

YACHATS RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
OF NOVEMBER 8th, 2021

Call to Order: President Katherine Guenther at 10:30 AM called the meeting to order.

Quorum: It was determined that a quorum was present.

Attendance: Those present: Directors – Katherine Guenther, Betty Johnston, Drew Tracy, Donald Tucker and Ed Hallahan; Assistant to District Administrator Shelby Knife and District Administrator & Fire Chief Frankie Petrick.

Agenda changes or additions: None.

Guests: Quinton Smith and Liaison Bob Bennett.

Public Input: None.

Minutes: The minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 11th, 2021 were read and approved as read.

Liaison Report: Bob Bennett reported that the Emergency Planning Committee wants YRFPD to sponsor the South County CERT team. Several years ago, YRFPD sponsored a Cert Team and due to attrition lost members and the sponsorship was transferred to Seal Rock or Central Coast where it has been the last few years. Bennett reported that John Mac is now looking for sponsorship. Petrick indicated that YRFPD might be able to help with that. Bennett will pass that on to John Mac and let him know the date of the next meeting.

Correspondence: Petrick received a note via Joe Schwab from a cardiac patient thanking the crew for their quick decision-making process and care while the patient was visiting the Oregon Coast. Petrick read the note and noted that this was a lifesaving event for this person.

A draft of the annual audit from Grimstad and Associates was received. Grimstad has advised us that the document will be able to be submitted to the State of Oregon before the due date of 12/31/2021. The report itself will be submitted by Grimstad to the state electronically and we will send a check for the required fee.

The Rope Team asked for the annual contribution for supplies in the amount of \$1,500.00. SLA and YRFPD each usually contribute. SLA contributed for both parties this year for a total amount of \$3,000.00. The rope class for Larmi and Stephens was also paid by SLA.

Equipment Maintenance: Petrick reported that Chief Murphy is processing the engine that is coming from Newport. FF/EMT-P Schwab advised Petrick of the availability of a used engine that Newport Fire was deeming surplus. The engine was available for \$8,000.00. The engine

was brought down and was deemed very serviceable for our use. An anonymous donation arrived on Petrick's desk, she polled the Board and notified Chief Murphy that we would like to purchase the engine. There will be some expense for restocking the engine but Petrick will keep that as low as possible and funds will come out of the Equipment Reserve Account.

Training Team Report: FF/EMP Larmi and Volunteer Max Stephens completed the Rope Rescue Class that that was sponsored by Newport Fire. That will increase availability for rope rescues in Lincoln County. Additionally, there will be a cache of supplies earmarked for South County, location to be determined.

Activity Report: The month of October saw us with 59 responses: General medical-cardiac 3 (2 transports, 1 refusal), 4 General Medical (trauma all transported), 12 General medical-sick (8 transported 4 refusal) for a total of 19; 13 Ground Level Falls (1 canceled enroute, 6 refusals, 6 transported); 13 Medical Mutual Aid (assist PWA in YRFPD); 4 MVC's; 3 Accidental medical alarms; 2 each lift assist, good intent & return from hospital; 1 ea., welfare check, wire down, unauthorized burning, stage for OSP, wildland (slash burn). Average time from "dispatch" to Enroute" was 2.75 minutes for the month.

New Business: YRFPD applied to the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund for a matching grant for 4 sets of turnouts, two nozzles, and a new thermal imaging camera. Petrick was notified on November 4th that YRFPD was one of the grant recipients this year and we will be receiving \$4,500 within a week or so and will get the appropriate items ordered. SLA applied for a grant for a new EKG machine, but sadly that was not funded. Director Johnston asked what happens to the old turn out gear. Petrick advised that we will be passing some on to North Lincoln Fire as they are trying for a class for high school and need gear. Some will be kept for backup use when primary gear may need laundering. That brought up the question of if the Community College in South Beach offers fire science. Petrick advised that the Fire Defense Board has been working on that for several years, but so far has been unsuccessful in making that happen.

Petrick reported that we are approaching the time of year for COLA's and raises or bonuses. Petrick is very concerned about our ability to retain current staff while all around us agencies are paying bonuses in order to entice personnel to their agency to work. The number of paramedics and firefighter/EMT's is very limited in Oregon and we must be mindful of the value of our personnel.

Director Hallahan recapped the method by which we have determined the amount of a COLA over the years. (Consumer Price Index, West Region) Director Tucker asked if we have looked at other agencies in our county or adjacent counties to find which source they use. Director Hallahan noted that while we look at the same source each year, we are not required to use that figure. We can go higher or lower as the Board deems fit. Director Tucker asked what COLAs were over the past few years. Petrick advised we have stayed close to the index, but

have been higher and lower as budget allowed.

District Administrator/Fire Chief Report: Petrick reported that this week or next will see us with our Facebook page up and running. Well creeping at least! We hope to use that as one way to get the word out to our district patrons on what we do for them. Much discussion followed about how information will be loaded, and who will load it. All posting on the website and Facebook page will be cleared with Petrick.

The agenda & minutes have been updated on YRFPD's website starting with 2018-2019. We must be sure that they are ADA compliant and that will happen soon. We hope to be able to reach out to folks about our financial status as quickly as we can.

There was some discussion about "dressing up" the current web page. Quinton Smith remarked that in order to be effective with a web site it must be inviting. After discussion the message from the Board was to do what it takes to entice folks to look at the website and face book. Petrick and Knife will cause that to happen this week.

SDAO has an updated Employee Handbook coming to us soon and we will review that. Petrick, Knife and Director Hallahan have been reworking our Benefit Package and hope to have a draft to the Board prior to the next meeting for review.

Old Business: Petrick was asked to bring a request to the Board to talk about using our easement off of Ocean Wayside Lane as parking for the lot just west of said easement. Previously the owner of the parcel was wondering about whether YRFPD would give him an easement for a drain field on YRFPD property. President Guenther advised she will check with City of Yachats statutes to determine if that could be allowed. That part of our property is in the city and the parcel that would be served by an easement would be out of the city. Petrick reminded the Board that we must be sure to not infringe on our drain field repair area that is required by Lincoln County.

Ongoing Business: Director Hallahan spoke on the failure of the ballot measure. This is the first time ever that YRFPD has had a measure fail. Much discussion followed about how best to get word out to the voters about our needs and where we can cut further without affecting the quality of our response. Director Tucker suggested a flyer to ask voters to ask those who voted no to possibly agree to serve on a committee to address the need for more funds. Director Tucker suggested a hand-out be placed at SWLCWPUD as a large number of their customers pay their bill at the office. Some suggestions to get an opportunity to talk to district patrons were discussed. At the next meeting a more detailed discussion will be held as to how best to interface with our district patrons.

Petrick sent out a request for a list of items we think Representative Gomberg might be able to help us with but has not yet received any response.

Just for your information, we have been asked to assist with clearing some culverts in the

Starr Creek area. We have done this in other neighborhoods over the years and the road district will donate a small amount for that service.

Disbursements: Director Hallahan moved to pay the bills. Director Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM. The next meeting will be at 10:30 AM on December 13th, 2021.

Minutes written and prepared by _____.
Frankie M Petrick

Director

Director