

# Helix Rural Fire Protection District Board Meeting

Dated: January 27, 2020



**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: Terry Case  
Approved All: Approved

**Treasurer Report / Bills:** Mtn to Accept: Terry Case  
2<sup>nd</sup> to Accept: Rachael Reynolds  
Approved All: Approved

There was much discussion over the treasurer's report. Terry asked about the Workman's Comp Expense. It is budgeted for \$1000.00 for the year and the report says that \$3500.00 had been taken out so far. Dave Baty has talked with the bookkeeper about it and it has been cleared up. Terry brought in the fact that all of the tax revenue has been going into the "Previously Levied Taxes" category. There needs to be a separation between income from current taxes and from taxes of prior years. Terry also brought up the fact that this month the bookkeeper entered in the net amount for salaries instead of the gross. The gross has been used in the past and Terry would like to have it kept consistent. Dave Baty was going to talk with the bookkeeper on the last two items and get it cleared up. The monthly check for EUF&R was not signed at this time.

**Public Comment:**

The Helix Crab Feed will be held on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This is a fund raiser for the Booster Club. The gym at Joseph High School burned and the Helix High School held a fund raiser this last Saturday for them.

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

High Lights: The new water tender has been ordered and should be delivered by July 1<sup>st</sup>. After receiving the new water tender, UCRFPD's older one will be sent to the Juniper Canyon station.

Volunteer hours are up. Monthly staff meetings have been started. The funding opportunity for the new fire station may not be available due to the political situation in the State government. The Helix training room is mainly done. Main thing left is the floor. The 2006 ambulance blew the motor. It has been out of service. The ambulance district will purchase a 2019 ambulance, used as a demo model, for \$147,147.00 and should receive possession on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The district was able to get a no interest loan from Umatilla County. George Dunkle, from SDAO, should be out in March.

**Old Business:**

- 1) Christmas Party: There was a good turn out at the party. The Christmas party next year is planned to be a sit down ball. It will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in December. 12-12-20.
- 2) SDAO Conference: Scheduled for February 6-9 in Seaside. No board members from Helix RFPD are attending this year. A couple of members from Medic 400 will attend.
- 3) EMT Scholarship program update: They have started their second term and four members from EUF&R are attending. It is going well.
- 4) WMHS Class update: The class taught by Chief Baty and Asst. Chief Moore is going well. There are 6 or 7 in attendance. The instructors have no set curriculum, but are focusing on what the students' needs are. They have shown the movie Only the Brave. It is about the Prescott AZ fire which killed many fire fighters.
- 5) IGA Update: They had the first town hall meeting in Weston to discuss the ballot measure to merge the districts on 1-21-20. There was 1 community member and about 12 board members/fire fighters present. The community member asked questions about response times. Chief Baty had to look up the information. Chief Baty has written up a sheet of Frequently Asked Questions for the meetings. The next town hall meeting will be Wednesday 1-29-20 in Helix.

**New Business:**

- 1) IGA – Vote in May: How will this effect Helix RFPD? The tax rate in Helix has been at \$.439 per \$1000 since 1974. It would go up to \$1.00 per \$1000. The County Commissioners likes the idea of joining the fires districts. The State of Oregon is working to get fire protection to all of the areas of the state. Currently there are places of "No Man's Land" where there is no fire protection. There is a large section of this to the west of Helix RFPD. The County Commissioners and the County Attorney want the fire districts to merge but to leave the Ambulance District as it is. There would have to be moving around of boarders and districts to get both fire and ambulance together.
- 2) Town Hall Meetings: As discussed above.

Meeting Adjourned: by Motion Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Glen, Approved all Time: 8:05 PM

New Meeting Scheduled for: February 24, 2020 Time: 6:30 PM

Terry Case  
Secretary/Treasurer



# EAST UMATILLA FIRE & RESCUE

103 W. Main Street Weston, OR 97838

## Chief's Report for the HELIX RFPD

1-27-2020

35 Calls for service in the month of December, 2019

Fire = 3 Medical Assist = 27 MVA = 3 Public Assist 1 False Alarm = 1 UTL = 1

- 1) **AFG Grant update–EUCRFPD has ordered a new tender** and construction is being completed. This tender will serve all areas we are responsible for fire protection. There will be a 5000 gallon water tender available at ODF that we will strongly pursue. Our plan is to position it at the Juniper Canyon station.
- 2) **IGA UPDATE** – Volunteer Training hours have gone up. Compliance with OSHA, NFPA and other agencies has improved. Emergency calls for service are being answered quicker than they ever have been. Responder Safety and Customer Service remains at the top of the priority list. Monthly staff meetings have begun to inform our volunteers of changes and other improvements that come from the EUF&R board.
- 3) **Possible New station design:** We have asked for a sample rendering of what the new station could look like (we will bring a diagram to the meeting). This rendering was completed by the same company that did the plans for the Heppner Fire Station. (If you were able to attend the Heppner Fire Station tour, please bring your comments) **NEW INFORMATION** – the opportunity to ask for, and be given funds to build a new station may not come from the Oregon Legislature. Other funding sources have surfaced.
- 4) **The Umatilla County Commissioners** have scheduled a hearing to determine public interest in forming one fire district. **Town Hall meetings have begun.** A flyer was mailed with date/time/locations so that public opinion may be heard. We are handing out a Frequently Asked Questions list at each meeting (please refer to your copy).
- 5) **Many thanks to Dave Wernlund, Terry Case, Mark Woolbright and anyone else who helped on the Helix Training room project. It is about 80% completed.** Concrete will be poured in the bathroom area to eliminate the tripping hazard. An alternative floor covering will be sought since the water table issue was brought up as a possible problem if carpeting is used.
- 6) **Teaching High School kids began in September and continues to be a success.**
- 7) **Due to a mechanical issue, the 2006 ambulance has been taken out of service. A replacement has been found – a 2019 Dodge 3500 4wd. The replacement ambulance is scheduled to go into service on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Its price was \$147,147.00, about 30K less than what it could have been.** The 2006 Ford is still being considered for a re-mount – at a cost of about 90K.



- 8) **Vehicles: The Seagraves pumper** has been sold for about \$1800.00. The 1972 Ford/Howe Pumper will be sold next. (This is a more profitable option than scrapping the engines for parts). In November of last year, the Ladder truck was offered as a donation to the OFDDA museum. Dave Wernlund is leading that effort. **B-71 has a fuel problem.** A crack in the fueling neck has been successfully repaired. There is a sending unit issue that indicates the fuel tank is always empty. We are efforting to keep this repair low cost and quickly done.
  
- 9) **Lights Grant.** Thanks to help from Gordon's Electric, and Juan Avila, the lights and ballasts were upgraded in the Helix Main Fire Station and in the maintenance shop.
  
- 10) **Maintenance Help.** We intend to ask the two Lieutenants from the Helix area if they would like to help with monthly operator maintenance and vehicle inspections. This would be about ten hours per week.