

Mosier Fire District Capital Advisory Subcommittee Meeting
Mosier Fire Hall on Washington St.

DATE: April 25, 2014
9:30 a.m.

MEMBERS: Ken Hudson, Pete Wright, Craig Funk
STAFF: Fire Chief Jim Appleton, Recorder Tracie Hornung
Absent: Excused: Public:

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order by Craig Funk at 9:41 a.m.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS – Craig Funk suggested adding a discussion of the "Mosier Apparatus & Station Financial" spreadsheet, which he compiled along with Chief Appleton, to the agenda. Appleton also noted that Agenda Item #4 (Phone conference with David Ulbricht re: financing options) was optional but that he recommended it, and if all agreed to it, that it should be moved up on the agenda. The Subcommittee agreed.

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pete Wright made a motion to approve the March 18, 2014, minutes. Ken Hudson seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

1. "Mosier Apparatus & Station Financial" spreadsheet

Funk handed out the spreadsheet, noting that the financial numbers are not set in stone. He walked the members through the numbers and a discussion followed on the Fire District's debt limit.

2. Phone conference with David Ulbricht re: financing options

Ulbricht, managing director for Robert W. Baird Inc. - Public Finance, was called. The Subcommittee members asked him questions. Appleton suggested that he and Ulbricht get together and look at the District's financial numbers and set up a time for Ulbricht to meet with the Subcommittee. After the call, members discussed the fact that the District has been saving approximately 30% of its budget per year and that Ulbricht said generally a 10% reserve fund is considered financially healthy, so Mosier Fire District is in good shape.

3. Preview of 2014-15 fiscal year budget planning

Discussing the spreadsheet noted above, Wright suggested that in Phase I of the proposed capital spending plan that the Type 5-6 Brush Unit be financed 100% and that the District pay cash for the rest of the apparatus in Phase I. He also suggested that Ulbricht be asked what he thought about that. A discussion followed on how Ulbricht is paid.

4. Board Member Hudson's report from previous Fire District Board meeting

Hudson updated the Subcommittee on the last Board meeting. In response to Wright's question, he said that Board members had not expressed opinions about capital spending issues. Appleton added that the Board had taken part in phone conversations with the Wasco County Assessor and with a financial representative from Special Districts. He noted that both individuals said that interest rates are currently very low which makes it a good time to borrow. Appleton added that he will be looking into how bonds work with the intent of passing that information on to the Board. Wright questioned the idea of a bond issue, adding that the rough estimate of \$800,000 for a new fire station may have to be cut in half, and suggested that volunteer help could reduce building costs.

5. Station development: update on UPRR site

Appleton said he had been interviewed by an Oregonian reporter who told him that, contrary to what UPRR had stated recently, whole trains consisting of volatile crude oil were moving through Mosier. He also discussed the expected increased train traffic through Mosier with the addition of UPRR's proposed second track. He said the risk of a derailment resulting in an explosion combined with the noise of increased train traffic had led him to reconsider siting a new fire station on land near the railroad tracks and to focus on land currently owned by the county near the Lower Rural Fire Station on State Rd. A discussion followed on potential costs and siting issues.

It was agreed that the next Subcommittee meetings will be May 13 and May 27, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2014

Attest:

Craig Funk, Subcommittee Chair

Tracie Hornung, Recorder