

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 13, 2009**

PRESENT: Cheri Avgeris, Tod Davies, Peggy Moore, Teri Thomas, Steve Avgeris, Andy Herskind, Lisa Buttrey, Sharron Halverson.

ABSENT: Carolyn Brafford

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri passed out copies of the budget expenditures, profit/loss statements and Teri passed out copies of the comparison of expenditures for the past four years (which is very helpful). The savings account has \$1,667.60, the checking account has \$15,419.82 and the Treasury account has \$31,156.66. Cheri also reported that the income generated from the Hilt engine this past year was \$39,648.

Included in the packet Cheri passed out is a copy of the invoice from Jackson County Fire District #5 for the radios. This invoice shows the grant funds paid \$35,346.12 and CRFD provided a 10% match on the total cost of \$39,274.12.

BUDGET

Sharron and Lisa were available to discuss the budget for 2009-10. Steve provided everyone with a "wish list" of expenditures not currently in the budget. Sharron asked that he include any other items from this past year that we were unable to fund. In reviewing the list, Steve stated that all of the equipment was either paid through grants or through rental money from this past fire season for the engines and water tender.

The list, in order, includes: 2 AED's (Automatic Emergency Defibrulators), which cost \$1,750 each; 2 rescue lights at \$1,600 each, 10 Minitor II pagers at \$250. each; a placement in the budget for possible volunteer pay for call outs; a used Hurst Jaws of Life for \$9,000. The total requests amount to \$22,200. All of these items (with the exception of the pay) are directly related to health and safety.

Peggy mentioned that she has placed the discussion of partial expense reimbursement/pay on the March agenda for discussion. At that time, the Board will decide whether to begin implementing this. Steve wanted the budget committee to be alerted to a possible budget item in this area.

Peggy asked that the Board and members of the budget committee send her any pros, cons, ideas, etc. in this issue so she can put them in some kind of order for consideration by Board members prior to the meeting. That might make the discussion more focused. The Board and budget committee members agreed to do so.

The Budget Committee will be meeting shortly and have a preliminary budget for the Board to review in March. In April the Board will adopt a formal preliminary budget, which will be sunshined. The final budget will be adopted in May.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Steve reported that there was only one incident, involving a vehicle, since the last meeting. That call was cancelled on route.

Steve reported that Tim Stewart has resigned as Assistant Chief. Peggy asked that the Board receive a brief letter from Tim, formally resigning. The Board expressed its appreciation for Tim's long service as a firefighter and Assistant Chief. Steve will be seeking a replacement for Tim's position. He pointed out that it will be a difficult position to replace since it requires someone, like Andy, who has mechanical skills as well as people skills and someone who can trouble shoot.

Steve reported that he purchased 4 sets of SCBS's and 4 spare bottles. He is waiting on the other two to see how these work.

Steve handed out a training schedule and noted that Cal Fire will do the majority of the training. Steve will handle some. He reported that Brush 44 and regular 44 are both insured (thanks to Cheri's efforts) and in service. Brush 44 will be moved out of the main station and 44-13 will go into the main station which the engine is in the shop for the hose bed (which is apparently more complicated than originally thought). Outback Welding in Ashland is providing Steve with a bid for the work.

Steve reported that he would like to hire Terry Lehman to do some of the mechanical work on the engines. Steve has done most of it for years and with an increase in the number of engines and general time he must commit to other district business he needs good help. Since Terry is related to Steve and since the District does not yet have a nepotism policy, it was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) to hire Terry Lehman and, when necessary Chris Avgeris, to work on the District's trucks and engines when Steve cannot. (Yes votes: Moore, Davies, and Thomas. Absent: Brafford Abstention: Avgeris) Peggy will develop a draft of a nepotism policy for presentation at the March meeting.

Steve reported that he received a call on 44-12. Chuck reported that the truck needs new tires (these are 21 years old) and a new battery. This came as an unexpected expense and Steve told the Board we will need to go over the replacement budget to fix these items. In the future we need to keep a more current record of things like tires on vehicles so that replacement can be budgeted. It was M/S/P (Thomas/Davies) to authorize Steve to go over the repair budget for tires and the battery up to \$1,500.

Steve reported that Cal Fire asked if we could budget some money for some equipment, like different air bags, for Brush 44. Given the status of our budget and the requirements for purchasing the health and safety equipment requested by the Chief, the Board felt we couldn't spend additional money on Brush 44 at this time.

Steve reported that none of our vehicles had a wench on them. We located a wench and it is now installed on Rescue 44-40.

Steve thanked Tod for all her work on the fuel reduction project. He has been in touch with the local project person and prioritized the areas in the district where the fuel reduction efforts will be focused. The first group is on the main Colestin road. The second is the Cottonwood Creek area and the third is Nepal Road. The second two areas are prioritized because there is only one way in and out. Once these areas have been done, the project will move into the rest of the community areas.

RAILROAD TIES

Tod's persistence has paid off. She received a call from CORP who informed her that they have contracted with a company to remove the ties before this next fire season. The target date is a month from now.

GRANTS

Tod reported that she would know about the safety grant next week. She inquired about Title 3 grants since she just received notice from Jackson County that some Title 3 money is available and she is checking to see if we qualify.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Friday, March 13th at 6 pm at the Hilt Church

It was M/S/P (Avgeris/Davies) to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy A. Moore