

**TURNER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

October 14, 2021

7605 3rd St SE, Turner OR 97392

Meeting called to order by President Anderson, at 1829 hours. Board members in attendance were Claude Kennedy, Chuck Roberts, Mike Everitt, Ed Humber, and D. Craig Anderson. Absent: none. Staff Present: Chief Jon Remy, Rebecca Shivers Singleterry, Asst. Chief Jordan Donat.

Flag Salute: yes.

Agenda: Agenda approved with amendment to add the following three topics to New Business on the agenda: Appoint Civil Service Commission members, Temporary hiring, and Life Insurance for Chief Officers. Discussion ensued and after discussion agenda was approved with a motion by Director Humber, second by Director Kennedy and unanimous 5 yeas and 0 nays.

Minutes: The minutes for the September 30, 2021, regular meeting of the board were approved as presented. **Action:** *A motion to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes as presented was made by Director Kennedy and Director Roberts seconded the motion and with no other discussion, the motion carried with 5 yeas votes, 0 nay votes.*

Public Comment (agenda items): None.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: in packet.

Board Committee Reports:

1. Board Policy Review Committee – No Report.
2. Budget Committee – No Report.
3. Personnel Committee – No Report.
4. Urban Renewal Committee Representative – No Report.

Old Business:

1. Cedar Street vacation update – Chief Remy
 - a. Chief Remy reported the district attorney had sent information to the TFD Land Use Committee members; he is confident there will be a PGE response soon. He recommends if no response, to play hardball in the first round of negotiations. The district's attorney is ready to proceed on fire districts behalf. Discussion ensued regarding timeline with the attorney and pushing forward; strategies; the history of the original franchise agreement between the city and PGE.

New Business:

1. Paramedic AO & Single Role Paramedic hiring process – Chief Donat
2. Appoint Civil Service Commission members – Chief Donat

- a. Chief Donat shared that the board needed to appoint a new CSC member because Mike Everitt was elected to the board at the May 2021 General Elections. He also noted that Su Fennern's position had expired as well. Discussion ensued regarding reappointing Su Fennern and appointing Tom Lovell, long standing community member, to the open position to replace Mike Everitt.
 - b. **Action:** *A motion to appoint Su Fennern and Tom Lovell to the CSC was made by Director Humber and Director Everitt seconded the motion and with no other discussion, the motion carried with 5 yea votes, 0 nay votes.*
3. Temporary Hiring – Chief Donat
- a. Chief Donat reported that life happens, changes happen and that can affect our staffing model when we launch our young people. We are experiencing that today, some are leaving to go to school, some have finished school and are moving on to their dream jobs. This happens and we expect it. That leaves us currently with a lower number of available volunteers EMT persons who can partner our full-time paramedics on the ambulance. He does not need board approval but wanted to update the board that he is offering a temporary position for a single role EMT to help staff us during this transition time and it well within our budget and CSC rules. Discussion ensued on the person being appointed, what opportunities this might open for TFD and future role as well as the role of a resident volunteer and resident volunteer EMT.
4. Life Insurance for Chief Officers – Chief Donat
- a. Chief Donat shared that we would like to update and change for clarity the classifications for life insurance currently being provided by the fire district through The Standard Insurance.
 - b. Currently, the classifications are Fire Chief, Paid Staff, Volunteer Firefighter. For clarification, we are asking underwriting to make a clerical change to provide clarity to the following classifications: Chief Officers, Paid Staff, Volunteer Firefighter.
 - c. Discussion ensued regarding the coverage amounts by classification, how the volunteers are covered versus paid staffing, and overall costs to the district if changes were made. Board asked for coverage amounts currently \$100,000 life and AD&D for fire chief, \$75,000 for paid staff, and \$40,000 for volunteer firefighter.
 - d. Discussion continued regarding the opportunity to provide coverage for all volunteers and paid staff. Chief Remy and Chief Donat clarified that volunteers are also covered on one other district provided life and AD& D policy plus they are also covered under state and federal benefits for line of duty death/injury.
 - e. Staff weighed in and explained all the life and AD&D coverage for paid staff and volunteer personnel and provided the approximate costs to the district if those levels were increased for paid staff when it was explained that volunteers are eligible for \$100,000 of coverage when asked by the board for this information.
 - f. After careful discussion, the board acted. **Action:** *A motion to set Chief Officer classification at \$100,000 coverage, increase Paid Staff classification insurance coverage to \$100,000 and adjust classifications from Fire Chief, Paid Staff, and Volunteer Firefighter to Chief Officers, Paid Staff, and Volunteer Firefighter was made by Director Kennedy and Director Roberts seconded the motion and with no other discussion, the motion carried with 5 yea votes, 0 nay votes.*

Chiefs Report:

1. Chief Remy reported the field visit is completed and the audit looks good for FY2020, we are in good shape.
2. Chief Remy shared there is concern about the new temporary COVID 19 vaccination guidelines and the effect of those rules and guidelines on station staffing. We are in a good place; the mandates will have minimal impact on our people but cause for attention.
3. Asks the board and staff to not blink regarding the Cedar Street vacation process and negotiations with PGE and the City.
4. Director Humber asked if this was Chief Remy's final board report in his capacity as the fire chief, he stated Yes!

Assistant Chief Report: None.

Volunteer Association: None. Point by President Anderson: He asked if the message could be passed to the Volunteer Association E-Board to invite them to attend a meeting a quarter to give an oral or submit a written report, so the board was included in hearing about their current projects and plans. Discussion ensued about how this would be handled. It was also suggested that the board send a member to attend the volunteer's business meetings a few times a year as well.

Information:

1. Correspondence – none.
2. Good of the Order – Director Kennedy stated the City of Salem had been contacted by the state that building inspectors cannot be in a building for longer than 5 minutes if employees and or personnel are not vaccinated. Short discussion ensued about this topic.

Public Comment (other than agenda items): none

Next Meeting: The next meeting to be on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 6:30 pm for the regular board meeting; to be held at the fire station located at 7605 3rd St SE Turner unless otherwise stated in meeting notice.

Executive Session: The Turner Fire District Board of Directors moved to an executive session at 1912 hour, to consider contract negotiations be conducted in executive session. The executive session is being held pursuant to ORS 192.660(3). The board returned to regular session at 2005 hour.

Adjourn Session: The regular meeting of the Board adjourned at 2012 hours. **Action:** *A motion to adjourn from Director Humber and motion seconded by Director Everitt, motion carried unanimous with 5 yea and 0 nay votes.*

Board President

Board Director