

Yamhill Fire Protection District Meeting Minutes

May 28th Board Meeting

Call to Order

The Yamhill Fire board meeting for May 28 ,2024 was called to order at 1832. Presided by Jim Phillips.

Roll Call

Board members in attendance, Josh Brown, Jim Phillips, Jon Peasley, Clint Giberson

Public Comment/ Volunteer comment

Public comment started with Jim Phillips thanking the community for their support in passing the levy option. Listed below are community members that commented;

Rocky Commented that at the last board meeting there was a lengthy discussion regarding the fuel records and their accuracy it was noted that at that time there was already an investigation being conducted it was also questioned what findings can be shared with the community at this time, this issue is important and if there are criminal and negligent acts exist that they be lawfully adjudicated and loss recovered if it exists.

Rocky continued with a second comment there has currently been volunteer resignations in unusual numbers affecting the response and service deliver affecting public health, safety and general welfare to volunteers and the citizens part of the key to theses issues is that our current leadership has a duty and responsibility to investigate, prove the facts and take aggressive action to remedy and prevent additional waist and restore faithfull organizational operation and trust that the community can see and experience, lastly transparency is a must.

Barbra Mitchell: would like to see the substation back and worried about the increase in insurance rates.

Vince: Deeply rooted in the Yamhill community for decades and is concerned that insurance rates will rise without the substation, "nothing will replace having the trucks at the Ranch. It was also commented that with the current volunteer resignations there is not the volunteer base to support the community, the Board has a hard job to do and is counting on the board to do all we can do.

Josie: Thank you for the records request. Commented that the chief was originally hired under a grant and moved into the full time chiefs position at which time he was receiving his chiefs salary starting in july of 2023 and a stipend on top of that for a total of \$11,200 gross pay per month until the grant ran out in march of 2024. For the 23-24 school year the chief stated he was "too busy with the chief's duties" to teach the fire science program. Josie questioned why he continued to receive the stipend if there was no school program and we could have used that money to pay an instructor to continue the program.

Jim commented that maybe in two weeks have another board meeting and for them to get on the agenda for that meeting. Josie continued with a comment on the fuel records she received that there are major discrepancies and raised a lot of questions on how funds are being utilized. Darci and Jose presented the board with a spreadsheet and calendar with the fuel usage. (see attached documents)

Yamhill Fire Protection District Meeting Minutes

May 28th Board Meeting

Darci clarified the accounting in the spreadsheet and calendar and the questions that arose for her with the validity of the Chief Bergstrom's explanation of mixing up his personal card and the department card. Darci also asked for an odometer reading on the chief's rig.

Jim made a brief comment that he made note of Darci's discussion points and would like to have her get on the agenda for the future meeting.

5 Rock Ranch: commented that the volunteers responding from the Flying M have resigned and they are concerned that their insurance rates will increase or be dropped. 5 Rock also commented that because of the timely response from the responders at the substation they have saved a life.

Financial Report/ Past minutes

Clint moved and Jon seconded motion to approve past meeting minutes and the financial report. Motion passed with Josh abstaining.

Chief's Report

Jim questioned where we are at with the school program. Chief Bergstrom commented that he is planning a meeting with the school, and chief Yeck from Carlton would like to help with the program. Chief Bergstrom also reported that even without the substation we are maintaining the district's ISO rating because there is a Brush Vehicle stationed within 5 Miles of the Flying M also it was noted that the engine previously stationed at the Ranch is at the station for repairs. Chief Bergstrom reported that DPSST completed their biannual training audit last week, and that on 5/29/24 there will be a Conflag readiness drill at Amity. Lastly Chief reported that Yamhill was awarded the seasonal staffing Grant that will start June 3rd and run through October 31, and that interview will be conducted this week.

Safety Meeting Report

No Report

Old Business

Strategic plan- on hold

District policy and procedure/ SOG manual- this will be an ongoing project.

New Business

In new Business it was discussed that interviews for seasonal positions will be conducted this week. It was also discussed that the levy passed and a thank you to the community for their support. Continuing with new business a job description was presented for a district secretary to report to the Yamhill fire board. Lastly it was touched on about the MOU with Amity for the use of an engine to help them with their failing engines.

Good of the Order

Next Board Meeting 6/10/24 1830

General board meeting 6/24/24 1830

Derby day kick off breakfast will be held June 8th

Yamhill Fire Protection District Meeting Minutes May 28th Board Meeting

Truck Committee Report

No Report

Adjournment

Clint moved and Josh seconded the motion for adjournment at 2005.
Motion passed unanimously