

# Helix Rural Fire Protection District Board Meeting

Dated: August 26, 2019



**Attendance:**      Glen Tipton      Terry Case      Chrys Wernlund  
                        Matt Wood      Rachael Reynolds      Dave Baty

**Guests:** Mark Moore

**Called to Order:** 6:35 PM

**Accept Previous Minutes:** Mtn to Accept: Rachael Reynolds  
2<sup>nd</sup> to Accept: Glen Tipton  
Approved All: Approved

**Treasurer Report / Bills:** Mtn to Accept: Terry Case  
2<sup>nd</sup> to Accept: Glen Tipton

Terry had a question as to why there was no income reported on the Budget vs Actual report for July and yet it shows that we received income from taxes on the Federal Pool Report. No one present who could answer the question.

**Public Comment:** It was brought up that school had started.

**Chief's Reports:** Received - Attached hereto

**Highlights:** (Chief Baty was out of town but Mark Moore reported.) 1. An EMT Basic class will be starting at the end of September through BMCC and there are 5 or 6 people signed up for it. There will also be an option for this class in Athena via internet. 2. The high school program at Weston McEwen HS will start on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The class will be on every Friday and run from 1:00-3:00. They will have Life Flight come in for one of the classes. 3. East Umatilla Fire & Rescue is going through the process of reaccreditation for their training program. The main training is every Thursday of the month.

**Old Business:**

- 1) Training Room Remodel Update: The room is ready to be textured and painted.
- 2) August Town Appreciation BBQ: The activity was not publicized as well as it could have been. The turnout was low. We discussed that there are not a lot of people in town, especially those who are active in community activities. We asked if we should continue to put this activity on. Will need to bring back up next year.

**New Business:**

- 1) Set Dates for future meetings: Chrys made a motion to have the next meeting in October and skip the September meeting. Second by Terry. Motion accepted.

Meeting Adjourned: by Motion by Terry Case, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rachael Reynolds Time: 7:15 PM  
New Meeting Scheduled for: October 28, 2019 Time: 6:30 PM

Terry Case  
Sec/Treas.

Chief's August Report:

1. IGA Update: Customer service and Responder Training continue to be excellent – and getting better. Yes, much work for us behind the scenes but we knew that was to be the case.
2. New Bookkeeper – Joanne Kerns is keeping the books for ALL FOUR ORGANIZATIONS, and is doing a terrific job. A few small kinks to still work out, but she is taking a lot off the plate for Mark and I. Many thanks to her.
3. We received notice yesterday that makes us very happy: We requested a grant from the WildHorse Foundation for a gear extractor (to wash the cancer-causing carcinogens off our firefighters structural protective clothing) and a Gear Dryer. These are very expensive and quite frankly; we can't buy them without help. As stated – it was the WildHorse Foundation that will purchase these items through a **grant of \$20,000.00**. We can now further keep our responders safe, and get them back into service quicker with clean, dry and serviceable gear. WAHOO!
4. We had an informative meeting at the County regarding funding ideas. Nothing substantive yet to report, but many are working very hard to help us provide a better service.
5. Both the "Wheatstock" and Helix Fire Department Appreciation BBQ events were successful.
6. We are upgrading our vehicle fleet through GSA. We are making a type six fire engine (with many parts we currently own) and a QRT (Quick Response Team) apparatus. This purchase will allow us to position a QRT vehicle in the town of Helix.
7. Aerial Ladder testing was completed last week. L-61 passed an "NDT" (Non-Destructive Test), But L-69 did not. We will be making repairs on L-69 as soon as we receive the report and find out what the certifying official requires fixed/repaired/replaced.
8. Training: Next week the Command Staff (and instructors from ODF, DPSST, LifeFlight and other organizations) will begin teaching (for the entire school year) at Athena-Weston High School. Some of the subjects are: CPR, First Aid, Emergency Medical Responder, WildLand Firefighting, Structural Firefighter subjects and other career-related classes. Please thank Athena-Weston HS principal Rob Shell for allowing this to happen.

There are many Medical and Fire responders serving our appx 430 square miles. Nearly all of them volunteer their time to be there; when we dial 911.  
Please thank them for their service, when you see them.