

**Tangent Rural Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
August 10, 2022**

Board Members Present: John Dunn, Chris Meyer, Scott Richards, Bruce Riley, Paul Strombeck
Staff Present: IFC Stearns, BC Chapin, OA Conrad
Others: Volunteer Assn. Dan Taylor,
Citizens: None present
Staff Absent: AC Vonasek

President Dunn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
No citizens connected by phone.

I. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

II. APPROVAL OF:

Minutes – Regular Board Meeting – July 13, 2022

Action: Richards moved to approve the July 13, 2022 minutes as submitted. Meyer seconded the motion. Upon vote, it passed unanimously, (5-0).

Minutes – Special Board Meeting – July 26, 2022

Action: Meyer moved to approve the June 6, 2022 minutes with the correction of the spelling of his name in the body of the minutes. Riley seconded the motion. Upon vote, it passed unanimously, (5-0).

Financial Report – July 2022

Action: Strombeck moved to approve the June 2022 financial report as submitted. Riley seconded the motion. Upon vote, it passed unanimously, (5-0).

III. STANDING REPORTS:

Volunteer Association –Taylor
Nothing to report – No meeting

Interim Fire Chief – Stearns

(The following is the Interim Chief’s written report as well as added comments made at the meeting.)

Meeting Attended:

Four weekly staff meetings

Two volunteer drills
TRFPD Board meeting
TRFPD Board Executive session
Linn Co. Fire Defense Board meeting (hosted)
Volunteer Officers meeting
Assisted Lebanon Fire with B.C. promotional process
Gates Fire site visit and photo op

Arrest:

After a lengthy investigation, former resident volunteer Levi Bursik, was arrested by Linn Co. Sheriff Office for theft of fuel. The thefts took place April – July and in my estimation over \$5000 of fuel. The investigation is ongoing but should soon be turned over to the D.A.'s office for prosecution. The updated amount is approximately \$3432.00. Cameras at Circle K and Easy Stop at the stores, but not at Pac-Pride. The other cameras happened to catch him. Four different Pac-Pride locations were used.

Fire Chief Hiring Process:

Following an Executive Session discussion, it was decided by the Board not to continue the hiring process with the #1 candidate. The #2 candidate was contacted, and he declined further consideration since he had accepted a position with Klamath #1 Fire District. The Board felt they did not want to go any further down the list of candidates and have closed this round of the process. The Board and Chief will meet to discuss options available for moving forward.

Grant:

I am pleased to report that we have been able to utilize the grants funds to make several summertime hires that will help with identified needs of the organization. Dan Tayler is working 24 hr. shifts and is helping with staffing and facilities maintenance. Nick Peyralans is working 24 hr. shifts helping out staffing and general station duties. Chris Hunt is part time assisting with training, staffing and response readiness. Diego Ramirez is part time working 24 hr. shift coverage and assisting with commercial inspections. I believe we are very fortunate to have been able to bring these very qualified individuals from our volunteer ranks. This grant runs thru October or earlier if available funds are depleted.

We applied for a Safety and Security Grant to upgrade our cameras. Our system is antiquated and analog and doesn't save appropriately. We would like to add more cameras into the public areas of the station; the fire bays and increase cameras on the perimeter to include the Warren building. We received a quote from Professional Security Alarm. This is a 50-50 Grant. Richards recommended Verkada.

Personnel Issue:

Last month's report mentioned two ongoing personnel issues that I now consider resolved. One resolved with the termination and arrest of the individual. The other individual failed to return from a granted leave of absence. There has been no communication with me since he requested the leave of absence and I therefore consider him as resigning from the department.

Observation:

As summer heats up I expect we will continue to see an increase in call volume and calls for service. We are attempting to recruit volunteers and students but with limited success. Recently we have responded on several calls with only the duty officer and one responder. A Linn County taskforce is currently on the McKenny fire in Northern California, due to limited staffing I did not feel we could participate in the

mobilization. Albany continues to be a great neighbor and assures me they stand ready to back us up as needed.

Benton County has been called to K Falls preposition for lightening coming through. For dispatch an engine and couple of people were needed. We had the opportunity to go, but once again we are just too short staffed to be able to participate. We need to take care of Tangent first.

Assistant Chief/Training Officer – Vonasek

(The following is the Assistant Chief's written report as well as added comments made at the meeting.)

FIRE & EMS TRAINING –

In-House – With new ownership, the Department will be doing some training at Tangent Industrial Park.

