

**COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
May 19th, 2005**

**PRESENT:** Cheri Avgeris, Teri Thomas, Andy Herskind, Steve Avgeris, Carole Herskind, Sharron Halvorson, Betsy Bradshaw, Peg Stewart.

**ABSENT:** Mary Jo Trainor, Peggy Moore

Cheri called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**MINUTES**

It was M/S/P (Thomas/Stewart) to approve the minutes of the April meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Cheri reported that the General Fund has \$15,150.02, the State Treasury Fund has \$7,414.24 and the Water Tender savings account has \$20,032.56.

**BUDGET REVIEW**

The Board reviewed the revised budget, as presented [in the handout]. Steve noted that some of his firefighting expenditures have already gone over the designated amount but that there are other discretionary funds with which to compensate. There are also new NorCal insurance regulation costs not reflected in the firefighting program category of the new budget.

Cheri observed that the budget as proposed had been “sunshined” in the community for public comment for 30 days as required by law. There were no further additions or corrections to the budget as presented. The budget was informally approved by all those present, and then formally approved and adopted, M/S/P (Stewart, Thomas). Peggy Moore will need to sign it now, and the budget committee will then submit it to the State of Oregon by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

The Board thanked Sharron, and the rest of the budget committee in absentia [Lisa Buttrey & Karen Dwyer], for all of their hard work on this year’s budget.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

Steve reported that there have been no fire incidents since the last meeting.

The FEPP engine was sold and is now owned by the Greensprings fire district. They didn’t have the money to purchase the engine’s equipment as well, so Colestin still has that equipment. Our insignias were stripped off prior to sale. CDF is still working on the other engine, and 14-44 is the only truck in service in Hilt for now.

The water tender account is in good shape, and will be a priority this year, as planned.

## **SKI ROAD / DISTRICT #5 ANNEXATION**

Steve had a long conversation with Dan Marshall about accepting Mt. Ashland ski road residences into District 5. Marshall has stated that he doesn't want to accept the ski road residences into his district, and is worried about the liability of the long response time, which is a 30-minute minimum, up to 45 minutes, in good weather. He will make several test runs up to the ski road still, to check this out. If the response time is too long, he will formally refuse to accept the residences in question for annexation into district 5.

Dan Marshall has also said "no checker-boarding" of residences, i.e., some in his district, some in ours. Steve said that he has learned from a County administrator, who also doesn't favor the annexation idea, that it is "extremely unusual" for residents to bail from one district, to appeal to go into another. Also, those leaving the district have to legally leave, before applying to another.

The tax rate of those annexing out would go from \$1.50 per thousand, to \$3.19. Cheri expressed that the main concern would be if Colestin RFD would have to continue to respond [to these residences that have annexed out of the district on the ski road] because of mutual aid, without getting their tax dollars any longer. Steve noted that Dan Marshall has said that he would [only] ask automatic aid, not mutual aid, since mutual aid is specifically requested of an agency through dispatch. Also, we only get paid when we go outside of mutual OR automatic aid, so responding to those who annex out would be our cost to bear.

Steve observed that we may lose Chuck [Biegert] on the ski road as a district participant, which will leave only about 4 or 5 "active" residents. This may mean having to pull the truck off of the ski road. Response to that area will then come from Station One and from Hilt (via the freeway).

Another result of the longer response time, if District 5 accepts the applicants, would be the loss for everyone on the ski road of their Class 9 fire insurance rating, which would go back up to 10.

## **JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> - KNOW YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT DAY**

Cheri reported that the for-sale items for this event are ready, and will soon be available: Blankets will go for \$35 each, sweatshirts and T-shirts for between \$10 to \$25, and "support your volunteer fire dept." magnets, for \$2 each. People will be able to purchase them ahead of the 18<sup>th</sup>, if they wish. We are expecting at least 50 people, and will plan food & supplies for 75.

The Board will review the finalized Fire Plan material at the next board meeting the day before the party, prior to its public debut and presentation on the 18th, which Lisa Buttrey will be doing.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Betsy asked those present for any other input for the newsletter. However, there were no comments in addition to the information about the event on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be as per the regular schedule, Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6 p.m. at the Hilt Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy A. Bradshaw