

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
January 9, 2025

Open Meeting

Dir. Michael Vietzke opened the meeting at 9:01 a.m. and led the flag salute.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Chairman Michael Vietzke, Dir. Robin Adams, Dir. Rex Lesueur, Dir. Jeremy Johnson, and Dir. Dan Robinette joined meeting at **9:16 am**.

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Chief Erick Holsey, Training Officer Lt. Joey Sawyer, Acting Office Manager Joyce Engberg, Acting Administrative Assistant Sandi Mickel

Staff Absent: Asst. Chief Dan Daugherty due to illness,

Guests: Jim Fister, Consultant. Capt. Rigney; Lts. Lohner and Larson; Eng. George, FMs Schumacher, Frazier, and Vasquez; and Reserve Students Wilson, McVicar, and Domings.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Dir. Vietzke started by stating the thoughts and prayers of the Board and District are with the first responders first responders in CA and the first responders going to assist from Oregon.

Dir. Vietzke noted Chief Holsey's request to add Ted Sommers to the agenda for public comment.

Open Forum for Public Comment

Jim Fister, Consultant, would like to schedule the date for Mission, Vision & Values Retreat. Proposed to extend the next board meeting on February 13, 2024, by maximum of one hour to begin working on framework and then plan subsequent meetings. Dir. Rex Lesueur will join by Zoom as he will be out of town.

The new La Pine Parks & Recreation Board is having a meet & greet on Saturday, January 11, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and the La Pine Community Center if anyone is interested in going.

Ted Sommers from the Support Services Team presented the Board with embroidered hats and a thank you for their service.

Employee Recognition:

Chief Holsey and Lt. Joey Sawyer recognized and commended FM Trevor Frazier and FM Kristian Vasquez for completing their one-year probation. The Oath of Office was given by Chief Holsey, and the families of the firefighters were recognized for their support.

Approval of minutes from the December 12, 2024, Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Dir. Adams requested correction on page 4 under Grants 3rd bullet point for "PE" to be changed to "PPE."

Financials

Chief Hosley stated that everything is looking good financially and numbers are on track for where District is in the fiscal year. If there are no future surprises, District should meet the budget at the end of the fiscal year without appropriating from the ending fund balance.

The district has received approximately 96% of this years' property taxes. The projection for tax revenue was conservative and additional prior year tax revenue was received that may help cover potential shortfall.

There is a stay on the GEMT legislative bill. Legislature is currently working on it.

There is a legislative possibility of refunding the Oregon State Fire Marshall grants but as far as Chief Holsey knows that legislation has not gone into effect and funding for next seasonal staffing grant should still stand.

Overtime has been brought back into line and is right where it needs to be.

Monthly Expenses Paid

Dir. Adams inquired why Line 9741, Capital Reserve Apparatus, does not appear to show funding received. Chief Holsey responded that the current form is new and is continuing to be developed.

Action: Dir. Adams moved to approve the following:

**Check #34105 to #34107 for \$64,800.80,
Check #34109 to #34162 for \$41,254.20,**

**Check #34164 to #34166 for \$1,236.96,
Check #34169 to 34192 for \$28,270.97,
and check #34194 for \$6,476.85,
EFT payments equaling \$183,374.86,
and QuickBooks Services payments of \$165,652.88,
for total monthly expenses paid of \$493,502.58.**

Seconded by Dir. Robinette. Motion passed, 5-0.

Management Reports

Year in Review by Chief Holsey

- Getting more involved in the community
 - Jackpine road cleanup.
 - Delivered Santa to the Community Center in Fire Engine.
 - Administration building windows decorated by high school student.
 - Chamber state-of-the-district presentation went well.
 - Lt. Sawyer reached out to the media to cover our firefighter training events.

- Alarm response statistics with month-to-month comparison were similar although approximately 300 reports are missing in ImageTrend so numbers are lower than reality. This info is what is reported to the federal and state governments.
 - Dir. Vietzke commended Chief Holsey for doing a great job interacting and getting out into the community. He would like to see more public stories on our district and offered his help with public relations. Lt. Sawyer noted he has reached out to the media to cover our firefighter events but they have not shown interest.

- FM Joshua Erwin is working with the county's LEO tactical unit as a paramedic for injured officers and then other patients. The goal is to have one paramedic per shift. Materials are provided by DCSO.

