

Mosier Fire District Board Meeting

Thursday, January 14th, 2021 at 6:00pm

MINUTES

Board present: Evans, Rubin, Fisher, Reeves

Ayers joined 18:46

Volunteers present: Captain Oswald

Minutes by Volunteer Kemper

Public: no public present

Call to Order by Evans 18:05

Agenda additions or corrections

Comments from the public

Consent Agenda

- Approve Minutes from December 10th, 2020 Board Meeting
- Review and approve bills for payment

Motion to approve the consent agenda. By Evans. Reeves 2nded, All in favor

Business:

1. Update on Covid Vaccinations – Chief Renault. As of January 1st, secured 8 vaccinations for volunteers. Some volunteers will be getting vaccinations through their other agencies. A couple of people opted not to get vaccinations at this time.
2. Update on part-time employee – Chief Renault. Maggie Goter was hired to fill the position, it's been a month now. Web Portal to get grant report and reimbursements done. Has been to office 2-3 times to go over training records to see where we can get money back. Mr. Appleton's name is still appearing on some of the things of the grant. Chief has been working on SAM (government portal) for both FEMA grant and contract work for forest service. Will reallocate some of the money/funding for grant. Can't get an extension for the grant until we're 120 days out. It's possible we can get an extension due to Covid. She is developing training materials for volunteers, fixing/correcting website, working with newest volunteers. Once they are declared fit for duty, they will be cleared to purchase gear. Rubin asked if there are background checks. Renault does one first, and then there is a second one with the fingerprints. EMTs and EMRs, if out of Oregon for more than 60 day, they are required to be fingerprinted again.
3. SAFER Grant Update – Chief Renault. See above (items 2 and 3 were together)
4. Update on purchase of Alternate Water Supply – Chief Renault. New green trailer by the county site is our new trailer. It's insured. Captain Oswald will be procuring a hitch lock. In March, will try it out at the Rowena boat ramp. Get some reporters there.
5. Chief's Report – Chief Renault. Below. We were low on training hours, down to 32. Computer training isn't as popular. December was the quietest month of the year. 173 call for service for the year. Last year was 129. The year before that 110. Chief anticipates 157 calls this year. Evans asked about average time to dispatch to time on scene, 18 minutes. Time went up a little bit, the problem is getting manpower out the door and on the road. Don't

like to send response with one person. Average responders per call dropped. Hopefully after the vaccinations, people will be more apt to come on calls. EMT intermediate class is still going on; hoping to do labs on Saturday, but college is still closed. Firefighting academies are on hold due to Covid. UP equipment budget purchased new fire helmets which will be distributed in the next couple of weeks. Squad 12 has returned from the shop after 4 months.

6. Volunteer Report: Oswald said they ordered new jackets. Purchases 2 AEDs that will be put into the community. One for Mosier Market, one for Senior Center. Hoping to get the local media to cover it.
7. Committee Reports
8. Correspondence: a couple of holiday cards from vendors.
9. Executive session pursuant to ORS 192.610(I) "To review and evaluate the employment related performance of the Chief executive officer of any public body"

1852 - Closed public meeting.

1853 - Open executive session pursuant to ORS 192.610(I) "To review and evaluate the employment related performance of the Chief executive officer of any public body"

1918 - Closed executive session

1919 - Open public session. Board votes to give Chief Renault a 5% merit based increase to his annual wage beginning with 2021 budget.

1920 - Close public meeting.

Adjournment

Chief and Operations Report as of 01/01/2021

Training/Drills December

Currently we have completed 32 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. The classes are only an hour long or so that is why the low training hours. 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. We are continuing to curtail group training at the station until the first of February. Hopefully after the first we can start getting back into a kind of new normal. We have enough space to spread people out at three stations to do some training and cleaning after the fact. However as in past months the responders for the district have been reminded if they 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:

- 6 Calls for service (CFS) to include the following:
- 2 EMS
- 1 Fire: Vehicle

- 1 Dispatched and Cancelled
- 1 Motor Vehicle Crashes (MVC's)
- 1 Smoke Detector Alarm (Commercial)

