**Umatilla County Fire District #1**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 12, 2025**

***Present:***

The meeting was called to order at 1902, March 12, 2025, in the meeting room at Station 23, 78760 Westland Road, Hermiston, Oregon by Board Vice President Mike Hawman. Those present included board members Glenn Silaski and Jim Whelan, Fire Chief Scott Stanton, Office Manager Candice Osborne and Clerk Reta Larson.

***Pledge of Allegiance:***

Director Mike Hawman led the pledge of allegiance.

***Chaplain’s Presentation***

After thanking the board for their support and encouragement, Chaplain Terry Cummings presented a short overview of the chaplain program and valuable services they provide to the fire district.

***Minutes of February 12, 2025, Board Meeting***

Director Whelan moved to approve the February 12th, 2025, board meeting minutes. Director Silaski seconded the motion. A roll call resulted in a unanimous vote. Motion passed.

***Financial Report:***

The bond debt balance sheet shows $455,496.56 in bond taxes LGIP, $0.00 in bond debt services, $37,786.25 in the Bond Debt Services checking and $-24,072.66 due from other accounts for a balance of $469,210.15. Clerk Larson took this time to let the board know that she had a conversation with Mitch Boylan (Accountant with Anderson, Boylan & Ramos, P.C.) and Candice regarding the due to and from other accounts that are showing up on the balance sheets for the 100, 200 and 300 funds. These amounts are from transfers to each of the funds prior to the 200 and 300 funds being established. Mitch said that he can do journal entries to zero out these accounts if the board approves. Director Silaski moved to have Mitch Boylan zero out the due to/due from entries in each of the 100, 200 and 300 accounts with journal entries to the start of the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year. This was seconded by Director Whelan. A roll call resulted in a unanimous vote. Motion passed. The bond capital outlay balance sheet shows $1,235,575.33 in the Bond LGIP account, $13,989.45 in the bond account and $457,871,36 due from other accounts for a balance of $1,707,436.14. There were four checks written in the bond transaction report. Total bond expenses for the month of February were $177,526.66. Director Whelan moved to pay bond capital expenses in the amount of $177,526.66. This was seconded by Director Silaski. A roll call resulted in a unanimous vote. Motion passed. The balance sheet for the General Fund shows a balance in LGIP of $4,415,006.97, $500.00 in petty cash, $96,244.80 in the Banner Bank checking account and $715,867.76 due from other accounts for a balance of $5,227,619.53. The budget report was then reviewed showing taxes collected during February total $42,794.43. $7,777.50 was Fire Med collections, with total ambulance revenue collected at $344,419.53 for total Ambulance Service Fee Revenue of $352,197.03. There were no Maintenance Service Fees collected during February. Grant funds collected during February totaled $3,250.00. $2,459.41 was collected in Intergovernmental Agreement funds. No fire suppression or training income was collected in February. Miscellaneous Revenue of $46,491.85 was collected in February. No other revenue was received during the month. Total revenue collected during the month of February was $447,192.72. For expenses, $674,662.62 was spent on Personal Services. Materials and Services expended in February totaled $289,076.93. $8,714.90 was spent on the General Fund Capital Outlay fund in February. Chief Stanton took this opportunity to note that the budget looks good with 2/3rds of the budget year complete. 62.54 percent was spent in Personal Services and 45.9 percent expended in Materials and Services. The bank transaction report was reviewed next. Multiple transactions were reviewed with February expenses totaling $975,237.22. The final report reviewed was the Reserve Fund Account that shows a balance of $153,273.74. Director Silaski moved to pay February general fund expenses in the amount of $975,237.22. Director Whelan seconded this. A roll call resulted in a unanimous vote. Motion passed.

***Communications:***

Director Whelan reported that sponsorship funds are coming in for the annual golf tournament being held on May 17.

***Chief’s Report:***

See the attached report. The district responded to 435 calls in February with just under 1000 calls for January and February combined. AP Triton commented on the percentage of calls we respond to where they overlap (at least one other call occurring at the same time). This accounts for approximately 70 percent of our total call volume in February. Thirteen candidates were hired in February. This is half the number for the Safer Grant (8) and 2 hired to replace Wes Blood moving up to the BC of Training position and to fill Chris Wrathall’s vacated position when he retires. 3 were hired in the single role position.

***Old Business:***

Capital Improvements

And Purchases:

Station work: A few final things to wrap up at Station 23. Work continues at Station 21. They are slightly ahead of schedule due to the great weather this winter.

Chief Stanton took this time to start a discussion on a station alerting system needed for all stations. This system alerts each station individually, instead of waking up all stations. Sleep deprivation has been shown to be a huge problem within the fire service and this system will help with this issue. The cost of installing this system at stations 21, 22 & 23 is $260,822.75 with an additional $50,000.00 for Station 24. One thing that Chief Stanton did not know about is the annual fee. More information to come on this next month.

AP Triton work: AP Triton has completed the site visit. Chief Stanton projects a rough draft will be available at the end of the month. Chief Stanton says the document (Standard of Cover) is a 195-page document.

Logistics Position: This position was approved last month by the board. Chief Stanton would like to hire Nick Oatley to fill this position. Nick was with our district for several years as our volunteer recruitment/retention coordinator. He would like to come back to the district and Chief Stanton thinks he would be a great asset to the district in the logistics position. Director Whelan moved to approve hiring Nick Oatley as the logistics manager to start May 1. This was seconded by Director Silaski. A roll call resulted in a unanimous vote. Motion passed.

Academy and hires: The hiring details were covered in the Chief’s report. The academy will begin on April 21.

***New Business:***

Approve Budget Calendar: Director Whelan moved to approve the budget calendar as presented for the 2025 – 2026 budget year and appoint Chief Scott Stanton as the Budget Officer. This was seconded by Director Silaski. A roll call vote resulted in a unanimous decision. Motion passed.

Appoint Budget Officer: Motion made and passed in previous motion with passage of budget calendar.

Appoint Budget Committee

Member: Director Silaski moved to approve the appointment of Bruce Naugher as a budget committee member to replace Rick Rankin and Dorothy Smith to replace Glenn Silaski as an alternate on the budget committee. This was seconded by Director Whelan. A roll call resulted in a unanimous decision to approve.

Fire Authority meeting: This meeting was held three weeks ago facilitated by Sage Delong (Umatilla County Emergency Manager) to discuss fire service in the county and how to do things better together to make things better for the citizens within the county. Dan Peterson with AP Triton spoke as well as Mariana Ruiz Temple from the State Fire Marshal’s Office and Dr. Adams and Dr. Peter Overton spoke about the state of EMS in Oregon. The meeting was well attended with representatives from all departments/districts countywide. Director Whelan was most impressed with the positive attitudes exhibited by all who attended. The theory is the districts/departments county-wide would operate as one entity by combining all funding but still retain ownership of all equipment and stations. This creates efficiency and standardization. After 5 years all entities dissolve and create a new entity (fire authority) with an appropriate rate under ORS 478. Chief Stanton’s hope is that the county will fund a feasibility study.

Auto-aid agreement: Chief Stanton has been working with Boardman to help cover the I84 corridor and Umatilla to help with providing apparatus on structure fires. This will help with the ISO rating.

**Board Member Comments:**

Director Hawman asked about any progress with the Hutterites. Chief Stanton said the whole plan just kind of fizzled out. Chief Stanton is going to contact Herb Stahl and follow up and let him know that the plan is not going to work.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 2044.