

Columbia River Fire & Rescue
Regular Meeting of the Boards of Directors
58611 McNulty Way, St. Helens, OR 97051
And Virtual via Teams Meeting
March 19, 2024, 6:00 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 Niles at 6:00 pm.

Present: Kelly Niles, Ryan Welby, Richard Fletcher, Mark Gundersen, Austin Zimbrick

Absent: None

Others: Interim Chief Smythe, DC Sanchez, DC Gorsuch, Kyle Melton, Kyle Melton Family, Aiken Blitz, Dustin King

Via Teams Meeting/Phone In: (see attached sheet for attendees)

Flag Salute: President Niles led the flag salute.

Changes to Agenda: VP Welby moved badge pinning to the beginning of the meeting.

Badge Pinning Promotion of Kyle Melton to Lieutenant.

Public Comment: Ronda Melton

Local 3215 Report: Dustin King gave an update on the review of Lexipol and union involvement in the policies and procedures for the organization to be consistent with best practices. Service delivery model update with the e-board. Union involvement with the budget process. Mr. King thanked the admin and board for allowing for union involvement in all aspects of the organization.

Volunteer Report: None

Correspondence: None

CRFR Consent Agenda: Included in the consent agenda are the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on February 20, 2024, the check register for February checks, cash flow, and the February bank statement. Director Zimbrick made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and VP Welby 2nd the motion, all in favor, approved 5-0. Secretary Fletcher asked about the check to Bit for Bit, and Director Zimbrick asked about checks to TVFR, OR Health Authority, and SDW. VP Welby asked about the cash flow, a check to Swinger, and TANS.

Chief Officers Report: Chief Gorsuch updated on AFG Grant, mutual aid agreements, ACLS training, new volunteers, live fire training with BBQ for staff and volunteers on April 20th. Chief Smythe discussed challenges and opportunities with the administration. Specifically with staffing issues and gearing up for the next budget. There was a discussion on the collaborative effort with Dustin King and the union for the Lexipol Policies. Chief Smythe spoke of Fire Marshall duties, which consume about half of his time during the week. Chief Smythe thanked the board for their time and for coming to the meetings each month, as well as meeting with him in person.

Old Business: St. Helens Station bathroom update included the vendor bids that have been received and the recommendation for a special meeting to be held to select a plumbing company to complete the repairs. Chief Smythe gave a brief update on the Civil Service list and the next Civil Service meeting scheduled in April. The positions listed will continue to be open and continuous with line staff being a part of the recruitment process. RFP for legal has been posted to the website with a closing date of June 6th, 2024.

New Business:

Resolution FY-23-24-11 Surplus Vehicle donated to Grumpy's Towing, VP Welby made a motion to accept Resolution FY-23-24-11, Secretary Fletcher 2nd the motion, all in favor, approved 5-0.

Resolution FY-23-24-10 J. Christiansen Retirement Payout. Director Zimbrick made a motion to approve Resolution FY-23-24-10, VP Welby 2nd the motion, all in favor 5-0.
Chief Smythe gave a recap on recruiting strategies which included recruiting on 3 different fronts and a current MOA that has been approved by the union.

18:55 Closed Executive Session Legal Counsel ORS 192.660(2)(h)

Board Comments:

Secretary Fletcher: Enjoyed Saturday workshop with lots of homework to keep this place right

Director Zimbrick: Workshop was good

VP Welby: Thanks to JC for his 29 years of service, workshop was beneficial, Congrats to Kyle, thanks to Ronda and Chuck for public comment

Director Gundersen: Workshop was great and showed common goals

President Niles: Congrats to JC, Congrats to Kyle, Official resignation from the board effective April 15th. No ill will toward anyone or the lawsuit but would like to travel and spend time with family. Recommends all the training possible and attending all the workshops as a board member.

Chief Smythe requested the portable shower that is currently at St. Helens station be reserved for another month.

Adjourn: 19:46