**Umatilla County Fire District #1**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 11, 2023**

***Present:***

The meeting was called to order at 1900, January 11, 2023 in the meeting room at Station 23, 78760 Westland Road, Hermiston, Oregon by Board President Ric Sherman. Those present included board members Mike Hawman, Spike Piersol, Jim Whelan, Eldon Marcum, Fire Chief Scott Stanton and Clerk Reta Larson.

***Pledge of Allegiance:***

Director Marcum led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence and respect for Kelly Nelson, a Heppner Firefighter who lost her life in a tragic car accident.

***Guests:***

None

***Minutes of December 14 , 2022 Board Meeting***

Director Piersol moved to approve the December 14, 2022, board meeting minutes. Director Marcum seconded the motion. Motion passed.

***Financial Report:***

Clerk Larson started with the Balance Sheet for the bond. The bond balance sheet shows a balance of $1,509,447.71 in the bond LGIP account, $110,717.05 in the Banner Bank bond account and $-47,014.75 due from other accounts for a balance of $1,573,150.01. The bond transaction report shows eight transactions totaling $392,010.81 for the month of December. Director Hawman moved to approve the bond expenses for the month of December totaling $392,010.81. This was seconded by Director Whelan. Motion passed. The next report reviewed was the Balance Sheet for the General Fund. This report shows a balance of $4,041,632.08 in LGIP, $500.00 in Petty Cash and $38,381,67 in the Banner Bank checking account and

$-219,175.77 due from other accounts for a total of $3,861,338.88. The Budget Report for the general fund show taxes collected during December total $778,930.24, Ambulance revenue collected during December total $264,906.93. Maintenance Service fees received during the month of December totaled $4,020.00. Grant funds collected during December total $27,934.08. Intergovernmental Agreement funds collected during December total $273,123.44. Fire Suppression Fees collected during the month of December total $3,539.98. Miscellaneous Revenue collected during December totaled $29,054.35. Total revenue collected during the month of December was $1,381,509.02. For expenses $642,274.69 spent in Personal Services. Materials and Services expended during the month of December totaled $338,516.75. $15,055.28 was spent in Capital Outlay during December. With no questions regarding the budget, the final report to review was the bank transaction report. Clerk Larson reviewed several transactions and noted December expenses total $1,000,180.24. With no questions regarding the transaction report, Director Piersol moved to pay December expenses in the amount of $1,000,180.24. Director Marcum seconded this. Motion passed.

***Communications:***

None.

***Chief’s Report:***

See attached report. December calls totaled 644. The old record for number of calls was 569. Total calls for 2022 is 6113. This is a 9.2 percent increase in call volume over the previous year. Over the past two years there has been a 21.5 percent increase in call volume. Chief Stanton reiterated that these kinds of increases year over year is not sustainable with the current staffing levels. 37 percent of the time, we responded on two calls at the same time. 19.4 percent of the time, there were three calls at the same time and 6.2 percent of the time there were four calls at the same time. The day car ran 36.8 percent of the calls during December. This is good news because it was feared that this may be as high as 50 percent of the calls. This equates to about 7 – 8 calls per shift which is manageable for staffing without experiencing burnout.

***Old Business:***

Bond procurement and

Station work update:

Station work: Phase 1 work at Station 23 is complete and the board took a quick tour of the new completed facility. The new Tahoe has arrived and is parked in the new facility for Ryan to begin the transformation to a command vehicle. Station 24 is moving forward with the seismic upgrade addition and renovation. The fittings are dug for the addition and the inside has been demod. The concrete is being cut to allow for rerouting of new water and sewer lines. Probably looking at July for a completion date. Chief is planning an open house to show off the completed Station. Station 22 is only moving forward with the seismic upgrade at this time. Everything will need to be moved out by the first of March to begin and should be completed by September. The issue not yet addressed is where everything is going to be moved to. The good news is the weather is improving which will help to keep things from freezing. Station 25 is pretty full at this point, but Chief Stanton is confident that they will get it figured out. The application is in for Station 21. The City of Hermiston is handling this with Chief Stanton’s assistance. The hope is to start these renovations by September or October. Chief is planning on a year for the upgrades and renovations to Station 21. On a side note, Chief is expecting approximately 2 million from the County with his ongoing conversations with Commissioner Dorran. Chief has a meeting with Commissioner Dorran on January 20. Chief has also heard that Amazon is saying all the right things about paying on the next bonds which is a huge help to the tax payers. With this and the additional 2 million from the county we will be able to complete all the upgrades and renovations and may even be able to not sell all the bonds that the tax payers have approved. Next will be starting on Phase 2 at Station 23 which is paving and a new conference room, work upstairs and two new offices. Final work will be the renovation at Station 22 to include new fixtures and new ovens, etc. By the spring/summer of 2025, Station 22 should be complete.

Apparatus work: The ladder truck has been delayed until September, 2023. The other Ford ambulance has been delayed until December, 2023. The Dodge that is being retrofitted in Nevada should be here in February at the latest. One of the slip-in units is complete and the other is being built. They should be ready and in service by March. The new Tahoe is here and Ryan will be working on getting it in service.

Next Bond Series

Sell: Chief anticipates that the next series of bonds in the amount of approximately 4 million will be sold in February or March.

Enterprise Zones/Meeting

With Commissioner

Dorran: Chief is meeting with Commissioner Dorran on the 20th to discuss more on this. The CDA lands will be transferred in March. Chief will be having lunch tomorrow with Debbie Pedro and Greg Smith of the CDA board and Chief Stanton and David Hansen have been invited to attend their planning meeting tomorrow afternoon where both County Planners will be in attendance. This is a very good sign of progress. Chief Stanton also has a meeting with the City Manager from Umatilla tomorrow morning to discuss the new data centers going in their jurisdiction and anything else he wants to talk about.

OMD Mutual Aid

Agreement: The state has declined the contract with the changes that our attorney recommended. Dan Cleveland has sent the changes back up to those above him to see is they will accept.

CDA Lands: See above for meetings with the CDA personnel and planning meeting attendance.

OSFM Capacity grant: This grant includes one prevention position and two operational positions. We should know the outcome of this award by the end of the month. This grant is only available to departments/districts with a budget of 10 million dollars or less.

***New Business:***

Office staff wage

Adjustment (Whitney): Chief is very happy with Whitney in all aspects of her work for the district. Chief feels it is well deserved. This amount will fit within the current budget. Director Piersol moved to give Whitney a $800.00/month raise. This was seconded by Director Hawman. Motion passed.

BPA summary and

review: The board practices assessment came back and the district came back with top rankings in the 10 categories discussed. Ric’s concern is how does the district continue to maintain this high-performance level.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 1953.