

Lowell Rural Fire Protection District
Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors – June 10, 2020

Call to Order – At 1902 by Director J. Prenevost

Roll Call – Chief Dragt, Director B. Burr, Director J. Walker, Director M. Ballenger, Ron Ballenger, Director J. Myers. Director J. Prenevost, Ron Ballenger and Lloyd Hall

Closed Board Meeting – For public hearing regarding the 2020/2021 Budget at 1903

Open Public Hearing – 1904 – Public Comment None.

Public Hearing Closed - 1904

Additions to Agenda – None

Comments from the Floor – None

Approval of May 13, 2020 Minutes – Director J. Walker made the motion to approve the minutes. Director M. Ballenger seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion Passed.

Correspondence – Received an email on the new engine, still tasked for August 4 finish date. Pictures to follow.

Unfinished Business – None

Treasurers Report – We should be sitting at 91%. We budgeted our income at \$463,082 we have received \$492,553 plus another \$10,000 that came in today. We are on mark with our budget. Several line items may be a little over but over budget is within. We have had an increase in power bills with the full-time employees and volunteers here more. Materials and Services are sitting at 88.1%.

Director J, Walker made the motion to pay the bills. Director B, Burr seconded. Motion passed.

New Business – Resolution 2020-1 Resolution to adopt 2020/2021 Budget. Director J. Walker moved to adopt Resolution 2020 – 1. Director J. Myers seconded. Motion Passed.

Resolution 2020 – 2 for transferring funds to the reserve fund – It was recommended by Chief Dragt that we should hold off on this transfer due to COVID 19 coming up and funds being a little short. Director J. Walker moved to not accept the Resolution for transfer of funds. Director J, Myers.

Master Plan – We discussed the rewriting of the Master Plan. I am looking to the Board for Direction on how to proceed. Board asked to bring info from staff to next meeting to look at goals to set.

Training – June 1st we started an EMR class with 7 of the volunteers going through. This is slated to be complete first week of August. This is Monday and

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Wednesday 9 – 1. Started this week with some shore operation Training. Hoping for another Fire Academy in September or October.

Chiefs Update – Calls for the month 20. 12 Medical, 6 MVA in District and 1 Out, 1 in District was a car fire up Big Fall Creek at mile post 5. I have going rounds with Dispatch for their billing. We (the Chiefs) are questioning the billing. They are providing inaccurate numbers. This year we were supposed to change to a simple billing that should have had our cost around 15,000, instead we took a 19.3% increase from last year to 25,000. They stated that we had 483 calls. We had 299 in Lowell and 123 mutual aid call and about 63 Chief responses that we should not have been charged for. We are looking at an RFP with South Lane Fire to contract with Cottage Grove. We recently had a Facebook post from a Volunteer that upset some people. I have had conversation with many people about what they put on Facebook. It was nothing stated that it represented Lowell Public perceives that we have a bad culture if we allow people to volunteer with us that may say something that offends them. SDAO is working on any avenues that we can follow for any possible disciplinary actions. We have had a Chief in Lane County that is under Fire due to something that he posted on his personal Facebook page. It has been 1 year since we started our Full-time employees we have budgeted for an increase. As of July 1, minimum wage is \$12.00 an hour for employees working 2080 a year. Our guys work 2928 straight hours and 342 overtime hours. When we compare the hours, they are comparatively making \$11.53 an hour. This would take them to approximately \$41,000 a year. By law we have to make sure that they are making at least \$12.00 hr. Director J. Walker made the motion to bring the pay to \$12.00 an hr. Director J. Myers seconded the motion. Motion passed We added a compression amount between the firefighters and the Chief in order to keep compression separation. Director B. Burr made the motion to increase Nathan Browns wage not to exceed \$46,000 a year. Director J. Walker seconded the motion. Motion passed 3 yea and 1 nay. Discussion around Chiefs wage with compression. Chief Dragt explains that we have money budgeted but it doesn't mean that that is what the pay has to be set at. Director M. Ballenger made the motion for the Chief to be payed \$78,000 a year. Director B. Burr seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Board Comments – Director J. Prenevost shared that he had someone from the public that had come to him to share that they felt the District was doing a great job when responding on a call for service.

Next Meeting July 8, 2020

Adjourned – 1958

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X

Board President

X

Board Vice President

X

Board Secretary/Treasurer

X

Board Director

X

Board Director