**Umatilla County Fire District #1**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**May 19, 2021**

***Present:***

The meeting was called to order at 1902, May 19, 2021, in the meeting room at Station 23, 78760 Westland Road, Hermiston, Oregon by Board President Ric Sherman. Those present included board members Eldon Marcum, Mike Hawman, Bruce Naugher, Spike Piersol, Fire Chief Scott Stanton, Deputy Chief of Administration Jim Forquer, Deputy Chief of Operations Jimmy Davis and Board Clerk Reta Larson.

***Guests:***

None

***Minutes of April 14 Board Meeting:***

Director Marcum moved to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2021 meeting. Director Piersol seconded the motion. Motion passed.

***Financial Report:***

Clerk Larson presented the financial report beginning with the balance sheet. The balance sheet shows a balance of $2,173,548.29 in LGIP, $214,156.01 in Banner Bank with a total balance of $2,388,204.30. This balance is approximately $580,000.00 more than at this same time last year. The next report was the budget. The taxes collected as of the end of April total $4,239,831.88 with taxes for May still not collected. The expected amount from May taxes should be approximately $100,000.00. They should be received any day. The percentage collected is 99.06 percent. With the taxes to be received for May should put the percentage collected at 100 percent. The ambulance revenue collected is at $2,512,511.60. This is 97.76 percent collected of what was budgeted. With two more months left in the budget year, we should exceed that amount budgeted for ambulance revenue. With 83.31 percent total revenue collected and 69.55 percent total expenditures, the budget is on track for what was budgeted. The final report is the bank transaction report. Check number 9638 to Oregon Health Authority for $22,678.84 is a GEMT expense. Check 9662 to Source Inc is for WIFI for the medic units. The total expenses for April is $613,291.43. Director Piersol moved to approve April expenses in the amount of $613,291.43. This was seconded by Director Hawman. Motion passed.

***Chief’s Report:***

See attached report.

***Communications:***

Director Marcum reported that the Fire Fighters Association’s golf tournament will be held over the next weekend. The association raised $3500.00 in golf sponsorships. The association is currently raffling off a half beef with the winning ticket to be drawn on July 4. Tickets are $10.00. The 4th of July celebration is going to be celebrated in Stanfield with all of the past activities including the steak feed and parade.

***Old Business:***

Bond and Campaign: Director Sherman expressed appreciation at the job that PACWest did on the recent bond campaign and fells that the money paid to them was well spent. Chief Stanton the last time he checked the election results it showed 1802 yes votes to 1348 no votes. Chief Stanton feels that PacWest did a good job. There will be a resolution to pass in June for bond issuance in July. This will be for a little over 6 million dollars. The first things to pay off are the debt service which includes the tower and the two engines. Chief Stanton expressed his gratitude for all who helped with the campaign. He expressed the good feeling of knowing that the district has the support of the community. He feels that the real work now begins but feels it is a labor of love. Director Sherman reported that he had received an email from PACWest expressing how much they enjoyed working with everyone involved in the campaign.

New Personnel: There will be a 3-week training academy for the two new hires starting June 1 with shift work beginning the fourth week of June.

Station 25 Agreement: The agreement is complete. The agreement will be short lived as this is one of the debt service expenses that will be paid off with the bond passage. The only thing left of the agreement that will still be in place is the land lease which is $1200.00/year. The one thing that is still not complete is the permit with the State of Oregon that makes the land and improvements tax exempt due to it being a fire station. Chief Stanton will follow-up with the State to determine status of the permit and have an update for next month’s meeting.

***New Business:***

Umatilla Rural Prevention

Contract: The contract has been in effect for approximately 2 years. Chief Stanton feels that we should charge Umatilla Rural more, but Chief Potts’ response to the increase was to just use the services less. Chief Stanton just wants the board’s approval to continue the contract with Umatilla Rural which is for $7800.00 a year. The contract includes Chief Goff doing plan reviews and investigations when needed. The board agreed to continue the contract with Umatilla Rural.

Pilot Rock Fire Chief

Recruitment: The cost for the new fire chief was approved by Pilot Rock’s budget committee last week so the recruitment will move forward. The plan is to have a new Chief hired by October 1. The IGA that we currently have with them is for July, August September only. The Pilot Rock board president expressed an interest in continuing an IGA for mechanic work, investigations, and training with a pay as you go type of agreement. Chief Stanton told him that we would be open to discussing this.

Dispatch fees and

Performance Updates: One of the things included in the new dispatch contract last year was the requirement that UCFD1 be dispatched within 60 seconds 90 percent of the time. The average according to our software is approximately 2.5 minutes. This is based on their CAD times. Benton County dispatch has a goal of dispatching withing 60 seconds and averages around 49 seconds. Umatilla County dispatch cannot identify any one reason for the long dispatch times. Chief Stanton had a good discussion with Sheriff Rowan approximately 6 – 8 weeks ago. We have only paid them for three quarters. Chief Stanton would like the board’s blessing is pressuring Sheriff Rowan to either perform or expect less than the contracted amount due to the performance. Chief Forquer reported that UCFD1 has done a lot of things to try to make things better but does not feel that we are receiving a good return on our investment. Chief Forquer feels that Sheriff Rowan needs to be aware that the possibility of UCFD1 contracting with another agency who can meet the performance requirement is something that UCFD1 will do to provide the service that the community deserves. The board is supportive of Chiefs Stanton and Forquer in pursuing better performance from dispatch including looking at other agencies if necessary.

Fuel Vendor: Heller & Sons has sold to Carson Oil. Christiansen Oil approached Chief Stanton about 4 weeks ago about providing our fueling needs. Chief Stanton would like to pursue fueling options with the different vendors who may provide more services than we have been receiving. The board approves of Chief Stanton looking at some different options for fueling vendors.

**Board Member Comments:**

Director Marcum reminded everyone that the awards banquet is June 5 at 6 pm at McKenzie Park. If anyone would like to attend there is a sign-up sheet posted on the door.

Director Hawman thanked the district for dinner. He also expressed his surprise that the bond passed but is happy to have it pass.

Director Sherman reported that Lt. Studebaker with the Hermiston Police Department had brain surgery two weeks ago and is doing well. Officer Jons had knee surgery and is doing well.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 1957.