

**Sublimity Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 12, 2005**

Meeting called to order: 7:03 pm by Rick Kauffman

Members present: Rick Kauffman, Ralph Fisher, Gary Rychard, Kyle Amsberry, Jeff Kropf

Staff present: Amy Manning, Alan McMahan

Others present: Gene Ditter, Steve Garelli, Brandon Hamilton, Jerry Heater, Tim Heater

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: None

Citizen Comments: None

Volunteer Association Input: The annual awards banquet will be held at the Union Hill Grange this year on February 19. Social hour begins at 6:00pm, followed by dinner and awards at 7:00pm.

Reading of Minutes: Motion by Fisher, second by Amsberry to approve minutes for December 12, 2004. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Communications: The District received two donations and mailed out thank-yous for each of them. The County sent a notice that 2 directors (Kauffman & Rychard) are up for re-election in May. Captain Karey Hendricks has given up his company and been re-assigned as a Lieutenant upon his request. Amsberry expressed his appreciation to Hendricks for his service to the District. Chief McMahan received an e-mail from Brian Boquist's office requesting personal information of Board Members.

Payment of Bills: Amsberry inquired about the small amount of money used from the recruiting portion of the budget. Chief McMahan explained that the District is in the process of making a huge leap in recruiting. They were hoping to put place mats and signs up in local restaurants advertising for the next upcoming Recruit Academy, with the goal that no one in the community would be unaware of the District's desire for new volunteers. No restaurants were willing to put up place mats. Kropf asked various questions regarding the layout of the budget reports and some of the category titles. Chief McMahan apologized for not having the breakdown of line item status this month, then explained that the only line item that was significantly over budget was the Protective Equipment line item. This is as a result of having to buy two new sets of turnouts. This was followed by some general discussion on the budget. Motion made by Amsberry to approve payment of bills for December. Motion seconded by Kropf. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Chief's Report: Chief McMahan reviewed alarms for 2004, which were lower as a result of changes in dispatch. Dispatch changes also resulted in an increase in calls for Station 52. Kauffman stressed the importance of an increase in media visibility, so that the community is aware that the District is actively seeking new volunteers. Amsberry asked about the success of the shift program. Chief responded that there are three or four very dedicated volunteers who

have been consistently pulling shifts. Amsberry also asked if the District had received any sort of response from ODOT in regards to the letter that was sent. Kropf had spoken with ODOT, who said they would put some signs up, but have yet to take any action. Amsberry went on to ask about a recruiting plan. Chief McMahan responded that it would be discussed at the District Planning Meeting on Saturday. He then updated the board on the status of Bill Hansen, an intern who broke his leg.

Old Business: Chief McMahan looked into creating a communications plan, but could not find an adequate template or example from which to draw. Kauffman said he would meet with Pat Cooney from ODOT to try and find one.

New Business: Chief McMahan announced that he would retire no earlier than September of this year, while chances are about 90% that he will retire. He also informed the Board that he had applied for a position with Chemeketa Community College and should know by Friday whether he will be offered it. Amsberry stressed the importance of putting together a plan for if the Chief leaves. Chief Heater said he would be interested in filling in on a temporary basis. Amsberry also asked about a possible consolidation with Stayton. Kropf asked about a possibility of just sharing a Chief with Stayton. Chief McMahan informed the board that the Marion County Chief offered to do all the administrative duties for a fee, which would leave the Chief's salary available to put toward hiring paid firefighters. The general concession among the group was that all options should at least be considered and discussed. Fisher and Rychard viewed a merge with Stayton as the least desirable option. Kauffman expressed concern with discussing these options with volunteers at the upcoming planning meeting on Saturday simply because the Board makes the final decision and he doesn't want to foster any disappointment with volunteers if their ideas are not chosen. (Kropf left early with apologies). The Board agreed that a special board of Directors meeting would be called if Chief McMahan accepts a position with Chemeketa.

Good of the Order: Chief McMahan reminded everyone of the Planning Session on Saturday.

Adjourn: Motion made by Amsberry to adjourn, seconded by Rychard. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Amy Manning

Approved by Rick Kauffman