



SCAPPOOSE FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 625 SCAPPOOSE, OREGON 97056

Scappoose Rural Fire District Board of Directors Regular Meeting Thursday, January 9, 2025

Microsoft Teams meeting

Call to Order & Flag Salute – President Reeves called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the flag salute.

Roll Call – President Reeves, Vice President Graham, Director Kriek, Director Sorenson, Director Gift, Chief Pricher, Assistant Chief Marks, FF Dietz, FF Booth, FF Cardoos, FF Mathews, ERT Curio.

Public Comment – No public comment.

Consent Agenda

Approve Minutes from 12-12-24 regular meeting – Director Graham moved to approve the minutes from December 12, 2024. Director Kriek seconded. Directors Sorenson, Graham, Gift, Kriek, and Reeves all voted to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Dec. 2024 Profit & Loss Detail – Director Sorenson asked about a FlyMe Flag purchase, Assistant Chief Marks explained that it is the volunteer fire academy flag. Director Gift asked what the order for building schematics was for and Chief Pricher explained that it was an invoice that we received late, the company is working with an architect on potential future building upgrades/remodel. Director Kriek noted that there are a lot of physicals for new volunteers. Director Sorenson asked about a conference registration fee, Assistant Chief Marks explained that the conference is for privacy officer and compliance officer courses. Director Graham noted the price of furnace oil and diesel. Director Gift asked how many LifePak 35s we purchased, Chief Pricher let him know that we purchased two.

Approve Dec. 2024 Budget vs. Actual – Director Sorenson asked about the Enterprise Zone money, Chief Pricher explained that we were told to not spend the money as we may have to pay that money back so for now it is in our LGIP account. Director Kriek asked what we could do with the money if we do not need to pay it back, there was a brief discussion around potentially putting that money into a PERS side account or purchasing apparatus. Director Gift asked why our

miscellaneous revenue is so high. Chief Pricher explained that it's due to a wide variety of reasons including permit fees. Director Gift also asked what HERT (Heavy Equipment Rental Tax) tax turnover is. The Chief explained that it's money that the county distributes every so often. Director Gift asked what the district plans on using Building and Grounds maintenance money on. Chief Pricher explained that it might be used to replace the HVAC system, but there is no set plan yet.

Director Graham moved to approve the consent agenda. Director KriECK seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Statistical Data

Ambulance Activity Report – Chief Pricher noted that the number of transports was high for the month of December, and revenue is higher than last year, but it is steady—discussion around GDAC and Medicare.

Community Paramedic Report – Director Gift asked what the difference is between “closed” and “graduated”. Chief Marks explained that the Community Paramedic can close a client account due to non-compliance or death or a client can graduate after the community paramedic works with them on their needs and is confident moving forward without her help. Director Gift asked what the “Pongo Fund” is, Chief Marks explained that it is a fund for clients to help take care of their pets (i.e., buying pet food).

Response Activity Report – Chief Pricher noted the increase in overlapping calls. Director Sorenson asked what qualifies as “out of district”. Chief Pricher explained that it is anything not in our response area (Columbia River, Vernonia, Portland, etc.).

UAS Flight Summary – No questions or comments.

Staff Reports

Chief's Report – Chief Pricher noted that part of working on communication was updating the dashboard so there is more information readily available to everyone. Director Gift asked about the TSI conference. Chief Pricher noted that there was a lot of discussion around the health and safety of firefighters. Tulsa and Boston Fire are wearing wristbands to keep track of sleep, exercise, heart rate, etc. to help figure out the best schedule for firefighters. They got to see examples of how NERIS works (it will be real-time data). Director Gift asked if any of our drones have audio capabilities. Chief Pricher explained that we have speakers mounted so we can talk to people, but we cannot listen. Director Gift asked what projects were referenced in number six. Chief Pricher explained that there is going to be a hotel coming to Scappoose. There are other potential business ideas, but nothing set in stone yet. Director Reeves said thank you to all those who were involved in Share and Care this year. Director Sorenson asked if a new person will be hired as the Share and Care Coordinator for 2025. Chief Pricher said yes, but we will be working to fill that position. Director Sorenson asked about strategic financial planning, which will be discussed in “miscellaneous.”

