

Columbia River Fire & Rescue
Special Meeting of the Boards of Directors
58577 McNulty Way, St. Helens
Or
Virtually via GoToMeeting and phone-in access
October 27, 2020 6:30 pm

Special Meeting: After due and legal notice the Special Board meeting of the Columbia River Fire & Rescue Board of Directors was called to order by President Feige at 6:30 pm.

Present: Kim McLane, Hans Feige, Gary Hudson, Mark Kreutzer, Kelly Niles

Absent: None

Others: Chief Smythe, DC Holsey, FD Nelson, RR Motherway, DC O'Connor

Flag Salute: President Feige

Business:

Chief Smythe gave an update on current projects:

2 fire apparatus are expected to be received in January 2021

Water tender 476 is being built at Ranco and is expected to be received in January 2021

The Type VI chassis is at joint maintenance and being built in-house

Fern Hill bids for refurbishment and security are being collected. Insurance reimbursement for damages has been received.

St. Helens remodel will begin on November 2nd.

The class A burn prop has been installed and will be ready for training soon

Outstanding Fire Marshal files have not been received yet

Fire Marshal interviews will take place in November

Division Chief of Administration job description is being created

Each division will present information to the Board. Questions will be taken after all presentations are completed.

Chief Holsey presented detailed information on EMS responses, EMS only utilization, call volume and quality improvement.

Chief O'Connor walked through the training programs he is creating for new staff and promotional opportunities, and the volunteer recruitment calendar. He is working with DPSST to obtain missing certificates and required documents.

R&R Motherway presented information on volunteer interaction, scene photos and other public relations opportunities. She discussed the volunteer expansion provided by two SAFER grants the District has been awarded.

Chief Smythe presented information regarding District facilities and vehicles. Included were costs associated with building maintenance and apparatus replacement over the coming years.

The Board took a break at 7:30 pm.

The Board came back into session at 7:35 pm.

Chief Smythe presented information on staff time on task and down time for training, public education, safety, etc.

FD Nelson provided summary information from 2010-current and a two year projection of overall revenue and expenses. There was information on tax assessments, FTE's, ambulance revenue and other financial indicators.

Chief Smythe concluded with praise for the line staff, volunteers and administrative staff working together. He outlined next steps for the Board including mission, vision and values; standards of cover; strategic plan and Board goals. He opened the floor for questions.

EMS: There was discussion about the relationships with local clinics and communication; EMS training standards; Community Paramedic and alternate funding sources and ASA

Training: There was discussion about the internal structure of the training program, rosters and the potential liability of not maintaining training. Chief O'Connor is working with the District's DPSST Liaison Officer closely.

Volunteers: Recruitment goal is 10 for the academy, minimum is 8. The SAFER grants will help the District fund a residential program at our rural stations and stipends.

Apparatus/Facilities: There was discussion about the need for future expansion, where a ladder truck could be housed and additional personnel. Facilities are maxed out for sleeping quarters. The District will have a hard time adding more apparatus or personnel in existing facilities. It was suggested to reach out to PSU graduate school to conduct a study.

Finance/Staffing: There was discussion about OSHA studying the safety of the 48/96 schedule and fatigue.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.