

Sublimity Fire District Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Wednesday, February 10, 2010

Meeting called to order: by Rick Kauffman at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Rick Kauffman, Tom Etzel, Gary Rychard, Ralph Fisher

Staff present: Chief Brandon Hamilton

Others present: Kent Silbernagel, Angela Hargin, Nick Lane, Dustin Hamilton, Mark Jensen

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: Old Business-Add Drakes Crossing discussion

Citizen Comments: Mark Jensen, a Sublimity FD citizen, had some comments regarding a "stove fire" at his house on Anderson Road. He said he "wasn't very proud" of the fire district and felt there were some improvements that could be made. He complained about the use of positive pressure ventilation instead of negative, as well as a variety of details about the fire district's response to his incident, including, but not limited to, issues about the chief's vehicle, the chief's response, and his personal feelings about the chief's qualifications, etc. He rated the service he received as "low." He said he would like to see something change. He then complained about previous chiefs. And he felt the fire district is now comprised of "a bunch of young kids with no experience." The board clarified some details about the fire. The board also clarified that Mr. Jensen had not had taken the opportunity to sit down with Chief Hamilton and discuss the incident. Rick Kauffman said that the board expected the chief to review the incident because it's an operational issue. The board noted some things it wanted the chief to look at. Rick told Mr. Jensen that his comments were received and well taken and that the district would like to move forward. He felt there was no point in assigning blame, etc. The board appreciated Mr. Jensen taking the time to share his comments and assured him that the incident would be carefully reviewed.

Firefighters Association Input: Nick Lane thanked the board for cooking at the last business meeting. It was the annual planning meeting. They planned out the entire year in an attempt to be more organized with events. They already know who is in charge of each event, etc. They are working on getting the old logo back on t-shirts. There was discussion regarding the new design. There was discussion regarding the district's barbecue.

Reading of Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes from the month of January.

MOTION: Ralph Fisher moved to approve the minutes for January 13, 2010, as presented. Tom Etzel seconded. Motion passed; a voice vote was unanimous.

Communications: There was a thank you from the Stayton Food Bank for a donation of 183 pounds of food during the holidays.

Payment of Bills: The board reviewed bills and payments for the month of January. The chief noted that the training budget is already expended. Part of that is due to sending four board members to the joint conference. He also attributed it to the larger roster and more people taking training. The category itself is still doing fine. We just need to keep an eye on it.

MOTION: Gary Rychard moved to pay the bills for January as presented. Tom Etzel seconded. Motion passed; a voice vote was unanimous.

Chief's Report:

Alarms: Chief Hamilton reviewed alarm totals for the board. He displayed a variety of the reports that can be printed through the FireHouse program. The board requested a list of calls in order by run number.

Old Business:

Drakes Crossing: Drakes Crossing and Sublimity Fire were not able to find mutually agreeable terms for a contract for service/training officer proposal. Drakes Crossing also now has the potential for a volunteer chief. There is no more negotiation necessary.

New Business:

Vehicle Replacement Plan: The chief put together a chart using typical ages of apparatus/vehicles in the fire service (engines: 20 years, rescues: 15-20 years, administrative: 10 years (w/20-year cycle). He input where each of our vehicles would fit into this plan and included the replacement cost for each rig. He included what the district would need to put into the equipment reserve fund annually to replace each rig as needed without borrowing funds. This equals approximately \$117,000 per year, which is not a financially feasible amount. He feels that if the district needs to replace a large ticket item, such as an engine, that that should go to the public for a vote. The chief said that in the next 3-4 years, the district will be due for two engines and a brush rig. He said that one engine should've been replaced a few years ago based upon its age. Rick asked about trade in values. Chief Hamilton said there was no value in trade ins. There was discussion regarding techniques to prolong vehicle life. There was discussion regarding bond measures and the flex lease program to pay for a vehicle.

Good of the Order:

Banquet: Chief Hamilton reminded the board about the banquet. There was discussion regarding who is paying for what (district vs. association).

Adjourn:

MOTION: Gary Rychard moved to adjourn the meeting. Ralph Fisher seconded. Motion passed; unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Amy Doran

Approved by Rick Kauffman