

Minutes of CRFPD Special Board Meeting

December 11, 2023

Attending Board Members: Bob Conder (Chair), Alex Polikoff (Secretary), Tony O'Donahue (Treasurer), Heidi Hagler (Vice-Chair), John Taylor

Corvallis Fire Department (CFD) – Chief Ben Janes, Deputy Chief Fulsher

1. There being a quorum present, the Special Meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by the Chair.
2. Introductions and Public Comments – Joe Heaney (former Road District manager) and Randy Hereford (Starker Forest CEO) attended. Heaney spoke in advocacy of Firewise programs. It was also stated that ODF grants are available toward Firewise programs, and there might be more resources available locally with support from Benton County and CFD.
3. Approval of the Board Duties and Responsibilities Policy Manual – Hagler moved to approve and Polikoff 2nd, and the motion passes with unanimous consent. Taylor and Polikoff submitted signed copies of the manual for filing.
4. Review of our Audit's Action Plan – This was accepted by the Board and signed by Conder.
5. Strategic Planning Discussion – Conder started with a review of the CRFPD mission statement. This was followed by a discussion of long-term strategy vs. operational concerns, with O'Donahue emphasizing the availability of home insurance for District members and ISO ratings. It was noted that more information on ISO ratings is needed. The possibility of going back to the old model of CFD taking over responsibility for CRFPD was discussed, as was the possibility of bringing in other rural Districts. Chief Janes said he will provide further insight. The Board agreed that starting our own Fire Department as well as establishing a County-wide Fire Department are not feasible options. The cost of staffing Station 5 was discussed. Janes then reviewed challenges associated with the current RRV model and discussed potential staffing and funding issues the district will face and the possible need for a levy in the future. Chief Janes reported that State funding has increased with respect to fire resources available to local departments. Janes stated that the current/planned apparatus for the District is much appreciated and will serve the District well. With respect to potential future outlays for the Capital Reserve Fund, Deputy Chief Fulsher states the District might perform a seismic assessment on Locke Station. He also mentioned well pump and parking lot drainage as potential future expenses to be addressed. A discussion on disaster staffing of Locke followed. Next, the four options outlined in the CFD-suggested staffing proposal for Locke Station was discussed. Polikoff then asked Chief Janes for call-out data from Locke to aid the Board in making a decision with respect to the staffing proposal. Hagler asked

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about the potential for increasing the contract payment versus paying for additional staffing out of the Capital Reserve or General Fund.

6. Set Time and Date for next Meeting – This was set for January 31st at 6:00 PM at Locke Station.
7. There being no further business to conduct, Hagler moved to Adjourn the Special Meeting and Polikoff seconded. The Special Meeting was closed by the Chair at 2:06 PM by unanimous consent.