

Ambulance Hall

Brewster, WA

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Douglas Okanogan County Fire District 15 was called to order by Chairman Chris Bailey at 6:03 p.m. at the Ambulance Hall.

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Chris Bailey, Joe Kitzman, F. Eric Zahn, Secretary Kaylee Jensen, EMS Director Tonya Vallance, District Chief Bill Vallance, Brewster Station Chief Victor Vargas, Rocky Butte Station Chief Sal Rodriguez, Pateros Station Assistant Chief Matt Coffman, Methow Station Chief Nolan Tonseth, Methow Station Captain Dave Sorensen, firefighter Bruce Henne, EMT-A Arthur Smyth and EMS volunteer Kristina Martinez

REMOTE ATTENDANCE BY PHONE OR COMPUTER: Commissioners Tim Baird and Kris Erlandsen, one other unnamed on phone

Commissioners Joe Kitzman and F. Eric Zahn arrived at the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

EMS bought small equipment that was paid for on the 6/26/2023 voucher. The warrant was returned to the County to be cancelled due to the business name listed on the Invoice could not be validated. Commissioners authorized payment to the individual for the small equipment on a future voucher and pay use/sales tax to the State and stated if we purchase again, they should have a valid business license. Tonya reported there were more ordered that will need to be paid for as well.

An emergency water line repair was done at Methow Station by a District volunteer who stated they had a business, and the work was authorized by the District Chief due to no one else could be found to do the work at the time. Later it was found the individual has plans to start a business but has not completed the process. Discussion held.

Commissioners authorized payment in the amount of \$950 to the individual to be paid with the quarterly stipend.

Vendors should be verified to be on the existing vendor list or w9 should be obtained prior to buying products or services in the future.

***Consent Agenda***

**Board Consent Agenda**

Minutes 06/12/2023 regular meeting,

Vouchers 06-26-2023, 07-10-2023

Fire District

June 26, 2023 Financials amounting to \$5,347.85

June 26, 2023 Payroll/EFT amounting to \$10,718.37

July 10, 2023 Financials amounting to \$10,791.19

July 10, 2023 Payroll/EFT amounting to \$10,456.92

Ambulance

June 26, 2023 Financials amounting to \$9,336.70

cancelled July (\$1084.00)

June 26, 2023 Payroll/EFT amounting to \$16,814.52

July 10, 2023 Financials amounting to \$61,167.87

July 10, 2023 Payroll/EFT amounting to \$18,950.70

Chris/Eric moved and seconded to approve all items on the Board Consent Agenda.

Motion carried.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** The June Secretary report was studied by Commissioners. Extraordinary revenue GEMT program income and FEMA grant closeout funds were discussed. Fire District had supplied an Invoice to Ambulance for ½ of the GEMT funds for Fire District part in GEMT grant preparation and the Invoice was included on 7/10/2023 voucher.

**DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF REPORT:** Chief Vallance reported the District responded to 64 calls last month and 287 calls this year. WSRB update was given and a letter with the rating should be provided within a month. Air bottles have been hydro'd. Apparatus update was given. Engine1 was at Brewster and equipment and hoses had been installed. Engine2 delivery is scheduled for Friday.

**SOP/SOG COMMITTEE REPORT:** Nothing to report.

**PATEROS REPORT:** Assistant Chief Matt Coffman reported firefighters completed SCBA quarterly trainings, hydrant hunt, 4<sup>th</sup> of July prep, standby for fireworks and station maintenance. Firefighters will be preparing for Apple Pie Jamboree this week. Upcoming training includes wildland sandbox training and rope rescue.

**METHOW REPORT:** Chief Nolan Tonseth reported firefighters responded to 3 wildland fire calls. Methow held their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. Methow may have 3 new seasonal recruits within the DNR crew.

**BREWSTER REPORT:** Chief Victor Vargas reported firefighters responded to 2 MVA incidents, 4 brush fires, 1 hay fire, a dumpster fire, 5 false alarms, a power line down and an agency assist. Firefighters have been busy with the fireworks setup and hope to get the new Engine into service.

**ROCKY BUTTE REPORT:** Chief Sal Rodriguez reported firefighters responded to 1 structure fire, 1 vehicle fire, 1 wildland fire and 1 cancelled in route call. Firefighters completed some pump training on the new Engine.

**EMS DIRECTOR REPORT:** Tonya reported GEMT program year preparation has begun. Average costs per transport are \$2503.00. All data needs to be sent by November 30, 2023. There are program changes, and it may not be cost effective to take part in the program in the future.

**NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Commissioner Bailey asked the Station Chiefs if they had met with the volunteers to schedule a meeting to discuss the District Chief position. Chief Vargas said the volunteers were supposed to come to the public meeting this evening. Commissioner Bailey stated he would like a group from all Stations to meet. It was suggested that a meeting be held on a Thursday evening since volunteers meet on Thursdays. A meeting will be scheduled after it is known what Thursday volunteers would like to meet. If a quorum of Commissioners will be in attendance a special meeting will be held.

Chief Tonseth announced he is interested in the position and provided a letter of interest with a list of questions to be answered by Commissioners. Commissioner Bailey thanked Nolan for his interest and let him know that they do still want to list the job to see who

else may be interested. An answer to the questions will be given when they have the answers.

Commissioner Kitzman announced he had information from L&I regarding the position is a salary position with a 3 point criteria to be a salary position and a wage threshold. The Secretary had inquired with the District attorney and provided a copy of the legal response which indicated the position is typically salary, but could be hourly with overtime, or whatever the Commissioners decide.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45 PM.

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Kaylee Jensen, Board Secretary

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Chris Bailey, Chairman