

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

DATE: May 9, 2013
7:00 p.m.

BOARD: Ken Hudson, Lee Roy Herman, Vic Hamilton, Glenn Bartholomew
Budget Advisory Committee: Susan Gabay, Jeanne Reeves, Mark Cherniack
STAFF: Fire Chief Jim Appleton, Recorder Tracie Hornung
Absent: Darin Molesworth Excused: Marc Berry, Budget Committee Public:

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order by Board Secretary Glenn Bartholomew at 7:06 p.m.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS – Added to the Board packet were a list of bills and three revised draft budget pages.

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE – None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes – April 11, 2013
2. Review/Approve Bills

A motion was made by Board Member Hudson to approve the consent agenda as presented. Board Member Herman seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

Bartholomew suspended the Board meeting and opened the **Budget Advisory Committee meeting** at 7:11 p.m. Bartholomew asked for nominations for Budget Advisory Committee Chair and Secretary. Mark Cherniak volunteered for Chairman and Susan Gabay volunteered for secretary.

It was agreed by unanimous consensus that Mark Cherniak would become Chairman and Susan Gabay, secretary.

➤ **Budget Committee review of 2013-2014 proposed Budget**

Budget Advisory Committee Chairman Mark Cherniak brought the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. Cherniak asked if everyone had read the Budget Message and had questions or comments. Chief Appleton, who wrote the message, addressed the issue in the Budget Message regarding the fact that transfers from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund that were to have taken place in the 2011-12 and 2012-13 fiscal years did not occur. The proposed budget includes the total of those budgeted amounts to be transferred, plus additional revenue anticipated by the end of this fiscal year. Hornung distributed revised budget sheets reflecting that and proceeded to review the proposed budget with the committee. She noted that the \$26,000 increase to Contracted Services from the 2012-13 budget was due to expected facilities planning and development expenditures for preparation of an eventual new fire station. There was also discussion about the rates for Workmen's Compensation for volunteers following an audit by SAIF earlier in the year. Appleton noted that premiums increased approximately 25% following the audit, but because the

category was over-budgeted in previous years the amount budgeted in the proposed budget was able to be reduced.

A motion was made by Advisory Committee Member Reeves to approve the budget as presented. Budget Committee Member Cherniak seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

➤ **Public Hearing for tax rate acceptance**

A motion was made by Budget Committee Member Reeves to accept the tax rate levy of \$1.65 per thousand. Budget Committee Member Cherniak seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

There will be a Budget Hearing at the next Board meeting of June 13, 2013, and the public notice for that meeting will be in the newspaper.

Public meeting of the Budget Advisory Committee was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. and the regular Fire District Board meeting was reconvened.

1. Draft policy on vehicle use by Fire District employees

Chief Appleton noted he had asked the District's attorney about an issue brought up Board Member Herman regarding the legality of the District responding to calls if not dispatched. Appleton said the attorney could find nothing that disallowed it. Appleton also noted that he and Board Member Bartholomew had not had time to review the comments made by the attorney about the draft policy on vehicle use by Fire District employees.

It was agreed by unanimous consensus that a vote on the draft be tabled until Appleton and Bartholomew review the attorney's comments.

2. Update on station development

Chief Appleton explained that the proposed site for building a new Mosier Fire District station, the site of the existing rural station on State Road just east of Carroll Road, is within the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area and structural fire stations are not allowed. However, planners say there is a chance it may be allowed because the District also engages in forest fire protection. Appleton added that attaining city water at that site is not an option and that zoning does not allow for creating an additional parcel. Board Member Hudson asked how the station will be paid for. Appleton said architectural estimates will be necessary to establish a budget and once the Board approves any such plans, grant funds could be sought.

3. 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 April.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

CORRESPONDENCE – Hornung read a letter from the Wasco County Clerk noting that there is a good chance that election costs will increase starting next year. However, the Fire District has no elections scheduled for next year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2013

Attest:

Board President Darin Molesworth

Budget Advisory Committee Secretary Susan Gabay

Tracie Hornung, Recorder