

IRRIGON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: 11/13/2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. Present were Robert Vandecar, Gayland Bledsoe, Burrel Cooley and Ashley Munkers.

Also present were Charlene Cooley as recordkeeper, Thomas Roberts, as Interim Fire Chief

Guest present: Josie Foster

Minutes from September were reviewed, Gayland moved to accept, Burrel Cooley seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Chief's Report – September, 15 total calls. October, 14 total calls.

Community outreach included the Halloween Haunted House – good feedback and positive turnout.

Will continue with the Red Cross program, inspecting and installing smoke detectors.

Training – 5 firefighters trained and certified for FF2. Josie will start around January for FF1 certifications.

Chief and Thad went to La Grande for a hands on training for Command in the First 5 Minutes.

Chief Roberts is scheduled to attend a training in February for new department chiefs.

Financials – 2022-23, Gayland moved to accept, Burrel Cooley seconded. All in favor, motion passed

Information is at Barnett & Moro for the annual review process.

New Board Secretary needs to be assigned/voted to replace Lynn Hobbs on our CNA Surety Bond. Charlene to reach out to our insurance agent to learn the process of removing and adding a new member.

Old Business –

1. Permanent Fire Chief Position Update – Review the position description in packet and return with modifications as needed.
2. East Umatilla County Fire & Rescue SCBA Acquisition – Does the board wish to donate anything back to UCF to offset their costs of refurbishing the packs we received. The Board decided to pay it forward and in the future donate the packs to another department that is in need.
3. Grants/ Project Updates
 - a. OSFM Engine – Trucks are still in manufacturing, some could be released in early 2024.
 - b. WF Staffing Grant – The final paperwork has been put on pause due to the State working on the reporting process. Charlene will work with Chief to finalize this soon.
4. Christmas Food Baskets – May collaborate with the Moose Lodge in this year's donations. Josie will go to local stores to ask if she can put boxes in their lobbies for donations.
5. Firefighter Banquet – First of 2024 for this event.
6. Station / Equipment Upgrades Update
 - a. Exit Signs & Emergency Lighting – Scott is working on the electrical.
 - b. Bay Doors – Another door needed repaired.
 - c. Trash Dumpster – Delivered and will help with overflow of garbage.
 - d. Tool/Turnout Room – on hold.

New Business –

1. CDA Land and Unincorporated Land Annexation – Chief attended a meeting with CDA along with the City Manager. 648 acres have been annexed into the District's boundaries. There is more land that could be annexed in, but that decision will come at a later date. There is also an issue with Stahl's land out off Patterson Ferry Rd that is not part of Irrigon's or Boardman's district, Chief is trying to gain this piece of land as well

Bills Payable - The bills were presented for payment. Motion was made by Ashley Munkers and seconded by Gayland Bledsoe to pay the bills as presented. All in favor, motion passed.

Public Comment – Josie asked about widening the door for the interface and what the process would be, as well as if we are going to go out for a grant or bond for a new department building. Bids are coming for both expanding the building as well as widening the doors.

Announcements – The Board received an email of a sensitive nature and Robert requested that a workshop style meeting take place to discuss each of the issues in the email. Tentatively set for Wednesday, November 29 at 6:30.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM

Next Meeting December 11, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlene Cooley
Recordkeeper

Executive Session: