

Helix Rural Fire Protection District Board Meeting

Dated: January 28, 2019



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

Guests: Rachelle Roggiero (Office Assistant), Kim Heron (Helix Mayor)

Called to Order: 6:35 PM

Accept Previous Minutes: Mtn to Accept: Glen Tipton
2nd to Accept: Matt Wood
Approved All: Approved

Treasurer Report / Bills: Mtn to Accept: Terry Case
2nd to Accept: Matt Wood
Approved All: Approved

Public Comment: Rachelle brought up the Oregon Savings Growth Plan which will be discussed under New Business.

Chief's Reports: Received - Attached hereto

Highlights: The Fire Fighter 1 training is complete. There are 9 fire fighters to complete it from Helix RFPD and EUCRFPD. The live structure fire training will be in Helix in February. EUCRFPD hosted Traffic Incident Management Safety class in January. There will be a sand table training coming up. Pump testing will begin in spring of 2019. Helix received \$10,000.00 from the ODF grant. Assistance to Firefighters Grant- no word yet. Received a grant from Fire House Subs in Burbank Washington. In the past several months there have been four calls where all the departments joining the Fire Authority helped out. They are working well together. Long time Fire Fighter and former Chief, Ron Kellmer, passed away in January. The service was well

done. A Scholarship fund has been set up in Ron Kellmer's name and will go to help students studying fire fighting.

Old Business:

- 1) Christmas Party (12-8-18): There were 83 people in attendance from all four department (Helix RFPD, East Umatilla Co RFPD, Athena Fire, and East Umatilla Co. Ambulance District). It was a fun time and brought everyone together.
- 2) SDAO Conference: 2-8-19 in Sun River. Chief Baty, Chrys Wernlund, and Terry Case are attending. Can go to the SDAO web site and print off hand outs prior to the conference.

New Business:

- 1) Election Forms: Chrys Wernlund and Matt Wood are up for election this May. They have filled out the applications and Terry will drop off with the election department.
- 2) Open Board Member position: Terry has talked with Lorin Kubishta and Ryan Seeley and neither of them are interested in becoming a board member. Interested in talking with Tyson Raymond or Ryan Raymond. Matt Wood will talk to them and see if either is interested.
- 3) Oregon Savings Growth Plan: Chief Baty and Rachelle Roggiere presented information on the plan. This is a pre-tax retirement plan. It would be available for all employees of Helix Rural Fire Protection District. Chief Baty would take the \$1000.00 per month paid him for insurance and place it into the plan. Each of Helix RFPD fire fighter would receive \$500.00 per year into the retirement plan. Each fire fighter will need to fill out an application. Matt Wood made a motion to set up a plan for our district which would be available for all employees. Second by Terry Case. Approved by all. Chrys signed the plan as President.
- 4) Fire Authority-Questions, Concerns & Thoughts: Discussed that things are moving forward on forming the Fire Authority in East Umatilla County. Things will be kicking into high gear on this. A board will be formed for the Fire Authority which will consist of two member each from the boards of Helix RFPD, EUCRFPD, Athena Fire Department, and East Umatilla County Ambulance and Health District. Our board needs to delegate two members. Chrys is going to be one of the members from the Ambulance and Health District. Matt Wood nominated Terry and Glen to be the members from HRFPD. There was a vote and it passed. Terry asked about who would be developing the budget for Helix RFPD after the Fire Authority forms. Chief Baty will continue in that capacity. Terry also brought up that there should be a community meeting to inform as to what is going on. Chief Baty stated that there will be town hall meeting in all the communities to accomplish this. Terry has heard that there is some confusion between this and the development of the East Umatilla County Ambulance and Health District several years ago.
- 5) Resolution 2019-01: A resolution was presented for the board to allow Chief Baty to move forward investigating the IGA and Fire Authority. Terry brought up that in the minutes from the November meeting "Chief Baty presented a Resolution to allow him to move forward in researching a Fire Authority and to gain more feedback." A motion was made and passed. The resolution was signed by the board. This new resolution was redundant so it was tabled.

- 6) Annual Review: Matt brought up the need for an annual financial review to be done for the district. Rachelle and Chief Baty stated that an accounting firm in La Grande will be doing the review.

Meeting Adjourned: by Chrys Wernlund Time: 7:55 PM

New Meeting Scheduled for: February 25, 2019 Time: 6:30 PM

Chief's Report

January, 2019

12/9 The Christmas Party went over really well. Emceed by newly sworn County Commissioner John Shafer (He did a great job). Nichole, Katie, Chrys, Miriam and everyone else made a wonderful effort to recognize all the dedication and time our team sacrifices to make our community as safe as they can.

Tiffanie Andrews-Rost is doing great. Terrific inspiration to us all.

12/22 Christmas Light Parade Max Magee was the lead on making the aerial engine look spectacular for the parade. The city came up with the idea in late November, but Max stepped up big-time to get the engine ready. (He also had help from many other firefighters). Max is giving me an AAR; and next year, we can offer to do more with this brilliant idea of community involvement.

Continuing FF1 Academy continues this weekend (HAZ-MAT on January 5-6) and January 26-27. We will have SIX MORE ENTRY QUALIFIED FF1's at the conclusion of this course.

TIMS Class 1/19/2019 11-3pm at the Weston Memorial Hall– More Firefighters are injured or killed providing service at MVCs than house fires.

144 Calls For Service in 2018. 136 in 2017 and 74 in 2016. As you can see, the numbers are going up. (Call-for-service information for 2018 is available at the Weston fire station #61)

The Town Hall Meeting discussing the pros and cons of possibly consolidating fire and EMS services was helpful to many. **The Fire Authority model** for providing fire and ems service on a regional basis is gaining momentum and moving forward. Congratulations to the Boards of Helix RFPD and the East Umatilla Health District for taking the next steps toward forming a Fire Authority.

LT Jeremy Lasater is preparing to become our new Training Officer. He is getting instruction from myself and A/C Tiffanie Andrews-Rost (at some point soon, ALL training questions will be routed to him). We are compiling the 2019 training calendar. It will be website posted and hard copy available soon.

Additional Water Sources are now in the Field. Four additional water tanks are now placed in our response area. They are:

- a. At the bottom of La Marr gulch
- b. On HWY 334 at appx MP 2
- c. Kings Corner
- d. N. Juniper Canyon and Stockman Roads

Each tank is 6800 gallons. GREAT WORK TO JASON HALL!

(Matt – these could go into the Interra map program?)

“New” type 6 engine. We are trying hard to have it ready for wildland firefighting season.

CONTENDER STATUS: RESOLVE AN ISSUE WITH ONE GUAGE, PUMP TEST,



WASH/WAX, ADVERTISE TO SELL.

SIGNIFICANT CALLS FOR SERVICE

12/23 Motor Vehicle Crash in the snow at MP 25 on HWY 204.

All four agencies worked a tough scene (blowing wind, temps in the low 20s, packed snow and on a roadway) and Lifeflight took the most critical of two patients in a semi vs passenger car MVC. Appx 45 minute extrication time for the flown patient. WE HAD NO FIREFIGHTER INJURIES – HOORAY!!!!

12/25 Christmas Day House fire in Helix – was done very well. There were over twenty first responders at the scene. Although we had to rely heavily on our few FF1 certified firefighters, everyone stepped up and did a great service to the community – on Christmas Day. All four of our regional agencies responded and worked together seamlessly. I’m proud to serve with them.

Dave Baty

Helix RFPD