

Mosier Fire District Board Meeting

Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6 pm

Held as in-person and Zoom Meeting

Attendance

- **Board Members:** Joanne Rubin, Todd Reeves, Kris McNall, Carol Goter
- **Staff:** Chief Michael Carlson
- **Public:** Rob Miller, Richard Frost, Elizabeth Payne

Call to order 1802 by Joanne Rubin

Agenda additions or corrections: Rubin adding item regarding training

Comments from the public: None

Consent agenda - Today's agenda; Minutes and bills approved. McNall requested permission to deactivate Rubin's MFD bank card and delete former board member Steve Fisher's MFD email account - granted.

Business:

1. Volunteer Report: Per M. Goter, the volunteers would like to thank Gene and Karn Arnold for their generous donation of \$200 to the Volunteers Association. Also, congratulations to Dave Kayes who has finished his Firefighter 1 academy. Welcome to the new members, Noah Estes and Rod French.

2. Board

2.a Board Member Replacement: The board heard from Richard Frost and Rob Miller, who are interested in filling the vacant position. Discussion about an immediate vote ensued. Goter expressed concern about imminent voting with relatively little information from the candidates. Rubin stated that we would delay until next month, allowing the board members to contact the candidates and ask questions.

2.b SDAO Board training: We need to come up with a new date for training (January date canceled due to weather). Additionally, Rubin informed the board of a new state requirement effective 1/1/24 that all boards governing a public body with expenditures of \$1M or more per fiscal year must have public meetings training. MFD does not meet that requirement right now, but Rubin suggested that we try to get that training at the same time that we have the rescheduled SDAO training. McNall will send out poll for board availability, to include the new board member, whoever he is.

2.c Board Rep to Feb drill: McNall will go.

3. Financials

3.a Resolution to appropriate spending OSFM Wildfire Season grant carryover Funds: Motion by McNall, seconded by Rubin, to authorize Chief Carlson to spend the \$35K carryover funds on

fire season staffing/training, as allowed by the grant to be spent in the General Fund. Passed unanimously.

3.b Financial Report Samples: Samples with alternative displays of month/FYTD were provided. McNall requested that the samples be reviewed and email her with recommendations/requests.

3.c Budget Season, Committee Members, Appoint Budget Officer: **Motion** made by McNall to appoint Chief Carlson as budget officer; seconded by Rubin; passed unanimously. Regarding committee members, Wayne Haythorn is no longer eligible having moved out of the district. Al Sorestad would like to continue being the volunteer representative. It was suggested that the openings be put on our Facebook page and our website to see if there are others who are interested. Board members will talk to our previous committee members, Tim Hudson, Wade Root, and Craig Funk. Target date for rolling out the budget will be late April 2024.

3d. Capital Expenditures: McNall pointed out that we will be needing to think about capital expenditures (anything over \$5K), for example, making accommodations for an engine currently parked outside without water to be able to be parked inside with water.

4. District Holiday Party: Chief Carlson emailed volunteers and board members with request to note available dates for attendance. Estimates of attendance were 20 plus the board. Discussion to have it at Moco on January 28. Chief will work with Moco on specifics regarding food/beverages.

5. JUF Committee and Staff reports: Chief Carlson reported that the spreadsheet received from the City that he put in the meeting folder was outdated, but all they had on file. The board expressed concerns over lack of information about finances since October 2022 (date of the spreadsheet). Chief Carlson is continuing to meet with the City Manager to talk about options to bring the cost down. Discussion ensued about whether the current design will meet the operational needs of Mosier Fire, the need to see details about expenditures, the value of MFD paying for MFD bookkeepers to look at JUF expenditures. Chief Carlson will connect with the City Manager to get more current JUF numbers from the City of Mosier before the next MFD board members.

6. Approval for donation of outdated SCBA bottles: Chief Carlson requested authorization to donate 14 out-of-date SCBA bottles to an organization that regularly picks up equipment from other fire departments in Portland and Washington state to donate to Mexico. These bottles will be tested. If there are issues, they will be disposed of. Authorization granted.

7. Update and approval for annexation of areas adjacent to MFD not in other fire districts: Chief Carlson reported that GIS would not charge MFD, and he still needs to get together with the tax assessor's office. Discussed that in addition to Vensel Rd, including all houses adjacent to but not in our district. He is not sure that GIS would cover that expense. McNall volunteered to email her contact to see if that could be done.

8. Board education on vehicle choice for responses: Chief Carlson described a situation where he investigated an incident on his own while returning by himself to Mosier in the Chief's rig via Seven Mile, found the situation was more than what he initially thought, toned out for help from Mosier, but no one was able to respond, so he requested mutual aid. Chief states he could have taken a brush truck from Station 12, but needs a second person for that. Chief clarified that MFD is not able to respond to an incident if there's only one person available. The Board agreed that more volunteers are needed so that incidents can be responded to safely.

9. Chief's Report: In addition to the written report, Chief states that the number of calls in December

2023 was 66% lower than in December 2022, and calls for the year were down. Also, the check from Idiot's Grace donation was received for \$1404. A new bill in Oregon legislature is being introduced this year to assist smaller departments like Mosier, 25 cent property tax for every \$1K assessed.

10 . Correspondence: Chief received a thank you card.

No executive session requested by Chief Carlson for a brief description of his 6-month evaluation.

Adjournment: 1924