

Columbia River Fire & Rescue
Regular Meeting of the Boards of Directors
58611 McNulty Way, St. Helens, OR
And Virtual via Teams Meeting
January 09, 2024, 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 Vice President Welby at 7:00 pm.

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

Absent: Ryan Welby

Others: DC Sanchez, DC Smythe, K. Lehner, R. Conrath, A. Schrotzberger, D. King, DC Cole, Chuck Custer, Kirby Socht

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

Flag Salute: President Niles led the flag salute.

Changes to Agenda: Resolutions were removed from the agenda, and meeting date/time discussion was added to new business. Secretary Fletcher made a motion to add to new business and Director Zimbrick 2nd the motion, 3-0 approved.

Public Comment: Chuck Custer

Local 3215 Report: Dustin King spoke of the MOA and settling contract issues. He discussed the professionalism between the union and administration, and after over 30 hours of negotiations, he believed an agreement had been reached. FF King thanked the line staff, single roles, and administration for their patience during this process.

Volunteer Report: None

Correspondence: None

CRFR Consent Agenda: Included in the consent agenda are the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on December 12, 2023, the check register for December checks, cash flow, and the December bank statement. Secretary Fletcher made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Director Gundersen 2nd the motion, all in favor, approved 4-0. Secretary Fletcher asked about the new contract with SDAO. There was a discussion regarding checks to Akin Blitz, CDR Labor Law, US Bank, Stryker, and Wilcox.

Chief Officers Report: Chief Smythe echoed FF King's appreciation for all the hard work that the union and its members put into negotiating the MOA.

Chief Smythe discussed putting a meeting on the calendar with SDAO and Jeff Griffin for the board members. It would be an all-day workshop, and Jeff would provide lunch, perhaps on a Saturday, with possible invites extended to other agencies.

Chief Smythe passed out a plan of cooperation with OSFM; an updated one is in the works. Chief Smythe spoke of the training he will be attending in February regarding water supply access in Columbia County. He gave an update on the follow-up meeting with the planning/zoning committee and the projects in which the Fire District will be involved. Chief Smythe is working on another MOA with the firefighters who have the ability to do plan reviews, inspections, and investigations. Chief Smythe discussed fees for service and provided samples from Gresham Fire Department and Scappoose Fire Department and funding the fire prevention program for CRFR. He would be meeting with the county to discuss the impact on the county and city prior to drafting a resolution.

Chief Smythe discussed SOP A06 – Ambulance Rates. Chief Cole explained that the rates are due for an increase and that it has been quite some time since the last increase. Chief Cole is putting together a presentation that outlines the comparable and information to present at a later meeting.

Chief Smythe concluded the chief officer report by informing the board of the list that is being drafted to outline the workflow and tasks that the administrative officers are currently engaged in. He intends to provide a copy to the board members so that they can be brought up to speed with what the current administration is working on.

Old Business: None

New Business: There was a discussion regarding changing the time/date of the monthly board meetings. President Niles made a motion to change the meeting time to 6pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The meeting locations would flip-flop back and forth from Rainier City Hall to CCOM. Secretary Fletcher 2nd the motion, all in favor 4-0.

Resolution FY-23-24-07 Surplus Property – Vehicles, Secretary Fletcher made a motion to approve Resolution FY-23-24-07, Director Zimbrick 2nd the motion, all in favor 4-0.

Civil Service appointments, Joel Yarbor and Mark Kreutzer, Director Zimbrick made a motion to approve the 2 applicants for Civil Service, Director Gundersen 2nd the motion, all in favor 4-0.

There was a discussion about the SDAO workshop, and 2 dates were proposed as an option: March 16th and March 30th. Chief Smythe said he would connect with Jeff and see if those dates work and then move forward with scheduling the workshop.

Closed Executive Session: Labor Negotiator Consultations ORS 192.660(2)(d); Performance Evaluations Public Officers and Employees ORS 190.660(2)(i)

President Niles made a motion to approve MOA pending the vote of local 3215, Director Gundersen 2nd the motion, all in favor 4-0.

Board Comments:

Secretary Fletcher: Thanks to the union and staff.

Director Zimbrick: Thank you.

President Niles: Will be gone for the February board meeting.

Adjourn: 8:18 pm