

**Sublimity Fire District**  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
**Wednesday, August 10, 2005**

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**Meeting called to order:** By Gary Rychard at 7:05pm

**Members present:** Gary Rychard, Rick Kaufmann, Jeff Kropf & Ralph Fisher

**Staff present:** Fire Chief/ Alan McMahan, Deb Schoenborn/Admin Clerk

**Others present:** Van, Brandon, Gene, Josh S., Josh W., Mike Sherman

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:** Executive Session at end of mtg. Requested by Chief.

**Citizen Comments: None**

**Volunteer Association Input:** Van Schoenborn spoke about Cowboy Breakfast, had a good turnout of help by the Board and volunteers. After all costs calculated Van estimated that they made \$550 and the breakfast ran smooth and there was food left over.

Van, acting as Volunteer Assn. President submitted a letter to the board signed by several volunteer Firefighters requesting the BOD to form a workgroup with the Stayton Fire District to determine if a merger is a viable option so that the district can deliver a better product to our community members. The Volunteer Assn. At this time is asking for research only and would like the group to decide after researching if the merger idea is a good one or not and have an explanation for or against.

Gary Rychard asked if this request was due to Volunteer frustration about not finding a new Chief? Volunteers stated that this just seemed like a good opportunity to bring up the subject of merger since a new Chief was not hired during the process. Rick stated that the patrons of Sublimity do not want a merger and says the process would take too long and the District would be without a leader. Rick stated that he wants to move on with finding a new Chief. Jeff is also against merger and wants to keep the community of Sublimity individual and feels that will be lost if the District merges with Stayton, which is a larger community.

Josh Williams stated that the Volunteer Firefighters want the option of a merger seriously researched and they are not asking for a merger at this time. Josh stated that nobody really knows if the idea is good or bad and can't quote a reason that the idea is a bad one. Rick asked if Stayton Fire District was agreeable with that idea and Josh stated that he didn't think anyone had asked them recently and that was the purpose for the research committee. Rick stated that he feels this is a bad time & people in the community will not go for it. Gary is afraid that Sublimity Fire District would end up being an out-station and left behind & lose autonomy.

Gary read the letter from the Volunteers and noted that 11 people signed. (Copy of letter attached) Mike Sherman (4M Consulting) suggested that the District not start a new Chief process unless everyone is on board & agreeable. Mike stated that whatever the BOD decides to do, make sure you don't lose the trust of your "Team".

Jeff stated that he wants to close the Executive Search and open a second process for the search of a new Chief and also invite Alan Weaver (from first process) to apply again & interview with other new candidates. Motion made by Rick to close the first process & second by Jeff. Motion passed with 3 yes & 1 opposed.

Motion made by Rick to open new abbreviated process for new Chief search, advertising in one newspaper; The Statesman Journal and second by Jeff. Passed unanimous.

Chief asked what the BOD expected from him as far as the new process and it was agreed that Chief would be responsible for the electronic add (revamped) use for advertisement of position. Include the volunteers in new process & Board members Ralph & Kyle to be added to project team that already exists. The position will be open for 14 days plus 10 days for deadline using the same application and requirements for position.

**Reading of Minutes:** Motion by Rick Kaufmann, and second by Jeff Kropf to approve minutes for July 13, 2005. Motion carried. Passed unanimous.

**Communications:** None

**Payment of Bills:** Motion by Rick Kaufmann to pay bills. Motion seconded by Ralph Fisher. Motion carried. Passed unanimous.

**Chief's Report:** Chief Alan McMahan reported that calls have increased particularly MVA's and Marion County Public Works is looking at changing a road due to increased accidents.

**Old Business:** Executive Search; contact Alan Weaver (candidate #4) to see if he wants to re-apply in new process.

**New Business:** Sale of protective clothing for Josh Williams to Lincoln Maine Fire Department. Motion to sell clothing made by Jeff Kropf and second by Ralph Fisher. Passed unanimous.

**Good of the Order:** Volunteer President, Van Schoenborn asked the BOD to share in the cost of a going away gift for Josh Williams which will be a Brass Bugle on an oak stand with a message engraved from the District. Motion made by Rick Kaufmann to provide assistance in the amount of half the total cost and second by Ralph Fisher. Passed unanimous. Van also asked the BOD about purchasing a White Leather Helmet at approx. \$310 for Chief McMahan's retirement. Motion mad by Ralph Fisher to purchase and second by Jeff Kropf. Passed unanimous.

**Adjourn:** Motion made by Gary to adjourn, seconded by Ralph. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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**Respectfully Submitted by Deb  
Schoenborn**

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**Approved by Kyle Amsberry**