

**Sublimity Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 8, 2006**

Meeting called to order: by Gary Rychard at 7:00 p.m.

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

Staff present: Chief Tim Frost, Office Administrator Amy Manning

Others present: Lieutenant Gene Ditter, Captain Brandon Hamilton

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: None

Citizen Comments: None

Volunteer Association Input: None

Reading of Minutes:

MOTION: Jeff Kropf moved to approve the minutes for January 11, 2006. Ralph Fisher seconded. Motion passed; a voice vote was unanimous.

Communications: Amy Manning explained that the OFDDA issued the district a safety credit in the amount of \$500. Incidentally, the OFDDA annual dues were \$500.

Payment of Bills: Chief Frost and Amy Manning reviewed expenditures for the board.

MOTION: Rick Kauffman moved to pay the bills. Ralph Fisher seconded. Motion passed; a voice vote was unanimous.

Chief's Report:

Spirit Mountain Grant: Chief Frost explained that the district has used its grant from Spirit Mountain to purchase turnouts, boots, helmets, gloves, pagers, radios, etc. There was a brief discussion about what to do with phased out turnouts.

Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG): Chief Frost said that he and Amy Manning had attended a workshop at McMinnville Fire regarding the AFG. He noted that apparatus was a low priority for the grant. Because the initial scoring is done by computer, the district would not qualify for new apparatus. He said that he is still trying to decide whether to even go for the grant at this point. The district's biggest need of new turnouts has just been met. If the district does go for the grant, a possibility would be for new airpacks and SCBA bottles.

Budget: Chief Frost explained some important issues surrounding the budget. He noted that the district is not gaining in revenue each year, especially when it is borrowing money, which costs approximately \$7500.

-Gary Rychard pointed out that borrowing was a necessity and Chief Frost agreed.

-Chief Frost said that the board should look at the need for a levy to cover operating costs, possibly in 2008 with the next general election. He noted that he has tried to cut costs wherever possible. Inflation and equipment costs are hurting the district.

-Jeff Kropf asked about the differences between the 2005-06 total tax assessment and the budget.

-Chief Frost explained that pass-through lines had been used. He said that this wouldn't happen next year because it has a tendency to over-inflate the budget.
-Jeff asked what the district would have in reserves at the end of this budget year.
-Chief Frost said that in the last few years it has been about \$32,000, but this year it should be a little bit more than that.
-Jeff wanted to know why the district would ask for a levy if it is able to pay bills and still have carryover revenue.
-Chief Frost explained that inflation and operating costs are just too high.
-Gary noted that carryover has gone down each year.
-Ralph Fisher thought that having .5 FTE less should save the district money.
Everyone agreed that there is no industry in the area that would help increase revenue.
-Chief Frost said that an increase in housing results in an increase in revenue, but more importantly it results in an increase of people served.
-Jeff wanted the chief to keep in mind that the district tried for a serial levy twice in one year and it didn't pass. The volunteers worked hard for it, but the voters were against it.
-Gary reminded Jeff that one time the measure did pass, it just didn't have enough votes to meet the double majority requirement.
-Chief Frost explained some of his goals and his budgeting process to the board. As far as the budget is concerned, he wants to be able to do more with less.
There was general discussion regarding the expansion of the administrative position.

Alarms: Chief Frost and Amy Manning reviewed alarm totals. Chief Frost explained that Amy would now be entering all alarms in the Oregon State Fire Marshal's computer database, allowing the district to print out more detailed reports on incidents.

Old Business:

IGA with OSFM: Chief Frost explained that the State Fire Marshal's Office wouldn't agree to a hold harmless clause, so there won't be a contract.

New Business:

Surplus Property: Chief Frost asked the board to declare 11 old steel cylinders surplus so they can be properly disposed.

MOTION: Jeff Kropf moved to declare 11 old steel cylinders surplus property to be disposed of. Gary Rychard seconded. Motion passed; a voice vote was unanimous.

Good of the Order: The annual awards banquet will be held at Anthony Hall on Saturday, March 4. Brandon Hamilton noted that the district currently has two houses to burn.

Adjourn:

MOTION: Jeff Kropf moved to adjourn the meeting. Rick Kauffman seconded. Motion passed; a voice vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.