



BLACK BUTTE RANCH R.F.P.D.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 25, 2022

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was offered electronically. Information for this meeting was as follow:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84136089938?pwd=VGZYTEZudUhkbFhiejc5Nnkrd1pjQT09>

Meeting ID: 841 3608 9938 | Passcode: 675135 | Phone: +1 253 215 8782 US

Larry Stuker called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Board of Directors:

- Don Bowler
- Rodger Gabrielson
- ✓ Dave Gibson
- ✓ Tom Sawyer
- ✓ Larry Stuker

Administration:

- ✓ Chief Dan Tucker
- ✓ Deputy Chief Jason Ellison
- ✓ Jamie Vohs

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Tom Sawyer moved to accept the July 28, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Dave Gibson, unanimously passed.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report

Motion: Tom Sawyer moved to accept the July 2022 financial reports as presented, seconded by Dave Gibson, unanimously passed.

Chief's Report

Fire and Ambulance Report – Chief Tucker

July 2022, the department responded to the following:

- 52 total calls
- 6 fire
- 30 medical
- 14 transports
- 1 air transport
- 6 move-ups
- 10 public assists

- 12 mutual aids
- Year-to-date calls 203 (24 less than YTD 2021 and 50 more than YTD 2020)

Fire and Ambulance Discussion:

- 5 of the 30 EMS calls were walk-ins
- There was a significant rollover.
- A lot of walkers are using the paths.
- Is there a concern about e-bike use on the Ranch?
 - Chief Ellison has spoken with Chief Van Meter briefly on this concern.
 - Hard to identify if an e-bike is a class 1 or 3.

Firewise Report

D/C Ellison reported the last Firewise meeting was pretty short, with most of the discussion about the state-wide risk map.

D/C Ellison and Jake Derksen also attended a meeting in Sisters with the Oregon State Fire Marshal. They will have their defensible space code by December. Many people wanted answers from ODF, who was not at the meeting.

There will be a Christmas tree fundraising event where identified (by flagging them) trees on the Ranch will be available to cut down for homeowners and guest.

D/C Ellison is part of the education committee for implementing SB762. The committee met yesterday to discuss how best to communicate with homeowners and residents on SB762. The committee wanted to push a lot of information out; however, D/C Ellison asked to wait for the code from the State Fire Marshal’s Office. Codes include building and defensible space codes.

Chief Tucker discussed:

No discussion.

President’s Report

No President’s report.

OLD BUSINESS

GM 13 – Status Update

Don Bowler met with a contractor and received a bid for the demolition and disposal of GM13. The reason for the bid is the odors in the house have permeated the walls making it best to start over. The bid came in at \$30,740.

The initial cost of the house was \$10K for the land and \$44k for building of the building of the structure, which has given the District 30+ years of use. It is still unclear if the lot can go back into the BBR system. If it is not used for fire department purposes, it reverts to the Ranch.

Right now, stuff is stored in it, and Captain Ahrendt checks on it weekly.

Strategic Plan and Goals – Decide Participating Member(s)

Chief Ellison will head up creating a strategic plan for the District. He has asked for two board members (Tom Sawyer and Larry Stuker), administrative staff, a union staff member, and a couple of community members to participate in developing the strategic plan.

In November, Chief Ellison will audit Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire strategic plan process as they will be reviewing theirs at that time.

Chief Ellison recited the following: A strategic plan is a living management tool that provides short-term direction, builds a shared vision, documents goals and objectives, and optimizes use of resources. The process of strategic planning can be defined as “deliberative, disciplined approach to producing fundamental decisions and actions that shape and guide what an organization (or other entity) is, what it does, and why.”

Motion: Tom Sawyer moved to proceed with the strategic plan process, seconded by Larry Stuker, unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Health Insurance Rate Change

Chief Tucker presented a document identifying medical, dental, vision, and VEBA plans from Teamsters (current and future admin rate change), SDIS (OFCA plan), and SDIS (80/20 plan). Chief asked the board to hold off on making any decision on health insurance for admin staff until more than three board members were present. The following, however, was discussed:

- A potential health insurance change is being looked at because the GW plan that Teamsters currently offers will increase \$648 for administrative staff. The increase is because those administrative members on the GW plan are generally older, costing more.
- Once becoming Chief, Chief Tucker learned that the Teamsters plan likely was not “statutorily” legal under ORS 243.303 as it did not provide access to the employee post-retirement. After looking into what insurance provider would provide legal coverage, the District found that the cost would increase by about \$160,000 annually. The District was not capable of making that switch as the price was just too much.
- Somewhere along the way, the District learned that the bargaining unit does have access to insurance post-retirement through OTET. Although not the same as their current plan, it would effectively be the same if the District moved to a legal plan. Essentially, they are better off keeping their current plan and then participating in the post-retirement plan when they retire.
- Chief Tucker asked for plans from the only providers that he knew of that write statutorily correct plans, CIS and SDIS. In researching these two, Chief Tucker discovered an agreement between SDIS and CIS that CIS will not write for fire districts and SDIS will not write for cities, meaning that SDIS is the sole source.
- Tom felt the OFCA plan was superior to the other plans.
 - It has not changed its rates in the last two years; prior to that, the change was a 5% increase.

- OFCA plan is fire only and is reviewed regionally, which is good because firefighters are considered to be a healthier group.
- The plan is set up for the fiscal year.
- MASA, ground/air supplemental insurance is included in plan.
 - The BODs could take advantage of this plan as well. Masa could be a negotiating piece down the road for line staff.
- The OFCA plan is an 80/20 plan and to supplement going to a lower plan (current Teamsters is 90/10), a recommendation of increasing the HRA VEBA amount for administrative staff was presented. Tom felt he would rather see money go towards the HRA VEBA plan of employees than to hospitals/doctors.
- Chief Tucker recommended not switching the health insurance plan for administrative staff until January 2024.
- Larry discussed entertaining the idea of the District paying for health insurance post-retirement for retirees. The idea was tabled.

Motion: Larry Stuker moved to allow Chief Tucker to begin preparations with SDIS to enroll in their OFCA plan, seconded by Tom Sawyer, unanimously passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

D/C Ellison will staff a type 6 in Bend to help cover the memorial service of Daniel Harro. This will help allow Bend Fire staff members to be present for the service. The memorial service is on August 28 at 11:00 a.m. at Hayden Amphitheater.

There will be one more week of station Tours.

D/C Ellison and Chief Van Meter will be at the Bistro for coffee on Thursdays at 9:00 am for constituents to come join them and talk.

NEXT MEETING DATE

September 22, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Approved by Tom Sawyer

Larry Stuker

Date: September 22, 2022