



BLACK BUTTE RANCH R.F.P.D.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 24, 2023

Optional Teleconference Information:

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84811395645?pwd=OFhYS1RFOUFnNGdFRGFpT0lIVCtiZz09>

Meeting ID: 848 1139 5645 | **Passcode:** 028308 | **Phone:** +1 253 215 8782 US

Dave Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:02 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 approve the July 27, 2023 meeting minutes with the correction of the motion end date of June 30, 2024 (incorrect date is June 30, 2023) on Resolution 2023-0727-R-A, seconded by Larry Stuker, unanimously passed.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report

- Purchase journal pointouts:
 - Mastercard payment in the amount of \$2278.49 for name tags and badges
 - Seawestern payment in the amount of \$1070.70 for wildland shirts
 - MES payment in the amount of \$2169.00 for Target Solutions membership

Motion: Don Bowler moved to approve the July 2023 financial reports as presented, seconded by Tom Sawyer, unanimously passed.

Chief's Report

Fire and Ambulance Report – D/C Ellison

July 2023, the department responded to the following:

- 75 total calls
- 6 fire
- 45 medical
- 15 ground transports
- 0 air transports

- 5 move-ups
- 19 public assists
- 13 mutual aids
- 7 duty officer responses
- 2 move-up calls
- 1 8 PC
- Year-to-date calls 262 (59 more than YTD 2022 and 35 more than YTD 2021)

Comments/Discussion on F&A Report:

- July 2023 was the busiest month ever.
- There was a small brush fire on the Ranch off Fiddleneck. The cause was undetermined. Homes around it had good mitigation.
- There was a potential gas leak at GM Rec.
- We are still responding to the Lodge fire alarm calls, but they have lessened.
- For 75 calls, the District had great staffing, and it was shown in only have 1 8PC. Staffing did not include the three new Resident Volunteers, which continues to show we were well staffed.
- When we get smoke in the region, people are more conscientious of the need to not utilize the fire department as much.
- There is no camera facing directly at BBR; however, the lookout tower is near the Ranch.
- Chief Ellison explained conflagration expenses and what is reimbursed from the State of Oregon. Conflagrations are good for getting staff experience and supporting the State of Oregon.

Deployments (Golden Fire & Lookout Fire)

Golden Fire was in July. We sent staff for a max of 72 hours (immediate response).

Lookout Fire took place in August. It went under conflagration. The BBR RFPD staff that went there were there for 4-5 days.

Chief Ellison discussed:

Strategic Planning & Goals

D/C Ellison presented to the BOD a strategic plan that has been reviewed by labor and administration. He asked them to look at the bulleted goals and make corrections, additions, and omissions.

Firewise Report

No major changes. The last meeting presented a lot of insurance talk. Heather Miller from OSFM was in attendance and was asked a lot about “the map.” There was discussion about OSFM’s recommendation that lots should be cleared 100 ft. from the home. The Firewise Committee decided to stay with its current clearance recommendation of 30 ft. from the home.

More communication and publication on the Ready, Set, Go model. It has the number to receive emergency communication texts from Deschutes 911 on it. D/C Ellison will check in with Deschutes 911 to see how many people have signed up to receive texts now that it is being publicized more. Everbridge is another great tool as it provides information to those on the Ranch when there is a big emergency requiring evacuation and etc.

The lot certification process is moving along. They have upgraded the administrative program from the old way excel way of tracking.

More grant resources are coming up with the State of Oregon for wildfire mitigation.

D/C Ellison spoke with Ian Reid regarding the back road to Cold Springs Road. Ian feels the Forest Service could contribute 33% to the repair costs. The Ranch also feels it can contribute 33%. CEC is currently in the process of seeing if they can contribute the remaining 33%.

Chief Tucker discussed:

Current Atmosphere of Homeowner's Insurance – Mike Robillard, Owner & President of Mountain View Insurance Services

Highlights of Homeowner's Insurance discussion:

- There was a letter to Ranch with an insurance issue and the statement the person put out was not entirely true. This spurred on a request for clarification.
- Due to losses from wildfire events, some insurance companies have found it easier to pull back and not take on any more business. This makes it more difficult because it creates fewer options.
- Mike feels a possible issue with Black Butte Ranch is the types of homes on the Ranch. Some insurance companies don't want to write policies for secondary homes or vacation rentals from an underwriting standpoint.
- A big concern is the map that the state put out. Insurance companies have used maps for years and base them on exposure risk.
- One thing that may help homeowners in Oregon is that Oregon's Insurance Commissioner is a lot less demanding on the insurance companies, which makes it easier for them to do business in Oregon.
- Larry inquired on:
 - What is the role of reinsurance? This usually has to do more with commercial policies.
 - Does the state incentivize for casualty companies to offer their business in Oregon? Mike does not believe so.
 - Insurance companies must file their rates; if they raise their rates, they have to justify the increase (which is based on claims).
- Tom spoke on the density of BBR versus Sisters. BBR has a meadow, two golf courses, and a lot of trees taken out. Sisters on the other hand, the average acre has 10 homes on it. BBR has gone from a PC7 to a 3.
- Going to start to see more surplus companies. It is typically used to insure against unusual or high-risk exposures. Surplus lines insurance is not subject to the same regulation as standard insurance, which may be more expensive.
- Some homeowners are seeing 10-20% increases in their rates due to having to absorb claim costs.
- 98% of insured people never file a homeowner claim. That means 2% do.
- The Oregon Fair Plan makes essential property insurance available to responsible applicants in Oregon when they cannot secure coverage through typical insurance markets.
- Currently in a hard market as far as homeowner's insurance.
- Insurance companies look at risk from a worst-case scenario because it is easier to generalize.

- State Farm Insurance pulling out of California could help Oregon.

Staffing Changes

The District is experiencing staffing changes:

- F/F-P Guintu is going to Clackamas
- F/F-EMT Schuhmann will join the department
- Captain Earnest will leave for an opportunity at Jefferson County Fire & EMS. His new title will be Deputy Fire Marshal. This position is under a three-year grant from OSFM. This three-year position will most likely move into permanent position.

Forest Management Report

Dave reported a big meeting will take place on September 6th in which he will report on ten different areas of the map that the State of Oregon prepared.

Director Gabrielson discussed:

President's Report

No new report.

OLD BUSINESS

Accuity – Audit Annual Report

Report to the Board of Directors for the year ending June 30, 2023. from Accuity was presented to the Board

NEW BUSINESS

Fraud Protection – First Interstate Bank (Positive Pay Program)

Chief explained the fraudulent check that was written based on a stolen department check (stolen in the mail in Florida).

The bank recommended the department sign up with Positive Pay, which has been done.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

September 8, 2023 at 2:00 pm at Sisters Fire Hall Joint Recruit Academy Graduation & Recognition Ceremony.

Larry inquired if a Captain could move up to fill Captain Earnests position in which there is someone who will move up.

NEXT MEETING DATE

September 28, 2023 – Board of Directors Meeting – 9:00 am

ADJOURNMENT

Board meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Approved by Tom Sawyer

Larry Stuker

Date: September 28, 2023