Operations & EMS Report – Director Gift asked for an ASA update. At the December meeting, county commissioners signed an ordinance granting the ASA from Jan 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025. Chief Pricher has been working with the other fire chiefs due to contract negotiations that will have to take place between the fire districts and the county in the franchise agreements. The county gave a sub-par contract that was taken from a different rural county in Oregon, not realizing that they were run by a private ambulance company. Chief Pricher explained that because of the state of that agreement, our agency pitched the idea of having our law firm negotiate with the county on behalf of the fire service to the other fire agencies.

Fire Marshal & Training Report – Director Gift asked how many people were sent to help at the Palisades fire. Chief Pricher let the board know that five people (one chief, two career, and two volunteers) were sent along with the Timberwolf Fire Engine. Director Gift congratulated those who got off of probation.

Member Outreach – No questions or comments.

Finance Report – No questions or comments.

Old Business

Director Gift asked about the Senate Bill for Special District Grant Accessibility. Chief Pricher has been tracking it, but there is no current update.

Committee Reports

Management Team – Station dashboards, uniform replacement, J-Term at the high school, and the ambulance order were discussed. There will be a staff report coming about uniforms, but it has been brought to the district's attention that the uniforms have PFAS (forever chemicals) in them. FF Dietz has been working with Chief Marks to contact vendors who no longer use those chemicals. J-Term is back in session, there are 12 students currently in the program. An order for a new ambulance was placed, but the pre-build has not been scheduled. We will be upgrading from a F350 chassis to a F450 chassis to not wear down the brakes as fast. That will cost about \$4,000. We will probably have a \$100,000 expense in the next 6 months to one year because we want to take advantage of a pre-payment deal, which will save us \$4,000. The Expedition Max has stickering done but is waiting to get all of the emergency lights and radios installed. Lt. Anderson is working on the flatbed. When that is complete, he will work on getting the Expedition in service. There was an issue with the order for the canopy for the F250, the wrong windows were installed. It will go in to get the upfitting done after the expedition. Director Gift asked what vehicle the second community paramedic would have once we hire for that position. Chief Pricher explained that they would most likely have the F250 (the old duty officer's vehicle). We will have the two Suburbans as backup vehicles. Director Gift asked about the agreement with Pro Auto to help lower maintenance costs. It is still in the works. Director Kriek asked how much outsourcing we have to do for aerial and pumps. Chief Pricher explained that it's not much and that the biggest costs over the last couple of years were having to re-plumb the engines.

Strategic Planning Committee – Did not meet.

Miscellaneous-

We would like to have an executive session next week to meet with our financial planner. Plan for Thursday the 16th in the afternoon. The negotiation team with the labor group will also have time with the financial planner to ask any questions they might have. The shop stewards will have one-on-one time without the Chiefs or admin there to ask questions.

Financial Hardship Waiver— Did not review during the management meeting.

New Business

Appoint Budget Officer- Director Sorenson moved to appoint Chief Pricher as the budget officer, and Director Gift seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Budget Calendar- Director Graham moved to approve the budget calendar. Director Kriek seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Communications

Thank you from the Amani Center.

Good of the Order – None.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Pursuant to ORS 192.640(1), the Board of Directors for the Scappoose Fire District reserves the right to consider and discuss, in either open session or Executive Session, additional subjects which may arise after the agenda is published. Pursuant to ORS 192.640(1), the Board of Directors for the Scappoose Fire District reserves the right to consider and discuss, in either open session or Executive Session, additional subjects which may arise after the agenda is published.



3-13-2025

Dave Sorenson, Secretary-Treasurer

Date

Submitted by Karleigh Booth