five-mile radius of the boarder to either state. The problem has been concerns from ODF that have been resolved. The area for requested mutual aid is 25 miles on either side. Steve (representing CRFD and ODF) will meet with representatives of CDF to define the actual boundaries.

This represents a major accomplishment for the safety for Colestin Valley residents since both state agencies will respond with equipment, personnel and aircraft (if needed).

Steve reported that there were a few minor July 4th fire works incidents even though ODF has declared them illegal in the county area. Next year, he suggests we post No Fire Works Signs in large letters on the fire indicator signs.

Summer training is not working. People are out of town, working and not getting to the sessions. Steve will resort to some mandatory trainings as the summer progresses.

Cheri represented CRFD (and the other area volunteer departments since they didn't send representatives) at the Board of Supervisors meeting. The Amador program was on the chopping block. Steve said reports from the meeting were that Cheri's presentation was extremely effective and the \$144,000 to keep both CRF stations (Hornbrook and Yreka) during the winter was successful.

Steve stated this is a problem every year. The issues come up and he continues to write strong letters explaining the critical nature of the Amador program for the communities in the Hilt service area and others.

The Board discussed various tactics that could be taken to get ahead of these last minute budget threats. Peggy stated that one problem is that county budgets are done yearly and they may commit to programs in a multi year fashion but when the numbers come in, in order to get a balanced budget, they cut what they think is not significant.

The Board agreed that information to the community about the significant importance of this program, along with facts as to what it would cost to privately keep fire service available in the winter months (building a station, paying personnel 24/7, etc) need to be put in a letter/petition form and circulated around the north part of Siskiyou County. Cheri will look into getting the factual information and Peggy can draft a letter/proposal.

OTHER

Peggy reported that Sue Slack (County Administrator) is retiring. We still have not heard from the attorneys the County's - and -ours on the status of the Ski Road.

SHORT TERM FUTURE MEETINGS

Due to a job scheduling conflict, Peggy requested that the meetings, beginning in August and ending in either November or December, be moved to Fridays. The Board agreed to this tentative change and also agreed to go back to Wednesday meeting dates in either December or January.

The Board will meet on the second Friday of the month. The dates are:

- August 11
- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8 (tentative)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Moore