

Mosier Fire District Board Meeting

Thursday, July 10, 2025

Attendance:

Board Members: Steve Fisher, Carol Goter Todd Reeves

Staff: Connor McKibben

Call to order at 1840

Agenda additions or corrections: Agenda changed to have the newly elected board members, Todd Reeves and Steve Fisher, sworn in. They were sworn in by Connor McKibben.

Comments from the public: None

Consent agenda - Approval of June minutes deferred until August meeting. No bills to approve,

Business:

1. Board

a. Election of Officers: Reeves made a **motion** to nominate Reeves for President, Rubin for Vice President, Miller for Treasurer, and Goter for Secretary. Seconded by Fisher; approved by Fisher, Goter, and Reeves.

b. Board Representative to August drill: Goter will go.

c. Board Meeting Frequency: Since the arrangement with MCFR is on hold for the time being and since we are no longer interviewing for fire chief, it was decided that we would return to monthly in-person/virtual meetings. We will have special meetings as needed.

2. Volunteer Report: None

3. Operations Report: McKibben reported on new shelving purchased for turnout gear. He discussed additional shelving to be purchased to accommodate the wildland gear. This shelving will cost around \$5K for all three stations. This is necessary to keep our very valuable gear clean and free from contamination (pests, etc.). Rack fabrication wouldn't save much money; building wood racks would not be a permanent solution and both of those options would take more time. If the JUF comes to fruition, this shelving could be moved there.

Purchase of chimney brushes for public use is planned.

Discussion of the new engine purchase from Salem. McKibben determined that purchase wasn't needed, that with Engine 13 repairs (pump rebuilt) and its low mileage, the district's needs are being met. He sees neighboring departments with older engines who respond to more calls than MFD and thinks that Mosier could plan similarly. He stated that the main purpose of Engine 13, besides responding to fires in its immediate vicinity (e.g., Paradise Ridge), is to maintain ISO ratings; beyond that it would infrequently be called out for structural protection.

McKibben recommends creating a new apparatus replacement committee/plan, prioritizing replacement of brush rigs.

4. Staffing: McKibben reported that he had not had a written response from the person interested in the District Finances Specialist position. Volunteer Chief job description had not yet gone out to the volunteers. Board members discussed whether McKibben can hire additional wildland fire fighters. Consensus was that if he's hiring from MFD volunteers, he can go ahead on his own without Board input. Discussion ensued on the different valid uses for the OSFM grant besides the seasonal wildland firefighters, for example, utilizing members of our volunteer cadre to staff shifts. McKibben plans to use a Google calendar to allow volunteers to sign up for shifts and plans to put that into place by the end of next week; intends to publish a summer response plan by the beginning of next week. Because the multiple hires, even from the volunteers, could result in McKibben's exceeding his spending authority, a **motion** made by Goter that when McKibben is ready to hire, a special meeting will be called for the board to approve the hiring; seconded by Fisher, approved by Fisher, Goter and Reeves.

5. SDAO update for potential MFD/MCFR recommendations: Deferred until Rubin can report to Board.

6. Financials: Goter made a **motion** that Reeves contact First Interstate to move \$30K from savings to checking so that we are able to cover bills and payroll. Seconded by Fisher; approved by Fisher, Goter, and Reeves.

Discussion/review of our bill approval process; consensus that the board wants to continue the process in place with the previous chief, that is, the entire board reviews and approves all bills and provides input/oversight on proper accounting categories.

At the meeting McKibben received official word from a volunteer that he is interested and ready to start the District Finances Specialist position. McKibben will have him start next week if scheduling allows.

Goter will call the bookkeeper to correct the grant income on the P&L.

7. JUF Update: None. A meeting has been scheduled for 7/15/25.

8. Correspondence: None

Comments from the public: None

Adjournment at 1951.