

# Mosier Fire District Board Meeting

## Thursday, December 10th, 2020 at 6:00pm

### MINUTES

Board present: Evans, Reed, Fisher, Reeves. Excused absences: Ayers

Volunteers present: McNall. Kemper (taking Minutes)

Public: no public present

**Call to Order 18:05 by Evans**

**Agenda additions or corrections**

**Comments from the public**

**Consent Agenda**

- Approve Minutes from November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Board Meeting
- Approve Minutes from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Supplemental Budget Meeting
- Review and approve bills for payment

Motion to approve the consent agenda. Evans moved, Rubin 2nded, all in favor

**Business:**

1. Update on part-time employee – Chief Renault: Maggie Goter was picked. Bookkeeper working to get her on payroll. McNall asked if the letter of intent included benefits. Renault says that it will not be PERS because paying in with someone who doesn't stay as an employee. McNall states that we need to spend that money and suggests upspending the benefit.
2. SAFER Grant Update (copy of grant included in this month's Board Package) – Chief Renault: Goter has been given access to records to determine ways to use the funds for recruiting and retention.
3. Update on purchase of Alternate Water Supply – Chief Renault: sales rep not in the office at the moment, Pump is ready to be picked up next week, as is the squad. Fisher offered to pick it up with his truck.
4. Chief's Report – Chief Renault: Chief asked if there were questions on the Chief Report he submitted (see below). Reeves asked what happens if we are unstaffed for a call (triggered by the report that we were unstaffed for a 4 am last month). Chief said this is the only the second time in his 4 years that a call wasn't staffed, and that for an all-volunteer agency, we are doing better than many. Our Ambulance Service area is served by Hood River. If they're not available, Hood River would discharge MCFR for the response. Altogether, we have Mutual Aid from multiple places to respond to those calls. If there were a structure fire, a task force from Hood River would be dispatched. Wasco County has new dispatchers and there are some difficulties until they settle in. For the Mosier Creek fire, we even had resources from Multnomah County. Renault said that this time it happened because of limited response due to deer/elk season (volunteers were hunting) and Covid- if they get sick here, they can't work their regular jobs.
5. Volunteer Report: two new volunteers (Breckterfield & Kelly) started, background checks done, Covid is delaying fingerprints. Breckterfield is already enrolled in EMT. Kelly is new to the area. We are now at 17 volunteers.

6. Committee Reports
7. Correspondence: SDAO annual conference in February will be virtual and free.
8. New topic, not on agenda: LifePack: allotted 25K for the LP15. Even fully equipped, we came in under that. Renault would like to buy more medical equipment: Powered suction units, as we currently only have manual ones. Would be using the same batteries as other equipment. Money was already allotted; it's durable medical equipment.

**Adjournment** 18:40 adjourned by Evans.

## **Chief and Operations Report as of 12/01/2020**

### **Training/Drills November**

2nd: 6 of 16 in attendance

- Apparatus and Equipment checks

9th: 4 of 16 in attendance

- Life Pak 15 Familiarization

After the 9<sup>th</sup> is when the State went into lockdown again for the COVID virus. So all training after the 9<sup>th</sup> is all computer and or EMT certification courses. Currently we have completed 76 hours of training over the last month. With new COVID issues that have come down the pipe its harder for us to complete training. So a majority of the training is going to be through Target Solutions and any other classes I set up for individuals. Some still need to complete their S130-190 wildland classes that is completed online so with them completing that class it will help us come next fire season. I have also curtailed group training at the station until the first of the year. However if individuals need specific training: i.e drivers training on apparatus we are completing that training as a one on one to help get checked off on the apparatus.

