

Tangent Rural Fire District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
December 14, 2022

**Board Members Present:** John Dunn, Paul Strombeck, Scott Richards, Chris Meyer, Bruce Riley  
**Staff Present:** FC Griffin, AC Vonasek, BC Chapin, OA Conrad  
**Volunteer Association:** Brice Walters, President, Dan Taylor  
**Citizens:** None present

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President Dunn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
One citizen connected by Zoom for about 10 minutes. (A. Fletcher)

**I. CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

**II. APPROVAL OF:**

**Minutes – Board Meeting – November 9, 2022**

**Action:** Meyer moved to approve November 9, 2022 minutes as submitted. Richards seconded the motion. Upon vote, it passed unanimously, (5-0).

**Financial Report – October 2022**

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

Discussion of a few budget items being over the percentage for the year. At the next meeting a resolution can, be presented to appropriate the funds from the summer employee grant which will correct the payroll line items.

**III. STANDING REPORTS:**

**Volunteer Association –Walters**

This is Walters' last meeting as Volunteer Association President. Dan Taylor will be taking over the position. Belt buckles have been ordered may be in by Christmas. The Volunteer Association is paying for half and if anyone wants one, they pay the other half.

The Board thanked Walters for his dedication and work all of these years with the Volunteer Association.

**Fire Chief – Griffin**

**Calls for Service:**

During a recent overdose call. We responded with Linn County Sheriff Deputies and Lebanon Fire. The deputies did an exceptional job with patient care. Sent a thank you email to Sheriff Duncan.

**Meetings:**

Attending weekly staff meetings and officer meeting. Safety meetings will be starting again soon. Lunch meeting with City Hall staff regarding the building permit process.

Two meetings with Lebanon Fire Chief Joe Rodondi regarding the OSFM Capacity Grant.

Attended monthly Linn-Benton Fire Defense Board meeting.

ODOT debrief meeting for the I-5 wreck on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Correspondence:**

Hand delivered a letter of appreciation to the Linn County Roadmaster along with a dozen donuts for the crack seal work they completed on our back drill grounds/parking lot.

Tangent Rural Fire Protection District Newsletter December edition emailed on the 12/06/2022.

**Operations/Equipment:**

Albany Fire demonstrated the Lift Assist device at a recent drill with favorable results. We are purchasing two at \$1800 each.

Started the final UST decommissioning process with DEQ and will be reaching out to local Environment Consultants to get estimates and an idea of what the work plan will consist of. The initial fee from DEQ will be around \$350.00. Reach out to Goff Construction and in speaking with them may be able to use water samples. Up to 6 months to get a project manager.

Hauled 46 SCBA cylinders to scrap and received about a dollar a piece for them. More SCBA cylinders will soon be purchased. Need 10 more, which will give us 5 in reserve.

The OSFM Capacity Grant was submitted for 2 firefighters and one shared fire prevention personnel. If we do not get either of the grants, we will go forward to share the inspector with Lebanon. If we do not get either of the grants, we will add it to the budget for next year. Thirty will be awarded; there are 100 applicants. Both Lebanon and Tangent are represented by the same council, therefore a conflict release form as been created, and an IGA will be created when/if the grant is awarded.

**Training:**

Recruit academy and Volunteer drills are ongoing. Emphasis on basic, fundamental Firefighter/EMS skills.

**Other:**

Attended the Halsey-Shedd pancake breakfast and parade.

The Tangent Together event on December 3<sup>rd</sup> appeared to be well attended and successful.

3 classroom presentations at SAHS representing our Volunteer/Resident Volunteer programs as well as other emergency services careers and emergency response. Now have 2 people interested in the RV program.

Chief Griffin is about halfway through getting his requirement on recertifications. NAP drivers, pumper operator and Fire Instructor 1 is active.

LBCC EMT Program is not going to be restarted. Lane CC is teaching the EMT Program for Corvallis.

Over the next two weeks two other quotes should be coming in for the Safety Security Grant.

Chief Rodondi is talking about a joint board workshop with for both boards. The board is in favor of having a work session together.

Projects – Tenders and the issues with the tenders. There are two options: remounting the tenders on a GI chassis or purchasing a new international chassis, which are available. Build time is June 2023. About \$380,000 for both, with our existing chassis having a value of \$40,000 to \$50,000 each, but the drawback is the transmission and power pumps. Board is interested in learning more but are hesitant.

Damaged equipment to get repaired about \$5,000. Scars on the brush truck and dent on the door of the type 6 brush truck.

All local Fire departments have shown support for Halsey/Shedd Fire.

Tangent Together went well.

**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** – In-House Firefighter 1 academy is in full swing, good group so far. All are engaging at a high level. Final weekend of the academy, January 14<sup>th</sup> will be held at the DPSST campus in Aumsville for their live fire training.

Sunday, January 15 at noon the conclusion of the winter fire academy will be celebrated with a lunch BBQ with the new Firefighters and their families. Everyone is welcome to come celebrate their achievement.

Working with property owner for a learn and burn on Fry Road.

**Regional** – No Report - Holidays

**State** – Winter Fire School Feb. 25 & 26 / Spring Fire School, April 15 & 16.

**OR-EMS** – Newport EMS Conference March 30 – April 2, 2023

**National** – The National Fire Academy is accepting applications for next year's classes

**HEALTH & SAFETY –**

**Meeting with Jason Jantzi - SDAO** – Have worked with Mr. Jantzi many times over the years. He will be assisting us in conducting an in-house safety audit. Using the Safety Committee, allow them to take ownership and develop a plan for ways to improve safety around the station. This plan has been successful with other small organizations working their way out of the post-pandemic dilemma that has plagued some department with small staffing.

