EVANS VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT # 6
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of August 13, 2009

1. The meeting was called to Order by Vice Chairman Dennis Feeley at 6:32 P. M.

2. Roll Call: Keith Lynn, Larry Tuttle, Dennis Feeley, Tony Strickland and Chief Bill Fuller were present. Leslie Brooks was absent.

3. Consent of Agenda: It was moved by Keith Lynn and seconded by Tony Strickland that the Agenda be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the July 9, July 13 and August 7, 2009 Board Meetings: It was moved by Tony Strickland and seconded by Keith Lynn that the minutes of the July 9, 2009 Regular Board Meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously. It was moved by Keith Lynn and seconded by Tony Strickland that the minutes for the July 13, 2009 Special Board Meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously. It was moved by Tony Strickland and seconded by Keith Lynn that the minutes for the August 7, 2009 Special Board Meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Financial Report by Jackie Smedegaard. It was moved by Tony Strickland and seconded by Keith Lynn that the Financial Report for July 7 to August 10, 2009 be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Communications: SORC Report: There was no SORC User Board meeting this month. Larry Tuttle read a letter submitted by Jackie Smedegaard in support of Chief Fuller.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Annexation Request: Chief Fuller reported that on August 12, 2009 the Jackson County Commissioners signed the annexation request for the five properties on Ditch Creek Road (off Pleasant Creek Road) which had applied to be annexed to the District. The State of Oregon still has to sign it, however, SORC has been notified and those properties added to our District for purposes of emergency response. Also, State Farm is recognizing them as receiving coverage for insurance purposes.

B. Volunteer Compensation Policy: Chief Fuller received an email back from Richard Brewster, our auditor, regarding the Volunteer Compensation Policy. Brewster recommended volunteer compensation, over and above reimbursable expenses, be reported to the IRS on either Form 1099 (contractor) or W-2 (employee; his preference). Discussion followed about other options, including Section 139B compensation (up to $30/volunteer/month without tax consequences) and reimbursement for driving, wildland fire boots and pants. The consensus of the Board is to go this route with Larry Tuttle and Jackie Smedegaard revising the policy and again submitting it to Richard Brewster for his review.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. New Employee Job Description/Search: Discussion about having a workshop to frame the job description and duties for a new paid employee. A workshop was set for 1:30 P. M. on Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at the Fire Station.
B. Chief’s Performance Evaluation: Discussion about evaluation forms and a meeting to evaluate Chief Fuller. Tony Strickland has found a few new evaluation forms, none of which are particularly remarkable. He will continue searching and report back at the August 18 workshop.

C. Pre-Employment Physical Capability Policy Adoption: Chief Fuller reviewed the Pack/Walk tests for new volunteers. Ron Wilson spearheaded the effort to have some physical capability test for recruits and talked about several volunteers who have already taken the test (all of them passed). Dennis Feeley inquired if Ron and Wayne DeRuyte felt this was a fair evaluation for applicants. Ron thought that it is; Wayne stated that it is a good test for an average person in reasonably good physical condition. General discussion about tests for pre-employment and the need to similarly test existing volunteers periodically. Tony remarked that he was glad to see the District going this way but still has some concerns. Keith Lynn stated that there is no physical test for all situations. Chief Fuller suggested that one or two Board Members attend the Safety Committee meetings. Discussion about pre-employment physicals, costs and value. Larry Tuttle moved to adopt the Pre-Employment Fitness Capability Policy (Sec. 8.81). Tony Strickland seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Wayne DeRuyte proposed the next goal: a fitness capability policy for existing volunteers.

9. Chief’s Report: (see attached)

10. Good of the Order: Bob Dawson read a written statement critical of the handling of Mark Pawlick’s termination. Wayne DeRuyte expressed his concerns about this incident as well. Dennis Feeley suggested that the Board meet with the Volunteers. Several other members of the public commented on the termination matter, both pro and con. Dennis Feeley stated that it is time to move on past the issue of Pawlick’s termination. Dennis announced that there will be a Flu Shot Clinic on October 10, 2009. This will be for the usual seasonal influenza shots and not the H1N1 (Swine) Flu. Tony Strickland announced that there will be ice cream available after the meeting in honor of the recent article in the Grants Pass Courier about his “cat rescue”.

11. Adjournment: Tony Strickland moved that the meeting be adjourned. Keith Lynn seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

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Larry Tuttle
Secretary

Next Regular Meeting: __________________________ September 10, 2009 at 6:30 PM