

Columbia River Fire & Rescue
Regular Meeting of the Boards of Directors
58677 McNulty Way, St. Helens OR 97051
And Virtual via GoTo Meeting
January 11, 2022, 7:00 pm

Regular Meeting: After due and legal notice the Regular Board meeting of the Columbia River Fire & Rescue Board of Directors was called to order by President Feige at 7:00 pm.

Present: Hans Feige, Mark Kreutzer, Kelly Niles, Kim McLane, Gary Hudson

Absent: None

Others: Chief Medina, DC Holsey, DC Mendola, FM Pedersen, Kate Lehner, Jennifer Motherway, Ben Davis, Tim Hennigan

Via GoToMeeting: Rainier, Victor Haney, James Pulito (7:10pm)

Flag Salute: President Feige led the flag salute

Changes to the agenda: Executive session added

Public Comment: Chief Medina asked if Rick Fletcher would like to make a comment.

Correspondence: Thank you message from citizen regarding New Year's Day kayak rescue.

CRFR Consent Agenda: Included in the consent agenda are the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on December 14, 2021, checks 73294-73376 for \$303,410.11. Director McLane moved to approve. Secretary Hudson 2nd the motion. VP Niles discussed a correction to the meeting minutes

There was discussion about GEMT Funds and register balance.

No further discussion. Unanimous vote, motion approved.

Chief Officers Report:

The Chief announced that the new finance manager started today.

There was discussion regarding the holidays and Toy n' Joy. It was noted that there were less applicants this year. Chief Medina commended the volunteers for their help. The Chief further discussed the weather challenges and events the fire department faced over the last month. The Banks Fire Chief is requesting assistance from CRFR in training their new hires. There was discussion about Banks FD new hires shadowing current CRFR staff to gain instruction and experience. Director Kreutzer inquired about Omicron and how it's impacting our organization. A discussion ensued regarding Omicron and CDC guidelines. Chief Holsey discussed the impact on the return-to-work process and that a general order will be sent out outlining the criteria for return-to-work protocol. Chief Medina discussed the CDC mandates and that Chief Holsey and Lt Hennigan have kept current and informed.

President Feige inquired about the training academy. Chief Mendola discussed the academy and the volunteer academy starting in February, as well as annual training with the line personnel. There was further discussion regarding wildland fire training with ODF at the 7 acres on the 9th Street Property.

President Feige asked about the status on the ASA plan. Chief Holsey commented that the plan has been finalized and submitted. The next step will be to submit to the county commissioners. Secretary Hudson inquired about county oversight and if any changes are required to let them know. President Feige discussed the Systems Design West reports relating to the EMS billing. Director McLane asked about the write offs from Medicare. Chief Medina discussed the EMS reports and how it would be a few months to a year to get an accurate idea of activity. Director Kreutzer commented on the Civil Service meeting and the lack of candidates. Chief Medina discussed the impact Covid has had on the industry due to training being halted. Chief Medina further explained that TVFR has 50 job openings and 34 applicants. Chief Medina discussed lateral transfers within the organization.

Old Business: Rick Fletcher wanted to speak but doesn't appear to be present.

New Business: None

Board Comments:

Director Kreutzer: Asked about SDAO Conference.

Secretary Hudson: Commented about receiving a phone call at home from a citizen in reference to a car accident they were involved in. The citizen sung the praises of the staff that responded to the accident. Chief Medina stated that the fleet maintenance team who are also volunteer firefighters, Jeremy Lehner and Ray Malone, aided in the extrication.

Chief Medina asked again if Rick Fletcher was present to speak.

Executive Session: 7:45pm

Adjourn: 8:36 pm