

SILETZ VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT
Regular Board of Director's Meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Siletz Valley Fire District Board of Directors was called to order at 19:00 PM by Board of Directors Interim President Reggie Butler. Also present were Board of Directors Rick Olson, Patti Skauge, Dixie Morford and Ron Hervey.

Staff in attendance included Bunny West and BJ Wawrak. Also present was community member Gerry Schmidt.

Director Butler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Director Skauge made the motion to approve the executive session minutes from August 18, 2020 and the regular meeting minutes from August 18, 2020 as written. Director Olson 2nd the motion. The motion passed with all ayes.

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS

Gerry Schmidt introduced himself as a member of the Logsden community and one of the Firewise coordinators for that area. He also is a member of the Logsden Community Club. Staff member Bunny West noted that she has been working with Mr. Schmidt on a matching emergency preparedness grant that was awarded to Logsden Community Club last year.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were three pieces of correspondence that were discussed:

- The first was a letter of engagement with Grimstad and Associates to perform the financial review for the district for the previous fiscal year (2019/20).
- The second was a letter from Grimstad and Associates explaining the findings of the 2018/2019 audit.
- The third was an announcement from SDAO of some upcoming board trainings regarding several HR topics.

INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

REPORTS

a. Financial Reports: Clerk Bunny West

There were several financial reports to review.

- LGIP reconciliations for June, July, and August 2020
- Bank of the West checking account reconciliation for June, July, and August 2020
- Bank of the West credit card – Bunny West August 2020
- Bank of the West credit card – Glenn Fluhr August and September 2020
- Bank of the West credit card – BJ Wawrak August 2020

Director Skauge made the motion to approve the financial record. Motion was 2nd by Director Olson. The motion passed with all ayes.

b. Volunteer Association: No representative present.

OLD BUSINESS

Consumers Power Logsdan Station: There was one item under old business. Included in the board packet this month is a copy of the Consumers Power invoice for electrical service at the Logsdan Station for the month of August. The bill remains uncharacteristically large compared to this month last year. Chief Wawrak noted that he was in the Logsdan Station in early August and he removed a trickle charger that was plugged in that was running nonstop. Director Olson noted that he was at Logsdan Station this week and he stated that he doesn't believe there are any outdoor plug-ins at the station that someone could be tapping into. The decision was made to compare the next bill to the annual average to see if the removal of the trickle charger will affect the electrical usage.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Little Chief Donation:** Bunny West stated that the district received a \$56 donation from the Little Chief Restaurant to help feed evacuees during the recent wildfires. The donation was received toward the end of the evacuees stay and was not needed. Director Morford suggested that we donate the \$56 to Food for Families. Director Skauge suggested that we return the money to Little Chief with the suggestion that they use the money to help their patrons that need a help paying their check during these difficult times. The board decided to give the money back to Little Chief.
- b. Volunteer Computer Passcode:** GenXSys attempted to help us regain access to the new volunteer computer upstairs. David Alvarez of GenXSys stated that the computer has passcode that entered in the operating system that prevented him from accessing it. He stated that the only way to access this system is with that passcode. Director Olson suggested that we take this need to the attorney again. Director Skauge noted that we still have not received the requested passcodes, files or keys that were dependent on the payment of the severance package for Glenn Fluhr. Director Butler made note of all the items that are still needed and stated that he will contact the attorney again.
- c. West Station 5200 Door:** Office Admin stated that the west door to Station 5200 does not auto latch when closing. It must physically be closed. She stated that there have been a few instances where she has arrived on a Tuesday or Thursday morning to find that the door is not latched and therefore not locked. She stated that she will make a reminder to post on the door. Chief Wawrak noted that he will remind the volunteers again.
- d. Electrical Connection at Station 5200:** Director Olson stated that during the wildfire emergency that he was contacted by Mayor Willie Worman asking Director Olson to provide access to Station 5200 to Mark Cumminsky so that an electrical cord could be plugged into the station to power a light tower in the field housing the evacuees. Director Olson came down and provided access to Mr. Cumminsky. Cumminsky installed a 50-amp breaker in the station electrical box rather than an extension cord. Olson tried to prevent Mr. Cumminsky from installing the breaker and service and questioned Cumminsky on his qualifications for installing the service. Mr. Cumminsky was verbally

