

EVANS VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT # 6
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of February 12, 2004 (Amended)

1. The meeting was called to Order by Chairman Don Worthington at 6:02 P. M.
2. Roll Call: Present: Dennis Feeley, Don Worthington, Greg Worthington, Larry Tuttle, Ron Mailho and Chief Bill Fuller. 60 to 70 firefighters and members of the community were also present.
3. Moment of Silence
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Consent of Agenda: Motion to accept the agenda was made by Greg Worthington and seconded by Dennis Feeley. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Approval of the Minutes for Regular Meeting of December 11, 2003. It was moved by Dennis Feeley and seconded by Ron Mailho that the Minutes be approved with a correction (Item 9 C to include "The Chief will contact the Budget Committee Members). The motion carried unanimously.
7. Financial Report by Jackie Smedegaard. It was moved by Greg Worthington and seconded by Dennis Feeley that the Financial Report be approved and that the bills be paid. The motion carried unanimously.
8. Communications: None
9. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Annexation/Greg Worthington: Greg Worthington provided an overview of the Annexation process and progress to date. Letters were sent out on Monday, February 9, 2004 to 71 property owners. Thus far, he has received one written reply, two phone calls and one returned-wrong address. Single Parcels cost \$349 to annex; Multiple Parcels cost \$604; and multiple parcels with less than 100% agreement cost \$788 plus \$100 per precinct. How these costs would be split remains to be determined.
 - B. SORC Report: Dennis Feeley reported on the January and February SORC meetings. We are to receive our contract costs for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 on February 19th. The new CAD system is online. Construction of the new SORC dispatch center is on hold due to Mercy Flights' pullout from SORC.
 - C. Safety Committee Meeting Report: Ron Mailho (see attached) Considerable discussion regarding OSHA reports, Lockout/Tagout policy, Safety Team evaluation of properties.
 - D. Progress on OSHA inspection reports: Chief Fuller reports continuing progress on Part 1 (Safety) Recommendations. Per Item 10 (Two in two out policy) Chief Fuller presented a written policy to be included in the District's Standard Operating Guidelines. A motion was made by Greg Worthington to accept this policy. The motion was seconded by Dennis Feeley and was passed unanimously.
 - E. USFA Grant Report/Fuel Tanks: Chief Fuller reported that we did not receive a grant to upgrade the fuel storage tank system. Greg Worthington reported that he had contacted the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and they do not regulate fuel tanks under 1000 gallon capacity. He then contacted Charlie Chase at the State Fire Marshal's office and found that they do not regulate fuel tanks under 1000 gallon capacity, either. Some discussion followed that our two fuel tanks are apparently not in violation of any regulation, but that we still must install barrier guards (OSHA safety inspection item 22) and should attach them to the slab on which they are placed.

- F. Water Storage Tank: Greg Worthington researched the set up existing 10,000 and 15,000 gallon tanks for water supply. He presented several options and costs, including using new tanks. Larry Tuttle presented the plan for a water supply/training/pump test facility which had been developed two years ago. General discussion about both plans and the desirability to establish a water source at the Fire Department this year.
- G. District Asset List: Chief Fuller reports that Jackie Smedegaard is nearing completion on work to put District Capital Assets on the books and that this work will be completed in June.
- H. Pool Funds Transfer: Chief Fuller reported that Jackson County will not transfer District funds directly to Umpqua Bank; the funds must first cycle through the Oregon State Pool. Also, there have been difficulties in making these transfers and contacting Umpqua Bank officials. In addition, Umpqua Bank charges the District \$2.50 per transfer. Chief Fuller recommends against trying to keep the pool funds in Umpqua Bank and return them in the State Pool as was previously done. Greg Worthington recommended that a representative of Umpqua Bank attend a Board Meeting. Chief Fuller reported that Jackie Smedegaard recommended against the Umpqua Bank Pool as they now paying .3% (three tenths percent) interest instead of the previously promised 1.5% (one and one half percent) interest. There was a consensus that Chief Fuller try again to contact Umpqua Bank one more time. Greg Worthington will review Umpqua Bank's presentation.
- I. Sleeper Program: Chief Fuller reviewed two changes in the sleeper program. One would change language from requiring training during a sleeper shift to strongly recommending training during the shift. The second addresses how sleeper assignments are made, either by agreement among the firefighters or by the Chief. Discussion followed about the changes and the sleeper program in general. A motion was made by Dennis Feeley and seconded by Larry Tuttle to adopt the changes as presented. The motion passed with Larry Tuttle, Ron Mailho and Dennis Feeley voting in favor and Greg Worthington voting against.
- J. Executive Session: Contract Negotiations with Paid Staff. Postponed to end of meeting.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Grants Pass Daily Courier Article: Short discussion about the article on January 29, 2004 in the Grants Pass Daily Courier. No action taken.
- B. Suggestion Box Comments: Discussion about each written suggestion from the Suggestion Box. No action taken.
- C. Approval of 2004/2005 Budget Committee Members: Moved by Dennis Feeley and seconded by Greg Worthington to appoint Vern Hansen, Juanita Prefontaine, Ron Wilson, Toby Sakraida and Matt Jochem to the Budget Committee with Paul Ream as an alternate. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Approval of advertisement for sale of Engine 6603: Consensus to place advertisement in various publications.
- E. Flowers to sick Budget Committee Member: A card has been sent to Juanita Prefontaine from the District.
- F. Questions from the Public -- Les Brooks:
 1. Is (or has) the Board considering selling any of the brush trucks? The Board has discussed disposing of 6665, but has never considered selling either 6662 or 6663.
 2. Why was it proposed to plant grass on the lot east of the Fire Station; that lot was purchased as a training ground and planing grass would be a waste of resources. Greg Worthington replied that a District patron, who is a landscaper, had volunteered to do all or some of the work, however, he will likely be moving in March. Lucille Koger stated that the lot in question was bought for the Volunteers and that the Volunteers should determine what is done with it.
 3. Has the Board been involved in any discussions to merge the District with another fire

