

Mosier Fire District Board Meeting
Mosier Fire Hall on Washington St.

DATE: November 14, 2013
7:00 p.m.

BOARD: Ken Hudson, Lee Roy Herman, Vic Hamilton, Darin Molesworth, Glenn Bartholomew
STAFF: Fire Chief Jim Appleton, Recorder Tracie Hornung
Absent: Excused: Public: District Volunteer Marc Berry

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order by Board President Darin Molesworth at 7:02 p.m.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS – Added to the Board packet were a list of bills paid

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE – None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes – October 10, 2013
2. Review/Approve Bills

Board Member Bartholomew made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Board Member Hudson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

1. Apparatus replacement update

Discussion centered on a proposed committee to help the Board come to a resolution of what apparatus, if any, the District should purchase. Chief Appleton suggested it could be an informal committee or else a Board committee that would be required to follow the state's public meetings law. The issue was tabled until the end of the meeting.

2. Update on station development

Chief Appleton referred to the Chief's October Summary regarding a request from the City of Mosier for the District to consider building a new station on four acres the City is trying to buy from Union Pacific. He also noted that he had received a bid from an architectural firm to do a site evaluation of the County yard for possible development of a new District station there. Discussion followed on possible financing options through USDA. Board Member Hudson said he would not be willing to raise the existing Fire District tax because he said the District can do "what we need to do without it." Appleton: "How?" Hudson said the District doesn't need a \$400,000 vehicle. Appleton said he didn't think the community could be served adequately with the existing old vehicles. Hudson: "That's your opinion." Appleton said they may have a difference of opinion and that's why the proposed committee [noted above] would be helpful; to find out what the community thinks. He noted that there are a lot of questions to be answered about locating a new station on the existing UPRR site. Hudson asked Appleton to talk to UP and ask about possible development restrictions, the additional track UP is proposing to build through the City and its intended use, and any information about possible underground toxins at the site. Appleton said he would do some research and for now table the architectural bid letter.

3. Update on ISO reclassification

The information was included in the Chief's October Summary. Chief Appleton added that a lot of work is paying off because recent improvements to the District will most likely result on a grade improvement for the District.

4. Scheduling bill payments

After discussion, it was agreed by unanimous consensus to keep the signing of the bills on the existing schedule.

5. Update on research for less expensive attorney

Board Member Hudson said he hadn't had a chance to look into this issue. He said if he finds out anything new, he will ask for it to be discussed at a later meeting.

6. SAIF insurance for volunteers.

Chief Appleton noted that the District pays approximately \$250 per year per volunteer for Workmen's Comp for six people who are not active responders. He suggested removing a minimum of two people from the insurance policy who no longer volunteer, and possibly four board members who do not respond on a regular basis. Board Member Bartholomew said he thought it was a good investment to keep the Board members on the policy and Molesworth and Hamilton agreed. It was agreed by unanimous consensus that the four board members would remain on the policy and the other two former volunteers mentioned above would be removed.

7. Special Districts insurance renewal

Chief Appleton noted that there were no substantial changes to the policy. On a related subject, he added that there may be a possibility to convert his health insurance to a \$0 premium policy. The Board would have to agree to cover the deductible but the deductible would be less than the cost of the premiums. He said he wasn't sure yet if he qualified but, if so, it would bring down the cost of his insurance by several thousand dollars. He said he will keep the board updated.

8. Return to agenda item #1

Board Member Bartholomew made a motion to create a Board Committee, following the state's public meetings law, to help the Board come to a resolution of what apparatus, if any, the District should purchase. Board Member Hudson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Hudson agreed to be the Board representative. Appleton suggested between now and the next board meeting that he, Hudson, Craig Funk, and Volunteer Pete Wright propose some possible names of people to be on the committee. He noted that he agreed with Funk's previous suggestion that the committee not be too large.

9. Chief's Monthly Summary

The Board reviewed the handout of the Chief's Summary, which includes the actions of the volunteers and duties of the Fire Chief for the month of October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

CORRESPONDENCE – Board Member Bartholomew asked the other Board members if they had any input on a draft letter written regarding a September Board meeting executive session. After receiving input, Bartholomew said he would prepare the letter for Board President Molesworth’s signature and mail the letter.

Recorder Hornung noted that the Board had received an election ballot from Wasco Electric.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2013

Attest:

Board President Darin Molesworth

Tracie Hornung, Recorder