



SCAPPOOSE FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 625 SCAPPOOSE, OREGON 97056

Scappoose Rural Fire District Board of Directors Regular Meeting Thursday, April 11, 2024

- I. **Call to Order & Flag Salute** - President Reeves called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

- II. **Roll Call** – President Reeves, Director Gift, Director Kriek, Director Sorenson, Chief Pricher, Chief Marks, Lt. Ahlers, FF Gandara, FF Mathews, FF Denley, ERT Curio, FA Heath

Director Graham was excused.

- III. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

- IV. **Consent Agenda**
 - A. **Approve Minutes from 3-14-2024 regular meeting** – There were no comments.

 - B. **Approve Mar. 2024 Profit & Loss Detail** – Director Gift inquired about purchases that are part of the high school program. Director Kriek inquired about the labor expenses associated with the annual maintenance on the Pierce Pumper. Director Sorenson commented on the cost of structural boots. Director Gift asked why only a small portion of Volunteers Services had been expended.

 - C. **Approve Mar. 2024 Budget vs. Actual** – Director Sorenson asked if there will still be property tax payments coming in. FA Heath explained that the District will receive one more larger turnover in June (from May's final collection).

Director Kriek moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Sorenson seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

- V. **Statistical Data**
 - A. **Ambulance Activity Report** – Comments about lower than normal EMS revenue for March. Director Sorenson commented on the quarterly pattern of collections. Directors commented on the graph on pg. 21 of the board packet. Chief Pricher explained that there is little correlation between monthly transports and monthly revenue.

- B. **Response Activity Report** – Director Sorenson noted there were approximately 34 additional calls in March 2024 compared to March 2023, which means roughly one additional call every day. Director Sorenson asked if the District should be getting information out to residents in an effort to lower the number of transports. Chief Marks responded that the Community Paramedic Program is how we proactively educate the public in an effort to decrease the number of transports.
- C. **Community Paramedic Program** – Directors commented on the information provided for the Community Paramedic Program. Chief Marks answered questions about graduated vs. closed (pg. 24). Director Gift asked if this information has been reported to Care Oregon. Chief Marks said he is currently working on the quarterly report, which is submitted in order to receive the funding for the program.
- D. **UAS Flight Summary** – There were nine flights in March. Most of the flights were training. Two were missions.

VI. Staff Reports

- A. **Chief's Report** – Director Gift asked about a meeting with 4701. Chief Pricher also explained the purpose of an upcoming meeting on his agenda.
- B. **Operations Report** – Director Sorenson asked about a leak at the Chapman Station. Director Gift asked for an update on the AVLs for the ASA area and if we'd need to retrofit. Chief Marks said county public health said they are looking for ways to acquire grant funding.
- C. **Fire Marshal & Training Report** – Director Gift asked if we sent an apparatus to the hose drill. Chief Pricher confirmed. Chief Marks said there is an upcoming live fire training.
- D. **Member Outreach Report** – Directors praised the work on the awards banquet.
- E. **Finance Report** – Director Gift asked if a course he recently took at an SDAO Conference on public meeting law is a viable substitute for the required Best Practices Public Meeting Law requirement. FA Heath will follow up on this.

VII. Old Business

- A. **Bond Discussion** – Chief Pricher distributed costing documents recently completed for the station renovation project. The numbers presented are for an 'essential' building, and the annex building will not be an 'essential' building. The architect spoke with Chief Pricher about the need to rework the numbers for a non-essential building, saying the annex will be lower than \$500/sq ft. With this information, it looks like \$14 million would be a reasonable cost estimate to complete the annex, renovate the station, and build a training facility. To further reduce the costs, we would work with the builder & architect to value engineer certain aspects of the project.

Chief Pricher instructed the board members that they could choose to move forward with all of the project, portions of the project, or do nothing. He recommended that if they decided to move ahead, the training facility would be a priority. This portion of the project would be \$500,000. Chief Pricher referred the board to the strategic plan update which is a companion document that should be reviewed along with the renovation project cost

report. The strategic plan, developed in 2021, (pg 57-64 of the packet) will be helpful to the board should they decide to move forward with a bond. Together they show the public the work that has taken place and the direction the District plans to pursue. Chief Pricher expressed that doing nothing is the worst option the board could take, as construction costs will only go up.

Director Sorenson asked about the square footage of the proposed annex building. (14,500 sq ft.) Board members asked how the annex would be accessed and situated on the property. Chief Pricher shared elevations of the annex building and proposed station renovation.

Board members discussed timing issues for filing a ballot title and SEL 803 form for the November 2024 election. Director Kriek asked if there are estimates on the average homeowner costs for the bond. We will have that information as soon as the cost estimates are revised for a non-essential building.

Director Gift said he thinks the bond should be written to include all three portions of the project, giving the board the option to drop something off if necessary.

Chief Pricher said that if the Board approved moving forward with the bond, everyone must have the same talking points and work toward notifying the public of the need to also renew the local option levy in May 2025.

Director Gift moved to go forward with a bond, pending revised cost estimates, at a total cost of no more than \$14,000,000 on the November 2024 ballot. The bond would be used for construction of a training facility and annex building, renovation of the main station, and all necessary site work. Director Sorenson seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

- B. **LOSAP reimbursements 2023** – Chief Pricher suggested that the Board approve staff to return forfeited LOSAP funds to four former volunteers with more than five years of service who didn't qualify for vesting due to a technicality. Director Sorenson moved to authorize staff to redistribute \$11,215.51 among the four former volunteers. Director Kriek seconded. Director Gift abstained.

Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **LOSAP funding 2024** - Director Sorenson moved to approve \$10,000 towards LOSAP funding for 13 volunteers who met the 100 hour minimum. Director Gift seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. **Management Team (Reeves & Gift)** – This committee met prior to the meeting. Chief Pricher will be attending a City Council meeting on Monday, April 14th to speak on urban renewal issues. All other topics were previously documented in these meeting minutes.
- B. **Long Range Planning (Graham & Sorenson)** – This committee met Monday, April 8. They approved the updated strategic plan.

C. **Awards & Incentives (Sorenson & Krieck)** – This committee met on April 15, 2024. Director Krieck said this committee will include a volunteer moving forward.

IX. **Miscellaneous** – No miscellaneous items.

X. **New Business** -

A. **Appoint Budget Committee Member** – The Board reviewed a letter from Megan Greisen expressing interest on serving on the budget committee. Director Gift moved to appoint Megan Greisen to a 3-year term, beginning in 2024, on the budget committee. Director Sorenson seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. **Major Budget Discussion** – There are no additional items to add to the major budget item list that have not previously been discussed in Board meetings.

Chief Pricher and Chief Marks have been discussing the purchase of a new ambulance. There is a good chance they will bring a proposal to the board in the near future. The build time for a new ambulance is 570 days, so they are required to plan well into the future for ambulance replacement.

XI. **Communications** – Chief Pricher shared the letter from County Commissioner Garrett (pg. 71 of the board packet).

Chief Marks shared the funeral for Chief Coombs is scheduled for April 27th @ 1:00 pm at Grace Baptist Church.

XII. **Good of the Order** – President Reeves will send an email to board members to reschedule the July 2024 board meeting.

XIII. **Adjourn** – 8:42 pm.



David Graham – Vice President



Date



Submitted by Maria Heath