



Boardman Fire Rescue District Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2024
Boardman Fire Station 81
911 S.W. Tatone St. – P.O. Box 2, Boardman, OR 97818

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL: 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Directors: President Lisa Pratt, Vice President Loren Dieter, Directors David Boor and Ken Browne

Staff: Chief Mike Hughes, Executive Assistant Suzanne Gray

Excused: Director Luis Medel Rodriguez, Fire Marshal Marty Broadbent

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS: None

BOARD OFFICER SELECTION

President

Director Boor nominated Lisa Pratt. Director Browne nominated Director Boor. Vice President Dieter seconded the nomination of Lisa Pratt. (Director Browne’s nomination of Director Boor died for lack of a second.) Discussion: none. Roll call vote: Lisa Pratt: yes; Vice President Dieter: yes; Director Boor: yes; Director Browne: no. Motion carried.

Vice President

Director Browne nominated Loren Dieter; President Pratt seconded. Roll call vote: President Pratt: yes; Loren Dieter: yes; Director Boor: yes; Director Browne: yes. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer

Director Boor nominated Director Browne. Director Browne nominated Director Rodriguez. Vice President Dieter seconded the nomination of Director Rodriguez. (Director Boor’s nomination of Director Browne died for lack of a second.) Roll call vote: President Pratt: yes; Vice President Dieter: yes; Director Boor: yes; Director Browne: yes. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Chief Mike Hughes said the bylaws workshop was postponed until the fall. President Pratt asked the Board members to come to the September meeting with dates in mind for the workshop. She also asked that the option of an executive session with BFRD’s attorney be pursued. She suggested it could take place on the same date as the workshop or at a special meeting.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT – Chief Hughes

1. Ambulance Service Area Plan (ASA): The contract was signed between Morrow County and BFRD for the provision of ambulance services in the Northern ASA (BFRD’s district). The status of negotiations between the County and Morrow County Health District (MCHD) for ambulance service in the North East and Southern ASAs was unknown. Chief Hughes said he encouraged the County to ask MCHD to take over the interim contract for the provision of ambulance service in south County, but MCHD declined. MCHD is performing Inter-Facility Transfers, which is not legal, he added.

Due to the upcoming Morrow County Fair and Rodeo, BFRD's assets will relocate from the Fairgrounds in Heppner to a facility the County leased for the Weed Department. Chief Hughes mentioned staff members were reluctant to work in Heppner because of the ongoing hostility directed toward them. As a result, staffing there is 100% on an over-time basis. Director Boor said it was unfortunate a handful of vocal people did this because most residents didn't share those sentiments. It's involved a few people with an axe to grind and BFRD did not start this, he said.

2. District Information: There have been a few fires in-district; the drone was out a few times, as was the boat; two ambulances were returned to AMR; two seasonal employees finished July 1st and two others will be on staff until October; two medics will finish schooling and start September 1st. Chief Hughes said Board Recognition and First Responder Recognition will be Friday, August 23rd.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

1. July 11, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approve Bills and Payables

Director Browne moved to approve the Consent Calendar, as presented; Vice President Dieter seconded. Discussion: none. Motion carried by those named – President Pratt, Vice President Dieter, Directors Boor and Browne.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Purchase Request – 2024 Dodge Durango staff vehicle, \$45,043.85

Chief Hughes discussed the reasons for the request and reviewed upcoming vehicle needs. He said there were funds in Capital Improvements and that the inspection fees paid by the City of Boardman could conceivably cover another vehicle.

Vice President Dieter moved to approve the purchase request for a 2024 Dodge Durango in the amount of \$45,043.85; Director Browne seconded. Discussion: President Pratt said the funding source was her only question and Chief Hughes answered that for her. Motion carried by those named – President Pratt, Vice President Dieter, Directors Boor and Browne.

FIRE LOSS MANAGEMENT REPORT

Chief Hughes stated Fire Marshal Broadbent was on vacation but he had been busy with inspections on Amazon data center campuses.

TRAINING DIVISION REPORT – Training Officer Sam Irons

Lt. Irons reported on staff training hours in July (203) and the various training topics. There was one fire extinguisher class held for 90 people and one CPR class for three students. Lt. Irons said they had a truck set-up at 5:00 each morning during the recent Bass Angler Tournament, Columbia River Pro/Am. BFRD also had a booth at today's community BBQ at the Columbia River Health Clinic and staff members took on grilling responsibilities for the event.

Lt. Irons talked about the August 6th fire on the Bombing Range. He said there were a lot of community members who volunteered to make food for the multiple agencies and first responders during that incident. He said he wanted to recognize their efforts and convey everyone's appreciation.

EMS REPORT – Lieutenant/EMT-I Jeremy Gierke

Calls for the month, to-date:

- Medic 81, Boardman: 50 calls
- Medic 83, second out in Boardman: 5 calls
- Medic 82, Irrigon: 44 calls
- Medic 85, Heppner: 33 calls

FIRE LIEUTENANT’S REPORT – Lt. Gierke

Total calls year-to-date: 1,152. Discussion took place on the multiple apparatus sent to the fire on the Bombing Range. President Pratt noted other calls came in that same day and were handled very well. “Chief Hughes’ staffing model came to life that day,” she said. The assistance by area farmers and ranchers on the Bombing Range fire was also called out.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – Chief Hughes

Financials were reviewed and, once again, Chief Hughes stressed BFRD was not spending Boardman taxpayers’ money to provide service in Irrigon and south County.

COMMUNICATIONS – Executive Assistant Suzanne Gray

Ms. Gray said the system for the Board’s required trainings has not been working. Hopefully, it will be fixed before the November deadline, she said.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS – Chief Hughes

Chief Hughes said Training Officer Sam Irons has been with BFRD for 12 years. In the last year, “he took the Training Division by the horns and ran with it,” explained Chief Hughes. He’s done an “awesome” job and Chief Hughes said he’s “super happy to have him.”

CLOSED DOOR SESSION – Not needed

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, September 12th, 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 7:42 p.m.