department? Chief Winfrey was at a meeting last year and briefly brought up the idea of a merger with Rogue River, however, the Board has not formally discussed this option. Don Worthington acknowledged consideration of contracting with Rural Metro for fire protection services.

4. Annexation: Questions, clarifications and explanations by members of the community and various Board members. Board was asked if any of them had any financial interests in any land being considered for annexation. No Board member owns or has any financial interest in any of these properties. Greg Worthington and Don Worthington stated that they had not made promises to an owner or prospective buyer regarding fire protection on these properties.
5. Jackets: Concerns aired. The Board is not unanimous in its desire to buy jackets for Board Members.
6. Contractors from Outside the District: Generally contractors from within the District are used on District projects. Outside contractors may be considered during an open bidding process.
7. Micromanaging the District and questioning the Chief's moves: General discussion and desire by the community to see it stopped.
8. Water Supply Tank: Further discussion of various possibilities. Community is opposed to an above ground facility.
9. Advisory Committee Report: Advisory committee had reported in August and many of the issues which were brought up have been resolved.

<>G. Audit Review: All capital assets to be entered in a ledger. Considerable time spent going over compilation of capital assets list. Sales and dispositions to be removed from the ledger. This will be done before July 1, 2004 in order to comply with a law taking effect at that time.

H. First Responder Expenses, Resolution 04/04: Chief Fuller presented a list of expenses to put on a First Responder Class for some current and all new Volunteers. Costs for course materials will be \$1392.25. Moved by Dennis Feeley and Seconded by Greg Worthington to authorize this expense. Motion passed unanimously. Resolution 04/04 moved by Dennis Feeley and seconded by Ron Mailho to transfer \$700 from Line Item 201 (Fuel) to Line Item 208 (Training). Motion passed unanimously.

11. Chief's Report (see attached):

12. Good of the Order: Citizens in the audience were given an opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns.

Ron Wilson -- All of his questions were answered

Lucille Koger -- Discussed the Department's need for more money and jackets. Greg Worthington responded that no jackets were ordered or approved to be ordered. Lucille suggested that sales of jackets to everyone could be offered as a fund raiser for the Volunteers. She continued that there is a lack of communication between the Volunteers and the Board and that regular features in the media would be good as well as some mailbox leafleting. Lucille concluded by admonishing the Board to "Find out what the public wants."

Rusty Riis -- Briefly reiterated his concern about jackets for the Board. Questioned Don Worthington about his comment that, "We are not here to defend our decisions to the Public..." Rusty talked about the Board micromanaging and requested that they stop it. He questioned Don Worthington's wanting access to all Volunteers' records. Don replied that he was interested in whether a certain disciplinary issue had been properly acted upon. Rusty questioned Don Worthington's suggestion that the District purchase Fire-Med coverage in lieu of response to medical calls. Rusty proposed a reordering of priorities to recruit and train more volunteers, respond to all calls and not consider annexations until we can deliver on our promise of adequate response to all alarms. He questioned the expenses incurred by sending two Directors to a conference; what they had learned and how they could communicate to the rest of the community what was gained.

Janet Sparks -- Requested that the Board consider the Firefighters first.

Melodee Badley -- Offered to conduct all physicals for the Firefighters and Board members free of charge.

Doug Williams -- Stated that the Board has lost its ability to lead. It can choose to lead or manage and it has chosen to manage. He feels that the morale of the Volunteers is low and that the Board is the problem. Doug discussed ISO and stated that annexation will harm the Department.

Dan Murray -- Wants to see increased communications with the Board of Directors -- the Volunteers have mailboxes for minutes and other communications. He also questioned the convention expenses.

Gary Lowe -- Felt that morale was as low as its been in 10 years and that we need help. We should go on from tonight: 1. Have a solution for a problem, not to just point out the problem; 2. Don't agree to something

without being willing and able to follow through, everybody gives their time to the good of the District and to help solve the problems; 3. If you think something is really good for you, rethink it -- it's probably bad for a lot of others; 4. Be professional.

13. Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Greg Worthington and seconded by Larry Tuttle passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P. M.

Larry Tuttle
Secretary

Next Meeting: _____ March 11, 2004