Current Runs as of 12/31/2020: **173**

Call volume same time 2019: **129**

Call volume same time 2018: **110**

Average Time from Dispatch to on scene: 18.52

Average responders on calls: 2

We are still seeing an increase in calls. We are up by 44 calls collectively then last year. I think it is because all calls for service (CFS) are being captured more closely. From what I can find from 2012 to 2016. Following trends, we can round up to an increase of 10 calls a year as of today. So, we are seeing an upward trend of calls. I have an anticipated with the anomaly of this year and the CFS last year along with dividing the calls we could be looking at 157 calls for 2021. Its hard to predict how many CFS we get each year but with the busy season of 2020 this is a rough estimate which can help in planning what the minimum call that a volunteer would have to hit in order to be classified as an active volunteer. With following up on what OSFM is showing for the county as a whole for calls for service. As of December on the first run for documented calls for service Mosier Fire District it the second busiest district in County. The only caveat is how closely the other districts are logging calls for service.

The average number of responders is down by 1.3 person on the average due to the COVID Pandemic. Because of COVID we are seeing a downward trend of responders responding as we do not want to see anyone getting sick with COVID as with most of their jobs away from the district are classified as 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
- Working on assigning online courses for recert for the EMT's that was passed down from the OHA

Members:

- We are looking at the possibility of four new members.

Operations:

- The District has begun the first rounds of the Moderna COVID 19 Vaccination. Out of 18 members, 8 have been vaccinated, 6 will be receiving the vaccination from their regular agency and 4 have not decided yet. We know there is still some concerns of the vacation

and people want to see what kind of reactions occur before the receiving the vaccinations. We will be following the vaccinations closely as the 8 will need the second vacation at the end of January. As with all vaccinations any responder that decides they want the vaccinations we will make sure it will be available.

- The District has been working with County Emergency Management and the Chamber to help distribute PPE and cleaning supplies to the local business in the area.
- We have continuing working 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. We are looking at assisting with some local videos for the schools to push out the spring safety message.
- Completed the yearly Life Flight applications for everyone that had turned in an application
- Still working on the end of the year report and compiling some more data
- Issued 142 Burning permits for 2020
- Working on finishing the agreement with The Columbia Gorge Nation Scenic area. We have been fighting the SAM issue. Which affects how we get paid by the Federal Government. It should be corrected within the first of January.

PPE –Personnel Protective Equipment and Equipment:

- We have received the two new power suction units and that have been placed in service.
- All our equipment seems to be in great working order. We have some day-to-day maintenance issues that are ongoing.
- The New PPE Fire Helmets are in. Just waiting on some parts so we can place in service. The helmets were purchased for the members that are active e in the district and most likely perform fire suppression duties. Any new member will be issued the same style of helmet.
- We had ordered new flashlights for the responders that was suppose to arrived in December. However due to COVID and all other hiccups the flashlights won't be here until January. If we order more of the lights, we might look for a better source for the light as the lights were ordered back in October.
- The New responders have been fitted for their new PPE. It will be purchased when they will be cleared to work. They can still respond and issue secondary PPE until such time they are cleared.
- The portable pump from CESSCO equipment has arrived!!! It is currently at Station 12 and when we can get back to in person training, we can do an Inservice with that piece of equipment
- Squad 12 has returned from True North and the repairs have been completed. With the removal of the CAFS system we have increased our ground clearance considerably. So there should be no more damage from hoses and the oil reservoir hitting / scraping leaving station 12 or speed bumps. The removal make it a better rural response unit in areas where roads are not paved. It still has foam available for suppression.

- 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. Dispatch centers are also making sure when they are talking to the caller to ask COVID questions and or exposures of anyone at the call site. Along with asking all parties to mask up prior to our arrival.
- Last big-ticket items are 3 portable pumps for the tenders and engines and after that all the apparatus will have a portable pump. After the pumps are purchased our pumping capabilities will be very versatile. Whether we walk a pump in to a site, draft with the engines or tenders or tow the portable pump we can secure any and I mean any water source.

Submitted respectfully

Michial Renault

Fire Chief