Capt. Hunt – Pt time again, with Chris Hunt part time again with the Grant, he and I will be evaluating current training trends, and look at how in-house training can be altered to motivate the drive the passion to learn in our programs

Regional – Training minimal going into the fire season

State – No Report

OR-EMS – No Report

National – No Report

HEALTH & SAFETY –

Safety Committee – Is to meet Aug 16th @ 1830 Hours Safety Meeting

SCBA Grant Update – No activity, No announcement of Grant currently.

Several our bottles are out of service because they are unable to be hydrostatically tested any longer. They have met their maximum 15-year life. Hopefully, we get the grant, but we have budgeted for this expense.

EQUIPMENT UPDATE –

Equipment – Current SCBAs will receive their annual flow

OTHER BUSINESS –

Insurance Services Organization Audit – David Hyland of ISO has been out of contact. Selmet Inc. is not offering up their water system, likely because they are self-insured. Just waiting for Mr. Hyland to make his next visit.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH –

Tangent Fire District Website – staying active

Tangent District Portal – Department members continue to Utilize the Portal for various purposes.

Tangent Community Blood Drive & Food Drive – The Blood Drive was another success, made goal for the drive. Next Blood Drive is in October.

Staff Battalion Chief's Report – Chapin (The following is the BC's written report as well as added comments made at the meeting.)

Meetings Attended:

- Four staff meetings
- Two Interviews (summer help)
- Met with two volunteers
- Linn County Building meeting
- Fire defense board meeting

- Engine Program meeting
- OLST
- Agility Robotics Pre-plan meeting – Building a two-story 94,000 sq. ft. and also keeping the current building occupy. They employ 100 now expecting to increase to add 200+ more. There will be battery storage and battery use and lithium, which has a certain concerns for the fire service. The tax base and assessed value will help with the staffing costs.

Fire Inspections- One driveway inspection was completed.

Pre-Plans- Four buildings at Tangent Industrial Park has been Pre-planned.

Public ED- We did one station tour for a birthday party. Worked with Beth on National Night out that is scheduled for August 2.

Vehicle Maintenance- Minor maintenance on all vehicles were done. E-73 had primer valve and foam leak repaired. WT-73 had pump panel display replaced. E-71 deck gun hand bushing replaced; AC was recharged. E-72 Q-siren solenoid was repaired. BR-71 had a marker light and reverse light repaired.

Building/Ground Maintenance- The grass out back by patio has been replaced with river rock. The closet by Denny’s office has been cleaned up and reorganized.

Volunteers- We had one volunteer resign. One that is resigning at the end of August. 2 others have also resigned. Have interview a few interested volunteers.

Training- Finished up teaching the wildland fire fresher training in August. I completed the Haz-Mat IC training.

Summer Hire- I have been studying up on FLSA, BOLI and pertinent laws pertaining to hiring and employee management. I have been working with the Chief on Dan and Nikolos’s work schedules and getting them up to speed.

Grants DPSST and State Fire Marshall for PPE. Another grant for Type 3,6 and water tenders. We put in for the type 3. This is a 3-year commitment, renewable every 3-years. 50-50 revenue if it goes out on conflag (State/Tangent), with a \$3500 for maintenance. We do not expect to get this awarded to Tangent.

Activity Report: Total YTD calls are 227 as of the month of July. This is a 22-call increase from 2021, 57 increase from 2020, increase 13 from 2019 and down 10 calls from last month.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

Publication of donation to Gates/Detroit our Tender 72. Will put on Flash News. Make copy of the picture for board. Their district has not had a tender prior and were impressed by the pumps on the front we used for fighting field fires.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Fire Chief Hiring Process – Stearns

We have an applicant that has submitted his application. The Board may choose to do what they want for the process of hiring a new chief, if they discuss it in an open meeting and there is an opportunity for public comment, which there is tonight. The board may choose to interview him or tell him to submit with the rest of the applicants.

A discussion followed with the conclusion to schedule an interview with this applicant the week of August 22, if possible, holding the meeting in Executive Session. Our process of having a “Meet and Greet” and an interview with the community and technical panels will still be followed if the board proceeds with this applicant.

If the application process is reopened, a shorter timeline will be put in place. We have met the obligation to discuss this openly at a public meeting and given the opportunity for public comment.

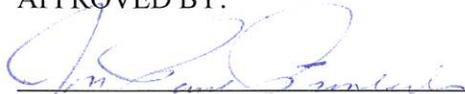
GOOD OF THE ORDER:

A. Board Meeting – September 14, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

President Dunn adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Denny Conrad.
Office Administrator

APPROVED BY:



John Dunn, President - Board of Directors

9-14-2022

Date