

SW Polk Fire District

Regular Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2022 – 15455 Salt Creek Rd. Dallas, OR 97338

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
SW Polk Fire District Bruce Sigloh Frank Pender Rod Watson	Bob Davis Keith Moore
	Administration Present
	Fred Hertel Scott Magers Christine Talley

Virtual- (V) Arrives after roll call- (ARC)

GENERAL BUSINESS		
Call to Order		President Rod Watson opens the meeting at 5:58 pm. SW Polk Fire District has a quorum of directors and will allow deliberation, decision making, and will take public comment per the posted agenda. Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
Roll Call		Christine Talley calls roll as delineated above
Additions/Corrections to Agenda	Discussion	Watsons states Old Business item E – BOD Resignation and Appointment – will be excluded from meeting Chief Hertel states item D – WVCC Agreements – should be removed as the WVCC Agreement has not yet been received. Chief Hertel states item A – Staffing Update – may be an action item if the board so chooses.
Approval of Minutes	Discussion/Action	The board reviews the October 20 th Meeting Minutes. Motion: Pender Second: Sigloh <i>I move to approve the October meeting minutes as presented.</i> Watson asks if the budget resolutions were passed at the last meeting. Hertel states no. Watson asks if there were changes to the Polk Intra-County Mutual Aid Agreement. Hertel states the agreement was changed with minor grammatical updates and auto aid was separated to an MOU. Motion passes unanimously
Financials	Discussion/Action	The board reviews the October financial report. Watson asks for clarification on when the May 2022 levy funds are received. Hertel responds that the district has already started collecting some. Discussion of ambulance fees. Motion: Pender Second: Sigloh <i>I move to approve the finances as presented.</i> Motion passes unanimously

<p>Audience Participation</p>	<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Rob Foster states he is, as of this point, a former volunteer of the Fire District. He expresses frustration regarding the manner of his leaving, stating he had not decided on a date but was sent a letter from the Fire Chief stating he was resigned effective immediately. He expresses that he feels this treatment of the volunteers has been a pattern repeated for the past 9 years. He states he does not have ill will toward the Board of Directors and thanks them for their time. Watson, Sigloh, and Pender thank Foster for his time as a volunteer. Watson asks Chief Hertel if a discussion regarding this matter needs to be in executive session. Hertel states he does not believe that this is the appropriate venue and he may meet with the board members individually if they wish.</p>
<p>Staffing Update</p>	<p>Discussion/Action</p>	<p>Hertel states that at the last meeting he brought up the issue of finding Paramedics to hire. He introduces a suggested increase to the wage scale. He also explains they are looking at incentivizing EMT's to receive an Intermediate certificate through a new wage scale structure in negotiations with the union. Hertel explains this would require a re-opening of negotiations if the Board of Directors so chooses.</p> <p>Discussion of further incentives for employees. Watson encourages the staff to continue looking for solutions. He says he'd like time to think about the wage scale. Pender asks how that would affect the hiring timeline. Hertel says he was hoping to propose it to the Union and have it adopted by January 1, but that he does not know how the Union will react. Watson states he will rescind his concern but will need some answers from Chief Hertel.</p> <p>Motion: Pender Second: Sigloh <i>I move to accept the salary schedule update and direct staff to propose the contractual changes as presented.</i> Motion passes unanimously</p>
<p>Budget Resolutions</p>	<p>Discussion/Action</p>	<p>Hertel introduces Resolution 2022-23-01, stating it is the Conflagration resolution allowing the appropriation of funding from conflagrations over the Summer and add it to current line items.</p> <p>Motion: Pender Second: Sigloh <i>I move to adopt Resolution No. 2022-23-01 Adopting A Supplemental Budget for FY 2022-2023</i></p> <p>Watson asks for clarification on the resolution appropriations. Hertel explains each of the line items and what funds are being added. Motion passes unanimously</p> <p>Hertel introduces Resolution 2022-23-03 regarding the Volunteer account. He explains the LOSAP payment for 2021 was written in July of 2022. The resolution appropriates the additional funds so that the volunteers can expend it in this year's budget.</p> <p>Motion: Sigloh Second:</p>

		<p><i>I move to adopt Resolution No. 2022-23-03 Adopting a Supplemental Budget for FY 2022-2023.</i></p> <p>Motion passes unanimously</p> <p>Hertel introduces Resolution 2022-23-04 and explains that it accepts the donations received for the 75th Anniversary, placing it in the appropriate line item.</p> <p>Motion: Pender Second: Silgoh <i>I move to adopt Resolution No. 2022-23-04 Accepting Donations and Adopting a Supplemental Budget.</i></p> <p>Motion passes unanimously</p>
Lexipol Policies	Discussion	<p>Hertel states the Lexipol policies were introduced last month. He says not everyone as seen them. Watson states he'd like to review a copy and table the decision until next month.</p>
Chief's Report	Discussion	<p>Chief's Report</p> <p>Hertel explains an addition to the Chief's report providing data on response time. Sigloh asks how the response time for SW Polk compares to other districts. Magers states it is a little longer than the district wants.</p> <p>Hertel reviews the Pulse Point data and explains that the subscription numbers from the public are increasing.</p> <p>Hertel introduces a project list from the last City Council meeting, which includes the construction of a training facility. Hertel asks the board for permission to talk to the City of Dallas on co-creating the training facility, rather than both Dallas and SW Polk having separate facilities. The Board agrees.</p> <p>Volunteer Report</p> <p>Rosenbalm states the annual disbursement to the volunteers continues to be a point of contention with Administration. He says it has traditionally been done in November, but has been pushed off repeatedly the past couple years. He states the volunteers would like the board to help get back to a scheduled time of disbursement. Watson asks why the disbursement hasn't been done. Hertel states that no time is associated with the disbursement, and the board has granted authority for it to be done at the administration's discretion. He further states it is an operational issue, although the board can override that if they choose. Hertel also states if it would be scheduled, he would suggest sometime in June or March rather than November. Watson asks whether this is a power struggle. Hertel state he does not believe so. Watson asks if the volunteers have no need for the money. Hertel says they do not have the need, they currently have around \$20,000. Rosenbalm states the volunteers are concerned that if they wait, the dollar amount is being treated as an "operational slush fund".</p> <p>Discussion of LOSAP payment being late. Watson states he had hoped</p>

		<p>the Board would not have to get involved and that both sides need to reflect, and he would regret it if the board had to step in.</p> <p>Rosenbalm states they have three new volunteers that are doing well and will be interviewing a fourth new applicant shortly. He states volunteers were not notified of the rescheduled board meeting. He asks if there was any consideration to the board member the association has recommended. Hertel states the attorney has previously suggested not appointing a member until the position has been vacated.</p> <p>Rosenbalm distributes a letter that was voted on by the volunteer association regarding “lack of confidence” in the current administration. He reads the letter out loud. He states he has a commitment from the volunteers to continue to be professional, respond to calls, and respecting the decisions of Chiefs. Watson thanks Rosenbalm and Foster.</p>
Director Comments	Discussion	<p>Sigloh states he is saddened by the situation with volunteers.</p> <p>Watson states the discussion will be tabled but not ignored. He wants a resolution where everyone is amicable. He says the Board could choose a side, but someone is not going to like it.</p> <p>Rosenbalm asks to add one more item. Watson agrees. Rosenbalm states there will be a retirement ceremony in January for those that have resigned.</p>
Meeting Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Upcoming meetings/events:

- Dec. 8th Regular Meeting

Board packet and handouts included:

- October 20th Minutes
- October Financials
- Budget Resolutions
- Chief’s Report