### **Monthly Runs:**

12 Calls for service (CFS) to include the following:

- 4 EMS
- 1 Fire: Vehicle
- 1 Misc: No action taken
- 4 Motor Vehicle Crashes (MVC's)
- 1 Cover / Move up
- 1 No response from the district

Current Runs as of 11/30/2020: **167**  
Call volume same time 2019: **116**  
Call volume same time 2018: **110**  
Average Time from Dispatch to on scene: 12.3  
Average responders on calls: 3.1

We are still seeing an increase in calls. We are up by 51 calls collectively then last year. I think it is because all calls for service (CFS) are being captured more closely. Along with a busier than normal fire season. Even though the numbers are astronomical high for this year the fire season from June 1<sup>st</sup> till September 31<sup>st</sup> we have had an increase of 21 CFS for fire /smoke investigations. The numbers are not counting structure fires as they were in Hood River County in that time frame. Whether it is a dispatch and cancelled, public assist to and actual show-up for and incident. I.e: Fire and or EMS call where action is taken. Even with the auto aid and mutual aid that hasn't really increased the call volume or number of runs. Looking back at history we have about a increase in CFS from 6.25 calls per month in 2012 to 15.1 calls as of November 30<sup>th</sup>. If I guess that we will run 10 calls in December as we did last year we would be looking at 10.75 calls per month as the average. from what I can find from 2012 to 2016. Following trends, we can round up to an increase of 9 calls a year as of today. So, we are seeing an upward trend of calls.

The average number of responders is down by 1 person on the average due to a couple of issues: **1** Hunting season is the majority of November and the end of October. **2**. Responders on the injured list and unable to respond. **3**. Because of COVID we are seeing a downward trend of responders responding as we don't want to see anyone getting sick with COVID as with a majority of their jobs away from the district they are essential employees where they work at.

### **Firefighter / EMS and local training**

- The EMT-A/I class is ongoing with some hiccups due to COVID
- NFPA Fire Office 1 course is still in need of a practical portion for Captains Young and Oswald.
- NFPA Firefighter 2 testing is on hold due to COVID

### **Members:**

- We have added two new members to the ranks of firefighter trainee: The first is Julie Breckterfield. She is a local resident and is currently enrolled in the EMT program at CGCC. The second one is Aimon Kelly who is new to the area and wants to help the community and work on fire training. Both individuals are currently in the pipeline for fingerprints and DPSST paperwork. That brings our numbers up to **17** volunteers.

### **Operations:**

- We have been with the Mid-Columbia Fire Prevention Co-Operative. This is a venture that spans two (2) states and six (6) county's along with numerous local, state and federal fire agencies. Our District helps with the team teaching that happens in the spring along with participating and assisting with drills at the school. Last year (2019) we provided fire safety for 141 students and 14 staff members. This year team teaching and Fire Safety week was a lot harder to go forth with due to COVID. We are looking at doing some fire prevention videos for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders to help push out some fire prevention messages.
- Worked on maintenance of heating equipment and stations prep for winter. Had Mid-Columbia Propane come and service the heater at Station 12. Station 11 heater was replaced last year. Station 13 heater seems to be in working order. Also have a contract plow that will plow Station 12 and 13 when snow is over 6 inches during the winter months.
- Starting the yearly Life Flight applications for everyone.
- Also working on the end of the year report.

### **PPE –Personnel Protective Equipment and Equipment:**

- All of the Engines are now for the most part identical on equipment. We have some small items that need to get and to change up. All the Nozzles are new and the same style for the cross lays which help with both training and operations.
- All our equipment seems to be in great working order. We have some day to day maintenance issues that are ongoing
- CESSCO equipment has the pump completed and the check is on its way to them for the pump. YAY!!!!
- Squad 12 should be completed the first part of December and will back in district ready to go.
- As for PPE with the COVID Pandemic, we are still strong in our stock of PPE. Everyone has an N-95 mask and eye protection. Along with we have spares in each responding medical unit Some fire apparatus has surgical masks available if the responder forgot their PPE. The plan for EMS response is basically, only one (1) responder should enter and make contact with the patient and decide if more people are needed to assist. Or have the patient meet the crew outside to help limit exposure. We are on an allotment of what we can get for PPE. For example, we can only get one (1) box of gloves a month through our supplier. This is just not for us other agencies can only get three (3) boxes per month. With that we are still good on gloves. Ans we are doing fine on masks. We also have gowns and onesie's that we can wear in residence.
- Last big ticket items is 3 portable pumps for the tenders and engines and after that all the apparatus will have a portable pump.

Submitted respectfully

Michial Renault, Fire Chief