

Mosier Fire District Board Meeting
Thursday, March 11th, 2021 at 6:00pm
Held as a Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

Board present: **Evans, Ayers, Fisher, Reeves, Rubin**

Volunteers present: McNall

Staff present: Captain Renault, Maggie Goter

Minutes taken by Goter

Public: Appleton

Call to Order by Evans at 18:01

Agenda addition: SDAO paperwork discussion: Evans

Comments from the public:

Appleton asks the following: "What is the MFD board's official position on announcing anything relating to the upcoming board election to your own constituents?" See Board Election (below) for discussion. Also has questions about balance sheet for the board. Evans will review balance sheet with Appleton offline.

Consent Agenda

- Approve Minutes from Feb Board Meeting
- Review and approve bills for payment. Ayers: Pacific Power bill asked to clarify Pacific Power bill. Chief Renault clarified that this is fairly normal for winter.

Motion to approve the consent agenda: Ayers moved, Rubin seconded, all in favor

Business:

1. Update on Budget Committee Members – Evans. Wade Root and Kris McNall have confirmed. Susan Gabay was prior member; presumably still available. 2 open slots. Evans will reach out to Joe Sacamano. Renault will reach out to Brian McGeeny.
2. Set Date for Budget Meeting – Evans. Initial gathering of budget committee set for 4/6/21, 6pm.
3. Board Election – Evans. Last day to get on the ballot is next Thurs 3/18. Position #3 (Reeves) is open. Reeves is re-running. Position #2 (Ayers) is open. Ayers is not currently intending to run again. Per Evans, Pete Lawson intends to run. There is no official board position on announcing anything relating to the upcoming board election, although we make sure comply with official noticing requirements. Goter/McNall to post notice of open positions to Facebook, MailChimp, MFD website with link to Wasco Co elections site.
4. Updates on available grants (PSPS, CARES, fire prevention) discussed in February meeting. To be addressed in Chief's Report.
5. Update on Covid Vaccinations – Chief Renault. All volunteers who want vaccinations have received both shots. All new volunteers have completed their first shot and their second shots are scheduled around the 14th. All but 4 vols are getting vaccinated at this time. No adverse reactions reported.

6. SAFER Grant Progress Update and Expense Reimbursements – Chief Renault. Goter is working on a new website, volunteer training manual, financials and reimbursements, and reporting. We have met 100% of our grant-specified recruitment target. We need to get new volunteers fitted for gear.
7. Chief's Report – Chief Renault. See written report. Chief Renault highlighted attendance and grant applications. More than half the department is showing up for trainings with a recent high of 14 out of 22. The written report shows that our average on scene time was slightly higher last month but we had lots of calls on snow/ice days which delayed travel times. We are applying for a Wildland-Urban Interface grant through the OR State Fire Marshall's Office and a Volunteer Fire Assistance grant funded through the OR Department of Forestry as indicated in the Chief's Report. We are also applying for a HAZMAT grant from the State Fire Marshall's office with no match requirement which would fund 2 4-gas monitors, 2 TICs, & 2 infrared thermometers for HAZMAT response. Applications open to anyone on a class 1 railroad or their mutual aid agencies. Total would be approx \$45K worth of equipment and materials at almost no cost to the district. Renault hopes to hear back on all grants by end of April at latest, and on HazMat grant by end of month.

Operations: Wasco County looking to set up Immediate Needs Wildland Task Force to mobilize to fires. Renault has been in contact with Palmer about getting that set up. Cascade Locks Fire has donated two RIT packs to the department at a value of \$7k-10k.

8. Update on SDAO bond discussion with David Albright - Evans. Evans had a conversation with David Albright of SDAO re the possibility of using bond funding to complete the Mosier Center, which may require \$1-1.5 million. Our preference is to ask voters for General Obligation Bond (loan). Albright presented 3 scenarios (\$1, \$1.5, and \$2 mil loans) with individual household payments over a 20 yr repayment period. \$1 mil would require \$40/\$100K assessed. \$1.5 mil requires \$58/100K. \$2 mil: \$78/100K. The average property value in Mosier in the \$225-250K range.

20 years is the most typical repayment period but we could elect for more or less time. SDAO offers guidance re paperwork, election cycle, advertising, bond services after election.

If we move forward, we'd have to do that July/August for Nov ballot. We'd need city, UP numbers before going forward. City received a \$750K grant but that would mostly be for outside, landscaping, not construction itself. Evans expects city to consolidate figures and come up with harder numbers this month.

9. Volunteer Report: No volunteer report.
10. Committee Reports: No committee reports.
11. Correspondence: No correspondence.

Next Month's Board Meeting will be on April 8th.

Adjournment 7:01 pm