

CENTRAL OREGON COAST FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP

AUGUST 11, 2022

1. **Call to Order.** The Central Oregon Coast Fire & Rescue District Board of Directors Workshop was called to order by President Reda Eckerman at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 11, 2022.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Mrs. Eckerman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call.** Directors present were Reda Eckerman, Zach Akins, Jon McCulloch, Ray Woodruff, and Kevin Battles. A quorum was present. Also present were Chief Jamie Mason, Maintenance Officer Erich Knudson, and Office Administrator Wendy Knudson.

4. **New Business. IGA Seal Rock and CCF&R.** Before beginning any discussion, Chief Mason advised the Board that a ZOOM meeting with Mackenzie personnel was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Chief Mason then proceeded to express his opinion that the current IGA with Seal Rock is not really in existence and has been reduced to basic mutual aid instead. Training, sharing of personnel and resources, and consistency of equipment are no longer taking place. Discussion followed of possible courses of action as well as concern regarding the availability and qualifications of the Seal Rock personnel responding to calls. Chief Mason doesn't know if they have people trained or who is doing the training and if they can even meet mutual aid requirements. He also talked about auto aid. He would like to start over from the beginning, form a new committee that would include the Chiefs, and build a new system that works. One problem is the current pretense that the IGA exists. There needs to be better communication with the residents of COC, Seal Rock, and Yachats regarding who is actually covered by which fire district.

Auto Aid Seal Rock and CCF&R. Already discussed.

Mackenzie Meet and Greet. At 6:04 p.m. the meeting went to ZOOM and Chief Mason introduced the Board to Project Manager Cathy Bowman, Director Jeff Humphries, and team members Ragan Archer and David Linton. **Mackenzie Proposal.** After showing a background of some of their projects to the new Board members, Ms. Bowman presented their proposal for additional services. She had a list of the many issues of non-conformance with the current fire station structure. These included ADA deficiencies, building code deficiencies, lack of fire protection, NFPA non-compliance, bunk room lighting and egress, and seismic regulations non-conformance. Their plan is to utilize seismic grant money to renovate the station maximizing the existing floor plan and adding two more apparatus bays. They will provide a new floor plan and an updated cost estimate based on what is approved by the Board. Cost for their proposal is \$5,500, which is in addition to the existing contract for \$65,000. Discussion and review of past attempts to secure a different location for a station. In order to secure grants the building must be owned and there was further discussion on how it can be purchased. There is currently an option in the lease and Chief Mason will check with Gina to find out what the interest rate is on loans. It was suggested to set up a special meeting to develop a plan on how to proceed. The seismic grant would be for \$2.5million which would cover hardening for the existing structure; improvements would not be included. At Mr. McCulloch's request Ms. Bowman will clarify the degree of seismic activity for which the building would be renovated and provide the information by the next Board meeting. ZOOM ended at 6:48 p.m. Further discussion on possible financing followed as there is no guarantee that the seismic grant would be available in 2023. There is a

suggestion that a meeting be set up with Representative Gomberg that would include members from the Board and the City Council to discuss potential grants for the new water system and an opportunity to fund purchase of the building before the deadline for this year's seismic grant.

IGA. Returning to the discussion of the IGA it was decided that the agenda for the next Board meeting should include dismissing the current IGA and setting up a committee to meet with Seal Rock.

Building Plan. Currently there is \$40,000 in the budget for repairs and there needs to be a plan to meet the terms of the agreement with the City before the end of the year. Chief Mason indicated a need to replace the siding, remove brick, fix columns, and replace the bay doors. It was suggested that we wait until the committee has talked to the City and determined what to do with the building so the money can go toward something that isn't going to be replaced through the seismic grant. Chief Mason asked that it be put on the agenda.

November Election Serial Levy to Operations Levy \$.30/\$1000.00. The current equipment levy expires on June 30, 2023 and there are two elections to put it on for renewal. Chief Mason would like to reroll it as an operations levy for \$.30/\$1000 to offset staffing costs, training, etc. for the next 5 years. Current levy has been the same for 10 years, and the other levy has also been at the same rate for 10 years. Changing costs require new levies. Chief Mason is drafting a letter to the Fire Defense Board to address at the state level the fact that the rate is locked and can't expand at more than 3%, which can't keep up with inflation. Discussion of other ways of increasing income, including consolidation or having the City Council expanding district protection rights inside the city limits, which would also have the advantage of cleaning up the fragmented sections of coverage that now exist. The point was made that Yachats is now facing having to ask for a massive increase because they had not done it incrementally in the past. It was also suggested that an increase to \$.30/\$1000 could be asked in the November election and if it failed go back to the original \$.25/\$1000 in the May election. Chief Mason will bring numbers to the next meeting for direction for the election; the ballot title for November is due the day after the meeting. Information will need to be sent out, especially if there is a proposed increase, explaining what difference it will make in tax rates and emphasizing that the ISO is now 4 with resulting lower insurance costs because of money spent on people and equipment. The Union will participate in the campaign. Chief Mason will go over numbers and there also needs to be an executive session for Union contract discussion.

OFSM Engine Program. OFSM is purchasing 30 tenders for the state. We currently have two sixes, which are too big. OFSM will buy us one to use for us and to go on conflagrations. Chief Mason has put in an application for a tender and has also done a grant application for another one, which will give us two. The deadline is in November so we won't hear anything until then. FEMA has finally started to send out their grant awards. Chief Mason was asked to build a plan for rotating out fire trucks and replacement of major equipment such as SCBAs.

Proposal of Committee with City. Already discussed. Need a committee to meet with the City to see if they can do the protection district changes, which would help fix boundaries and add income. It would also change Yachats coverage.

Goal Setting. Chief Mason asked the Board if there were any goals other than those already on the agenda. He was asked to do a 5 and 10 year plan for what needs to happen. It is difficult to

do too much without knowing the status of Seal Rock and Yachats. He will update his former 20 year plan again with election dates; 5 and 10 year plan will be more accurate, 15 maybe, and 20 whatever. Agenda items are executive session, levy vote, building committee, and Seal Rock committee.

Good of the Order. Discussion of the proposed meeting with Representative Gomberg. Committee should have a City Council member and have a meeting ahead of time to make sure everyone is together on what is wanted, emphasizing the opportunity to benefit two entities at the same time. Chief Mason will develop a draft of what can be presented and the Board will set up the committee.

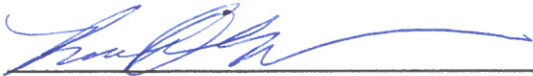
Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan K. Hansen, Recording Secretary

Approved:



Board Chair