**Safety Committee** – Will meet in December, resuming regular meetings on first Tuesdays of the month. Starting January 2023. Safety Committee will be returning to first Tuesday of the month meetings. This will allow for an "all-hands" safety meeting with all the volunteers which is conducted during the Volunteer Association meeting held quarterly throughout the year. First "all-hands" meeting will occur January 2023. This will also allow Board members attending Volunteer meetings to hear about safety topics during these meetings.

**EQUIPMENT UPDATE** – No Report

**OTHER BUSINESS –**

**Insurance Services Organization Audit** – Spoke with Mr. Hyland from ISO And our results should be available anytime now.

**DEQ UST tank removal from Nov. 18, 1992** – Have handed the project over to Chief Griffin following a briefing of the incident.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH –**

**Tangent Fire District Website** – No Report, still active

**Tangent Community Blood Drive & Food Drive** – Next Blood Drive is set for January 19, 2023 at the fire station.

**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:**

- 3 staff meetings
- LB Access and Water supply
- Sheet Metals on Engines

**Fire Inspections-** Working with contractors on site plans. TIP will be having a new structure go in that is two stories and will be 162,000 square feet. Looking into the Emergency Communication Coverage Fee, a pool of funding to help with radio communications within a building over 50,000 sq. ft. This could provide funding for boosters or repeaters.

The LB Fire marshals are still working on a joint document for access and water supply.  
Provided one fire re-inspection.

**Pub-ED-** E-71 and BC-71 participated in the Veterans Day Parade.

**Vehicle Maintenance-** E-72 is currently out of service. It had several exhaust leaks, the hydraulic cab lifters are leaking and broken mounts, primer for the pump is getting replaced. Could be our in-house exhaust system could be hitting the hitting and jarring the trucks. This may need to be redesigned. If everything is running on DEF, it could be removed.

BC-71 had oil change and headlight socket replaced.

**Volunteers-** We made some changes to the volunteer program. we discussed the process at the officers meeting and all officers were on board with the new change.

Went to LBCC Job Fair

On November 29 Albany Fire demonstrated on the lifting cushion. Everyone had good feedback on the devices. I sat through a couple of webinars for the new paid leave Oregon law. Attended a webinar on Community Wildfire risk reduction Grant. Completed training with the Chief to get him cleared to drive code 3. Largely I worked on completing the Fire Service Capacity grant which was submitted on November

29. Wildland classes have been scheduled for next spring from the wildland fire grant. I worked on putting the new SCBA bottles into service.

**Activity Report:** Total YTD calls are 399 as of the month of November. This is a 17-call increase from 2021, 97 increase from 2020, increase 68 from 2019 and down 8 calls from last month.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **Generator Repair** – Chapin  
Install completed and functioning.
- B. **Fire & Safety Services Fee Schedule** – Chapin  
This will need to be an ordinance and legal council will need to draw up the ordinance for Tangent. Suggested to check with SDAO first.
- C. **DEQ Open File “Additional Work Required for Petroleum Leak” - Fuel Tank Removal November 1992** – Griffin  
See chief’s report.
- D. **SCBA update** – Griffin – Vonasek  
See chief’s report.
- E. **Ice Machine** – Vonasek  
Hooked up started to make up ice, but lost power by tripping the GFI. Rite-Way Electric is coming out to put in GFI. Water conditioner was hooked up with an extension cord. Separate line for the ice machine.  
Suggested to put in permanent stairway for the loft.
- F. **Lift Devices** – Griffin  
See chief’s report.
- G. **Board New emails** – Conrad  
Board now has new “tangentfire.com” emails. These will be added to the website.
- H. **Holiday Dinner** - Griffin  
Awesome dinner with the board, staff, and volunteers. Food was great.

**V. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **Paid Leave Oregon** – Conrad  
Starting in January 2023 employees will pay 60% of 1% gross wages. If employer has over 25 employees, they will pay 40% of the 1% gross wages. If the employer had under 25 employees, they are not required to pay. But there are benefits if the smaller employers pay into this tax pool. There

are grants that are available if an employee uses PLO. The grants are up to a \$1,000.00 per person for training a replacement and \$3,000.00 up to \$30,000 for wages this replacement person while the employee is out on PLO. Tangent's portion would be just under \$1100.00.

**B. Part-time Prevention Position/Grant – Griffin**

See chief's report.

**C. January Board Work Session – Dunn**

The board feels it is important to meet with the Chief and set goals for the department. Dunn will come up with a date and contact the Board.

**D. Reviewing Policies Timeline – Dunn**

Set timeline reviewing our policies during the year doing a few each month. Access to Lexipol will be given to the Board to review the policies easier.

**E. Board Outreach work with the Volunteers – Dunn**

Board would like to attend the Volunteers Quarterly Business meeting. Taylor would like to do more social things with dinner. Sunday afternoons or 5th Tuesdays. Have off campus gatherings with more relaxed time. The more we do it, the more people will want to attend.

**F. Board Jackets – Dunn**

Riley and Strombeck have coats for the board to look at and try on. There is a local person that can sew on the patches. Vonasek was asked to order the coats for the Board.

**G. Board of Directors Conference - Dunn**

Award for all 5 Board members attending the conference. We will take a picture and send it to OFDDA.

**H. Sent card and donation for Stan Lathrom – Dunn**

In memory of the passing of former Board member Stan Lathrom, the board sent a card to the family and donation to Tangent Elementary School.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

A. Board Meeting – January 11, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

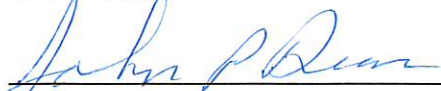
B. Blood Drive – January 19, 2023 – 11:00 a.m.

Vice-President Strombeck adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Denny Conrad.

Office Administrator

APPROVED BY:



John Dunn, President - Board of Directors

1-11-2023

Date