**POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1**

**Board of Directors**

**February 13, 2025**

**6:00pm – Central Station**

**Location: 1800 Monmouth St., Independence, Or 97351**

**Also Virtually at:**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83280363029?pwd=NGRDbTVmOHJNMIRQR3ZSV055Um1wZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83280363029?pwd=NGRDbTVmOHJNMIRQR3ZSV055Um1wZz09)

**Meeting ID: 832 8036 3029 - Passcode: 801072**

President Jeff Hamilton (Absent) Chief Ben Stange

Vice President Cord Von Derahe DC Neal Olson (Absent)

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer DC Frank Ehrmantraut

Director Curtis Cole DC Troy Crafton (Absent)

Director Dan Miller  Office Administrator Stephanie Hale

Office Assistant Maliyah Thompson

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Anyone wishing to address the Board please sign the sheet on the back table with your name and topic that you would like to discuss. If you are online, please use the raise hand feature when it comes time for public comment. Comments are limited to three minutes but the Board welcomes additional information in writing. Typically, a speaker’s comment is taken under advisement to allow time for the Board to review an issue, however, the Board may ask a speaker for additional information or may convey to the speaker some information that addresses their comment.

Meeting minutes will be recorded and kept for 60 months.

**Open for public comment on any of the agenda items.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Board Agenda
2. Approve January 16th, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. Financials:

3a. Approval of Disbursements for January 1-31, 2025

3b. Finance report for the month of January 2025

**Secretary Lippsmeyer** – Motion to take the Agenda as a whole.

**Director Miller** – Second.

**Vice President Von Derahe** – All in favor, none opposed, carried – Agenda approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Year in Review**
* Call Volume:

- 3600 (11 off of our call record from 2022)

- 27 more EMS calls than in 2022

* Staffing:

- First week of 2024 = low staffing, about 3-4 on shift

- Last week of 2024 = full staffing, about 5-6 on shift

* Recruit Academy:

- Had a large group this year, with a total of about 17 graduates.

- Engineer Andersen was a very consistent instructor.

* State Grants

- Seasonal Staffing grant

- Address Sign grant

- OSFM Tender

- Pacific Power grant for Mobile Data Computers

* Conflagrations

- Began in June

- 1,910 man hours

* Technology Transitioning

- ESO from ERS.

- New interface with our CAD program (works very well on iPads)

- Flow MSP (pre-planning software)

- Active 911

- Got several new iPads for our vehicles with the Pacific Power grant

* Signed a new contract with the Union
* Made changes to the Civil Service Rules
* 88 new fire certifications
* Finished creating our Strategic Plan

**CHIEFS REPORT:**

1. **Legislative Update**

- Some high-level topics have been: 1. Wildfire and 2. ODOT.

- Volunteer Tax Credit: Chief Stange and some volunteers went to advocate for that.

- Up staffing: Early session Bill that will be going through to fund that at the same rate it has been funded at for this summer.

- EMS Modernization Bill (just came out).

- Balance Billing is being talked about quite aggressively.

- PFOS: turnouts and firefighter foam. We don’t want people getting sick from PFOS, we want to dispose of it in a responsible way that is funded.

1. **Volunteer Academy**

- Completed interviews in January

- 11 people started last week

1. **Hiring Update**

- Our candidate completed all of the steps in their pre-hire: Background, psychological exam and medical exam. We are just waiting on results from one of the steps.

- Estimated start date of March 10th if paperwork comes back in time.

1. **Logo Work**

- Chief Stange and Stephanie had a meeting with a graphic artist that designs logos. The current logo has been used since 2007 and is the exact logo of Clark County Fire in Nevada. Chief Stange feels that it does not identify our community.

- The previous logo had some identifying characteristics of our community.

1. **SDAO Conference**

- Chief Stange and Stephanie both attended.

- Chief had a meeting with the National SDAO to talk about federal issues. The goal in the group is to define, and put into statute what a Special District is.

Stephanie:

- Wishes some of our Board members would attend. Said that it is great networking and you meet many people outside of the fire atmosphere. Really proud of our District and Chief Stange is a very eloquent speaker.

1. **Annual Banquet**

- March 1, 2025 at the Green Villa Barn.

1. **Board Elections**

- The election is May 20, 2025

- Positions 1 and 2 are up (Miller and Hamilton)

- The last day file to run again is March 20,2025

1. **Notable Incidents**

- Fire on Wildwood in Hoskins Kings-Valley (aid)

- Fire out on Corvallis Rd

1. **Member of the Month**

- Tom Dalke

- Has been working with Chief Stange and Chief Ehrmantraut on creating a long-term capital improvement plan for our facilities which is part of our Strategic Plan.

**TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA**:

1. Federal Grants

- Chief Ehrmantraut will talk about it soon.

1. OFDDA Newsletter

- Does anyone want to be a part of the newsletter?

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None at this time**.**

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Director Miller** – Good job Chief Ehrmantraut.

**Vice President Von Derahe** – Great year. Great leadership. Things are rolling well, good job!

**Secretary Lippsmeyer** – SIMPLOT sent an application to the County to move to a new facility over to Rogers Rd. They are planning on making it the largest (or second largest) Ag services in the Valley.

What happens if they drop a car and it leaks anhydrous ammonia, are we prepared for these kinds of events?

**Chief Stange** – We have a place that does that in our District. We also have a training YouTube video on the process, inside of the vehicles, what the buttons are and all that stuff.

**Vice President Von Derahe** – The railroad has a really good hazardous materials program, there is a Regional Hazmat team in Salem, and there is reverse 911 that works well if we needed to do evacuations because ammonia is one of the scarier items going down the rail.

**Secretary Lippsmeyer** – Congrats on the work and thank you Maliyah.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** According to ORS 192.660. If necessitated by business. None anticipated.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Vice President Von Derahe adjourned the meeting at 6:39pm**

**Minutes by Maliyah Thompson**