Union Report

None

Dir Adams inquired if there is some sort of tracking of Cardiac Arrest Survivability. Chief Holsey responded that there is and that the new Lucas devices are on all medics and have been amazing in improving those survivability numbers. The new power loads are also a huge help. Discussion ensued about possibly providing those numbers monthly.

Dir. Jeremy Johnson lead a discussion on the medics. His goal would be to always have 3 medics in service. There is really a need to have 4 in service, and Chief Holsey sees a need to keep 5 in a pool so there is a backup due to how frequently they break down. Capt. Rigney will get some stats together to assist in the 2025 Budget year.

Training Report

Lt. Sawyer is adjusting the administrative side and finding personal growth within his new role and enjoying the challenge. With two Academies during the 2023–2024-year, six people were hired locally while losing one to Redmond and in spite of this the culture seems to be shifting amongst the students. Lt. Sawyer is seeing more participation from the students in outreach and training opportunities while maintaining grades, more relationship building is occurring, an increase of collaboration with Sunriver Fire Department.

Lt. Sawyer will attend a meeting at COCC on January 21, 2025, to discuss the development of 5-week training academy.

Goal:

- Development of crews
- Training for multi-unit rescues and fire attacks
- Wildland training
- Prescribed Burn season training time
- \$92K for training

Chair Michael Vietzke asked if the Fireman/Medics know about what bridges they can go over or not go over. Chief Holsey confirmed that no vehicle will go over a bridge unless it is clearly posted.

Chief's Report

Chief Holsey also provided an update on the new PLO that was implemented by the state. There is a lot that is unclear or unknown and is making every effort to educate himself so that he can in turn educate and answer questions when presented. It will take some time to work through this piece and get the crew informed.

Chief Holsey reported that two vacuums were purchased. The Central Oregon conditions are hard on vacuums and need replaced on occasion.

With the heavy rains the Administrative Building had a major water leak and is getting dried out in preparation for repairs. In the meantime, an asbestos test is being done, AC Daugherty is getting bids for repairs. Administrative department hours will be impacted.

One of the ambulances hit an elk and is waiting for repair quotes. With the body shop that is usually used under new ownership other body shops are being considered. Chief Holsey has received an Acknowledgement Letter from the insurance company.

Correspondence/News

The District received a letter in support of the Ladder Truck Project from Congressman Cliff Bentz. With La Pine's increase in multi-family complexes, it will be important to have this equipment to provide services for the community if the situation arises. Once the ladder truck is ordered it could take up to 42 months to receive. An additional bay

would need to be built before delivery. Senator Wyden & Murphy have shown interest and are very much informed, expecting a letter of support from them forthcoming.

Chief Holsey has reached out to Wyden and Bentz talking about GET Funding and ambulance revenues to counteract the SPA (Special Project Amendments) and a few other things at the legislative level.

Jarod got us another AV Equipment grant in the amount of \$11,700 and will be receiving it at some point.

Old Business

Chief Holsey spoke with Bruce and Sunriver Fire collaboration will resume soon. In the meantime, there are a couple of events that Lt. Sawyer is putting together.

The meeting was held with HR Answers to gain more knowledge regarding the Sick Leave Policy. The process is complicated, but the Chief will make every effort to get the information out and answer questions. Education of the entire team on Sick Leave and PLO will be forthcoming and include communicating the importance of not abusing the system.

Dir Adams requested HR Answers charts from that meeting that was held on January 7, 2025.

New Business

Chief Holsey provided copies of two contracts for the board to review. If there is a time constraint to respond to any contract the Chief will execute prior to presenting it to the board.

Lt Sawyer will be helping Captain Holsey out while AC Daugherty is out.

Draft Budget Calander is out

Special Meetings and Workshops

OPS/Management Meeting January 25, 2024, 0830 Station 101

Good of the Order

Dir. Dan Robinette may have some contractors that would be interested in bidding on the Administration Offices repairs. Chief Holsey suggested any interested party to contact AC Daugherty directly.

Board elections for Dir Adams & Dir Johnson are this year.

Next Regular Meeting

February 13,2025 at 9:00 a.m. at Station 101.

Regular Board Meeting Adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully Scribed and Submitted
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
Administrative Staff

*Date Presented to Board: **January 9, 2025***