

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

DATE: August 11, 2011
7:00 p.m.

BOARD: Glenn Bartholomew, Ken Hudson, James Matthisen, LeeRoy Herman

STAFF: Fire Chief Jim Appleton and Recorder Jean Hadley

Absent: Darin Molesworth Excused: None Also in attendance: Jane Herman & Marc Berry

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board Secretary Glenn Bartholomew at 7:08 p.m. and role was taken. An Oath of Office was administered to James Matthisen immediately.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS – None

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE – None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes July 14, 2011
2. Review/Approve Bills

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

BUSINESS

1. Approval of staff time for Rush Skeleton weeds eradication

Chief Appleton provided a sample of Rush Skeleton weed and explained the growth pattern and its danger/hazard to the environment as an invasive weed and its volatility to erupt in a fire environment. Appleton updated the Board on the eradication and containment efforts of the weed in the area. Appleton has been working with Wasco Co. Weed Master Merle Keyes and limiting most of his hours to personal time. Appleton asked for Board consent to continue this project on a small scale and approve of a little of his time. Appleton said he has learned an amazing amount of information about the district through doing this.

Jane Herman was recognized and said she did not vote in favor of a fire district in order to have the Chief do work identifying weeds and blackberries for fuel reduction or weed abatement. Herman said there are agencies responsible for this work and this is also a property owner responsibility, not the Fire District. Fuel reduction and/or weed abatement should be left to the USFS who should be doing the wildland areas. Herman voiced her opinion on what the Chief could better spend his time doing for the taxing district. Chief Appleton explained what steps he has taken to change City code regarding his responsibility to the City for weed abatement and notice of hazardous materials. Hadley said the City, having a dense population; different than the rural area had rules established when the City was in charge of the Fire Department. Glenn Bartholomew thanked Herman for her input and felt it started some conversation about what the Fire Chief could/should be doing.

Chief Appleton felt his role is a strategic planning role with responsibilities to help all homeowners recognize what abatement they could take to protect themselves.

Matthisen felt it was important to set priorities and prioritization of tasks for the Fire Chief. Matthisen felt he needed more information about what other districts do with regard to job duties of a Chief for hazard abatement and fuel reduction. Matthisen felt there should always be an emphasis on prevention; the issue should be tabled and needed more discussion.

Unanimous consensus of Board members present agreed to table the discussion and continue it with more information of priorities and prioritization of tasks expected for the Chief.

2. Monthly Chief work summary

The Board reviewed the document explaining what accomplishments had occurred during the past month by the Chief and the volunteers. Appleton said there was quite a bit of work done for compliance and standards. Appleton spoke about his time spent attending Incident Command series classes in Oregon City. The RFP for the Turn-outs Grant is out and Charles worked hard to get that done. Appleton spoke about the ISO rating and what is being done, could be done, or needing to be done, to improve that rating in all areas. Appleton reported that he received the credit cards for the district and asked what to do with the ones with Board members' names on them. **The Board unanimously agreed to have the other cards destroyed. Appleton should be the only one with a card.**

3. Long range planning – New Station? – Apparatus?

Appleton provided a picture of a Fire Truck he felt was needed by the Department and the FEMA Grant which is available could help with the cost of the truck. Appleton explained to the Board about a letter to the County Commission which is one of the first steps and is necessary in order to move toward gaining permission to build a station on County property.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

CORRESPONDENCE –

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Approved this 8th day of September, 2011

Attest:

Board President Darin Molesworth

Jean M. Hadley, Recorder