

YACHATS RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING
OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Call to Order: President Katherine Guenther at 10:31 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; Shelby Knife, Assistant to District Administrator; District Administrator and Fire Chief, Frankie Petrick.

Agenda changes or additions: None.

Guests: None.

Public Input: None.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 10th Public Hearing and Regular Meeting were approved as submitted electronically.

Liaison Report: Liaison Bennett is looking at a working group to address sheltering, whether it is needed because of tsunami, forest fire or some other emergency. This would be an expansion of the shelter discussion at the last meeting. The Board agreed to provide a couple of people, probably Director Johnston & President Guenther as well as Petrick and/or Knife for the working group. Bennett asked for a Monday afternoon meeting on any Monday within the next three weeks. Petrick will let him know our preference.

There was some discussion about total number of inhabitants in the city as opposed to out of the city, but in the fire district. As a reference City of Yachats has 847 water meters, SWLCWPUD has 1258. Water use by Yachats River Rd patrons is not included as no public water service is available at that location.

Correspondence: None received.

Equipment Maintenance: Our first out engine, Unit 14, was having a “chugging” issue. Our service tech, Tom Barr, relates that the Maxforce engines have had problems industry wide. He has it running smoothly now, but advises that it could be an ongoing problem. We will monitor it closely as we go forward.

Unit 1, old brush rig, will be leaving soon. We will have the YRFPD logo on the side painted over and it will be going to Bike Newport.

Training Team Report: We received a notice from DPSST that our recertification has been moved to early December. Petrick suspects that the December time may be delayed again due to

the Echo Mountain Fire.

Activity Report: The month of August saw us with 80 responses. General medicals 39; GLFs 10; Car crashes 7; Mutual aids 6; CPRs/DOAs 5; Wildland fire 3; Fire alarms with no fire, Public assists, Structure Fires and Water rescues 2 each; Burn complaint and Fall from height 1 each.

District Administrator/Fire Chief Report: Fire Defense Board Chief, Rob Murphy, called for immediate assistance for North Lincoln Fire as the Echo Mountain fire raced toward Lincoln City. We sent a wildland rig with two firefighters to the fire. They were both off duty and overtime will be due to them. We may be called again if the fire situation changes.

We had our first annual inspection of the creek relocation project. The inspectors advised us that the grow rate of the plants is way less than DEQ will like. Some additional watering and plants will be required. We have been requested to do a fall planting of a couple of nitrogen fixing plants (clovers) to help improve the creek banks. We are working on the best way to accomplish that. Funds for the creek bank work are out of the bond account.

Petrick reported that our district has fared fairly well during the weather change. We had high winds causing power outages and one fire at a residence on Reeves Circle. Minor damage to the residence but the trees in the right of way were totaled. Petrick and Knife notified district patrons of the no burn requirement and had an on duty crew cruising the district watching for unauthorized burning. Petrick will not open pit permit use until the weather is a little more back to normal

Old Business: The District's attorney was contacted about workers compensation coverage for the Board and his response is that the District is required by state statute to obtain workers compensation insurance coverage for all its workers, including board members. Therefore the District does not need a Director Compensation Policy to be covered by Worker's Compensation.

Ongoing Business: Knife presented the scissor lift analysis as requested (analysis is attached to these minutes). Discussion was held concerning cost and actual use. In as much as we had no need for a scissor lift at the Second St station and can only anticipate use at the new station, the Board would like to revisit the issue in a few months. Of note, Director Hallahan reminded the Board that the expenditure, if we decide a scissor lift is needed would be out of Bond Funds and expenses for maintenance would be out of operating funds.

President Guenther reported that she met with Yachats City Manager about the need for YRFPD and City of Yachats to hire an appraiser for determining a value of the property under the east bay of the Second St. building. The City Council authorized Beaucaire to work with YRFPD to that end. Guenther is to continue working with Beaucaire to select an appraiser if the Board would so like. All members agreed that Guenther is doing a good job interacting with Beaucaire and they are happy for her to continue.

New Business: As a matter of information Director Hallahan asked office staff to update YRFPD's debt limit. This was done initially when we were looking at financial data for the bond request. To that end Knife created a Debt Limit Calculation (attached to these minutes) for the Board.

Petrick has had a request from Yachats Big Band to use our Second St. station for a few months for rehearsals. They have been using the pavilion at the Commons, but that area is now open to the public for usable outdoor space, and is not available to them. Questions raised during discussion were: Would we be able to guarantee that the six foot spacing could be maintained and what concerns would our insurance carrier have? If those criteria could be met what would the rental cost be? Petrick and Knife will address those issues and notify the Board via e-mail.

We received a draft of an ordinance for adopting cost based fees and rates from the attorney. Petrick asked all to review the document and get questions or concerns back to her within the next 10 to 12 days. Those will be reviewed and redlined for a copy back to the Board.

President Guenther wanted to extend appreciation for the hard work of the crew during this last crisis. Petrick will pass that on to all.

Disbursements: The bills were reviewed. Director Johnston moved to pay the bills. Director Hallahan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM. The next meeting will be at 10:30 AM on October 12, 2020.

Minutes written and prepared by _____.
Frankie Petrick

Director

Director