

AURORA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 7 pm

Station 900 Aurora, Oregon & via Video Conference

ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fire Chief Joshua Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Daroll Nicholson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Greg Leo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Fred Hartley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Bobby Meyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Paul Ranta
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Admin Assistant Emily Murphy

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Director Greg Leo once everyone had a chance to login to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and roll call performed. All were present via video conference.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA – Chief Williams stated he would add something later.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Director Meyer to approve the consent agenda and minutes for the month of March. The motion was seconded by Director Hartley and unanimously approved.

DISTRICT 63 FIREFIGHTERS REPORT (*Firefighter President*) – Not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT / CORRESPONDENCE AND/OR QUESTIONS – None.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS – All reports included in Board Packets, except Fire Chief's.

- Fire Chief Report (verbal) – Chief Williams stated that it's been a slow month operationally, most likely due to less people out and about since the Oregon Governor (Kate Brown) issued a 'Stay at Home' order and closed all bars, restaurants, movie theaters, gyms and encouraged social distancing to avoid spreading the coronavirus.
- Operations Report – No questions
- Fire Marshal Report – No questions
- Training Report – No questions
- Volunteer Coordinator Report – No questions

OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion on two check signers** – At the previous BOD meeting last month, it was suggested that AFD move to only requiring one check signer (instead of two) in order to limit exposure for everyone involved during the coronavirus pandemic emergency.

Motion called for by Director Meyer to adopt the temporary policy of requiring only one check signer for Columbia Bank as presented until crisis is over. Seconded by Director Ranta. All were in favor, passed unanimously.

- **Tabled motion to accept SDAO Study** – Chief Williams stated that this has been pushed down due to other current pressing issues (COVID-19 pandemic). The other boards are interested in moving forward with a combined meeting, once things settle.

Motion called for by Director Meyer to accept receipt of the SDAO Study Report as presented. Seconded by Director Nicholson. All were In favor, passed unanimously.

Director Meyer asked to check with Chief Williams that Chief will confirm the receiving of report to the other districts. Chief said the next step will most likely be a resolution that will be consistent with the other districts, and which will include talking in a more formal way. He also indicated that the approved motion tonight to receive the report is more symbolic than anything. More to come several months down the road.

- **Budget Meeting** – Chief stated that the whole process is going to be a little difficult due to issues with public access and the current coronavirus situation. Information may have to be provided to the public through different means – website, social media, email for example. Since most board members are working from home or have a flexible schedule, any time would be acceptable. The concern is for the citizens. Director Ranta suggested a screen outside with information, weather permitting. Or perhaps consider a space large enough to practice appropriate distancing but still be able to access the information presented for the budget process.

Chief wanted to make sure that Aurora Station be the location for access [if necessary] due to already being set up with technology. The budget will already have been submitted to the public through the press release, so there is no concern about public having access to it. We will continue to explore options for public to share their input. Director Nicholson asked a question regarding choosing the chair for the Budget Committee, and President Leo confirmed that the chair will be elected at the meeting, and is not assigned by the board.

NEW BUSINESS

- **COVID-19 update and response** – Chief Williams stated that we are still dealing with modified responses to calls, and also stated that AFD has an adequate supply of PPE. Call volume has dropped significantly, and no one comes into the station without having temperature taken. He continues to get updates from the County. Also mentioned that fire weather is coming, for which we are prepared and ready.

Director Hartley wanted to know if the staff were all still 'clear' from COVID-19 since one volunteer tested positive. Chief confirmed that everyone wore masks for 2 weeks and all are clear and staying safe.

- **SDAO Call to action letter (Board President)** – Director Greg Leo indicated there has been a Legislative Draft (#26) that would relieve some of the responsibilities of public access during the COVID-19 crisis, and a call to action for Governor Brown to call a special legislative session to address this unprecedented issue. Director Leo asks that the board sign the letter to relieve the district from requiring the public access to meetings. Director Meyer has a concern that if Governor Brown calls a special session, she would include timber unity issue, in which he has a personal interest. There is no assurance that other issues wouldn't be brought up, so Chief was asked to provide input regarding this.

Chief said that we will be okay whether we sign it or not, as we are a small district. Director Leo agreed that we are operating in the spirit of the statute, but the concern is we could be sued if someone determined we were not following the statutes of the State. Chief stated he's not concerned about a lawsuit as we have continued to be transparent and provide all information, and will just have to do so in a different way due to the current situation. Our district also has not had a history of high public participation in budget meetings previously.

Director Ranta suggested the BOD take no action, all agreed. (No motion required)

ADDITION TO AGENDA

- **Surplus** – Chief recommended that the Board make a motion to remove all previously used hydraulic tools and put them into surplus to sell.

Motion called for by Director Meyer to sell all used tools in surplus as presented. Seconded by Director Hartley. Roll call vote – all in favor, passed unanimously.

Additional Comments / Discussion – Director Nicholson asked for a quick update on the Ehlen Rd. project. Chief Williams provided details regarding the road going in and the cost so far. He also offered to do a 'walk through' with the board to see the progress in person within the next month or so.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: **VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

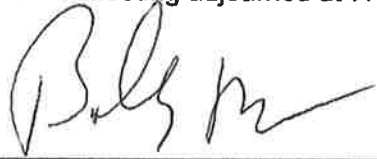
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Time: 7 pm – Directly following the Budget Committee Meeting at 6 pm

Location: Chief will be at Aurora Fire Station and present via Video Conference

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm

Approved: _____

 5/20/20

Bobby Meyer, Board Secretary/Treasurer