combative with Director Olson and insisted that he was installing the breaker and further requested that he be provided with a door code to the station allowing him access at any time. Director Olson stated that Mayor Worman also approached Olson about providing a door code to Cumminsky. Director Olson suggested that we meet with the city and discuss this incident to ensure that this does not happen again. Cumminsky came to the station the week after the wildfires and removed his wiring. Director Olson got breaker covers for the two holes that Cumminsky left in the breaker box. Director Hervey suggested that we send a letter to the city addressing this subject. Director Butler noted that he has already discussed this issue with the mayor. Chief Wawrak stated the Mayor Worman is planning a follow up meeting for the wildfire response. This the type of feedback that should be brought to that meeting. The board agreed to bring this to that meeting.

- e. **Covid 19 Shut Down:*** Director Olson reminded everyone that the fire station is still on Covid 19 lockdown. Members of the public should not be in the station unless there is a board meeting. All members of the public that are allowed in the station need to where face masks.
- f. **Retention of a District Representation:*** Director Olson suggested that the board consider retaining an attorney to address future needs of the district. Director Morford inquired about the letter that the board signed retaining an attorney at the request of Glenn Fluhr. It was noted that that attorney was retained to defend Glenn Fluhr in the ethics violation. Office admin suggested that the district hire an attorney that is local and has expertise in local government and personnel law. Director Olson stated that he will talk to a private investigator that works for local attorneys and see if there are recommendations. Director Skauga also suggested that any attorney we consider also needs to be versed in tribal law.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- a.* Chief Wawrak reported that volunteers are starting to return. There are currently 13 volunteers. Not all of them are responding and there has been less coverage on weekdays. There is a new couple that have begun volunteering. He is and EMT and she is and EMR. Toledo is still responding to our calls as well. Most of the volunteers are coming to drill. Chief will begin next month encouraging them to become more active.
- b.* The district is low on gear and Chief did have to purchase some new hoods through SeaWestern. Some of the old gear has disappeared. There are still missing turnouts that cannot be accounted for. Office admin West noted that there is an application in to AFG for about \$100k for turnout purchase. Those grants are not awarded until November.
- c.* Chief Wawrak noted that he has been working with Chief Mock on some grant reimbursement for Covid expenditures.
- d.* Wawrak would like to begin cycling the vehicles through the county shops to have some maintenance done. He would like to begin with the brush rig. It needs to be serviced, it needs the front end and the brakes looked at.
- e.* The crews removed the foam compartment from the rescue vehicle. It drives much better now.
- f.* Chief Wawrak is scheduling the hose and ladder testing. This will be about \$1800.
- g.* Director Olson suggested that the two trailers out front have hitch locks installed on them. Chief Wawrak stated that he would take care of it.

- h.* The tribe will be installing a lock on the Conex box out front. All the emergency Conex boxes in the district have the same locks on them so that any organization can access them in an emergency.
- i.* The volunteers will be participating in a live burn in Toledo on October 17. They will be burning down the chief's house as he is getting a new one.
- j.* Director Olson stated that there is a single axle trailer that the district purchased for wildland gear that no one seems to be able to locate. He thinks it went to Newport for lettering and then no one seems to know where it went after that. Chief Wawrak stated that he will look into it.

REVIEW and PAY BILLS

Director Hervey made a motion to pay the bills, 2nd by Director Skauge. Checks were distributed for signatures.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Office admin Bunny West noted that it has been very nice seeing Gail Freer and Judy Annunzio respond to so many calls during the weekday hours.

BOARD MEMEBERS COMMENT

Reggie Butler: Director Butler thanked everyone for their response to the wildfire emergency.
Ron Hervey: Director Hervey stated that his last month as a board member will be December. He is resigning due to health concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Hervey motioned that the board adjourn. Motion was 2nd by Director Skauge. Motion carried with all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 20:00.



President



Secretary