

Seal Rock Rural Fire Protection District

Regular Monthly Board Meeting – May 18, 2023

Call to Order: 1700 hrs/5:00 pm

Roll Call: All directors in attendance.

Others: Chief Ewing, Lisa Welch, Lynda Engle, Jeremy Garbina, Russ Harley

Guest Input: None

Agenda: Previous month's minutes and the agenda were approved by the Board

REPORTS:

3.1 Financial Report:

Motion to transfer \$43,998.00 from General Local Gov't Investment Pool account to General Bank Account to pay bills/payroll. Motion made by Director Rimola and 2nd by Director Smith. Passed unanimous.

A reminder that next week is the Budget Committee meeting, on May 25,th at 6:00pm. To be held at the Seal Rock Main station.

- New policies are being created for bill paying so that fewer double payments are made. Such as: only paying from invoices, (not statements), going to purchase orders for most things bought and logging our ACH payments. We will be talking to Tom Wilson's Accounting team about all of this in the near future.
- **Motion made by Rimola to send the remaining LOSAP monies to members in good standing, the final amount of \$60 each from that account. Passed**

3.2 Chief's Report:

Chief's report went over the runs/activities for April plus roster changes(6 new volunteers), training, maintenance on trucks and buildings. One of the new volunteers is Jeff Mathia from PWA. He is offering great medical training and is a true asset for our District. For medical response this now gives us 3 paramedics; 9 EMT's; 5 EMR's and for Fire we have 11 volunteer persons at FF1 level training.

The engine we bought from Vale is slowly being outfitted but any upgrades or repairs will wait until after July 1st. Skip said he'd like us to make a big deal about it to the community when it's ready; get pictures on the website and possibly have an open house so people can see it.

There are vehicles that need tire replacement and Chief is evaluating which ones he will replace first, a priority list.

We are working with an engineering firm to evaluate the Bayshore station about potentially pursuing a seismic retrofit grant for that station.

Chief is working on the political side of funding for small districts, hoping for state and Federal funding to assist smaller districts

The next fiscal year budget is being fine-tuned. Because we are still playing catch-up, our needs outmatch our revenue but we will make it work. Getting the grants we are applying for will help (Gary Sinise grant for PPE, for example).

There was a discussion about changing dispatch services and what our options might be in that regard. Toledo and Lincoln City dispatch were mentioned.

3.3 Volunteer Report:

Jeremy Garbina, President of SLER(South Lincoln Emergency Responders) gave a brief report for the volunteers. He commented on how well they are all working together, how busy the last weekend was during the 90+ degree weather, and their response by 5 to the fire in COCFD district on the weekend.

4.1-3 After much discussion around the subject of the Chief's evaluation, when it should be, how often, etc. it was brought to the Board's attention by Director Burt what the current Board policy and the Chief's contract said about his evaluation . He reported that paragraph one of the current contract states that "September of 2023 will be the date set for discussion of a new contract." Section 4 of the current contract requires a performance evaluation of the Fire Chief. The current calendar calls for the Evaluation to occur in April, it also shows an evaluation in July. Further, Board Policy 14.3 calls for the evaluation of the Fire Chief to include in put from the volunteer Association. The Board's public duty is to ensure satisfactory performance by all the staff.

This was followed up with his motion:

“I move the SRFD Board revise the Board calendar and Board Policy to reflect a Fire Chief Performance Evaluation to be conducted in August of each year. The format, schedule and details for the evaluation to be completed by 7-31-2023. The monthly Chief Report to coincide with goals/accomplishments incorporated into the evaluation program” Motion by Mike Burt. Passed unanimously

Rimola’s evaluation for the financial portion is completed already. Director Burt will still cover the operational aspects and Director Smith will cover administration duties.

Chief Ewing suggested that an addendum to the current policy could be done, and that the evaluation should start with the Chief’s weaknesses of his job.

5. No New Business

Board Member Comments:

Director Kowalski commented that the Chief’s emails to the board each month are much appreciated and maybe could be edited to put out to the public via our website as they are a current update of what is going on and what he’s doing.

Director Pelligrinelli also commented that the Chief should not hesitate to ask his Board members for their input, as his job is huge, with lots of moving parts and they are there for him.

Director Smith commented that when he walks into the office for the Board Meeting that he always feels like they work as a team, with Chief Ewing as the coach. He feels they are working well together.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kowalski, second by Pelligrinelli.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:45

