



McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Board Meeting

November 20, 2023

Directors

- President Bruce Daniel
- Vice President Derek Wing
- Secretary/Treasurer Raymond Byrne, Jr.
- Board Member George Burnette Dillon
- Board Member Lee Means

Staff

- Fire Chief Darren Bucich
- Deputy Chief Bart Thompson
- Administrative Assistant Dulcy Pierce

President Bruce Daniel called the November meeting of the McKenzie Fire & Rescue Board of Directors to order at 12:01 p.m. on Monday, November 20, 2023, at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Highway, Leaburg, Oregon.

No Guests – No Public Input

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: Lee Means moved to accept the minutes, as presented, of the October 16, 2023, Board meeting. Derek Wing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to file the treasurer's report for the month of October, subject to audit, was made by Raymond Byrne, Jr. George Burnette Dillon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chief's Report: Chief Bucich's written report was included in the Board packet. Also discussed:

Disaster Relief Logistics Center: Chief Bucich reported that the project is progressing. There are still unfinished items that are being worked through with the contractor. The fencing will be installed soon and the driveway will be repaired to correct sloping issues. To date, the District has only spent \$20,000 of the Board approved district funds. While we continue to write for grants, we may begin to purchase emergency supplies for the DRLC.

Grant Updates: We are still waiting to hear about the FEMA AFG, and SAFER grants. The District received a \$15,000 grant for a double-axle trailer and accessories for the DRLC from the RoundHouse Foundation.

Halloween: Crews attended the Trout & Treat Halloween event at the Discovery Center on October 31st, then moved to Madrone Street to hand out candy.

Harvest Festival: Crews attended the Walterville Elementary Harvest Festival on November 17th, handing out stickers and helmets to kids.



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PIER Grant Group: Lane County was awarded \$7.9 million for economic structure along the McKenzie Corridor. Chief Bucich has included water tanks as a viable project for the McKenzie area. The grant panel would like to see projects bundled so Chief Bucich has been approached about managing the water tank project for both Upper McKenzie Fire and McKenzie Fire & Rescue. If awarded, the intent is to hire a project manager to oversee the water tank installation in critically identified areas. Chief Bucich will follow up with Upper McKenzie Fire to determine their intent to insure and maintain the tanks following installation. If they are unwilling to insure or maintain Chief Bucich will look at other options.

Bureau of Land Management: Chief Bucich met with BLM personnel on Goodpasture Road regarding the placement of a water tank. BLM looks favorably upon this project and is willing to waive fees. Because this is a federal process, it may take time to finalize.

Action

Resolution #5 – Accepting Revenue & Authorizing Expenditures for the RoundHouse Grant, \$15,000

Raymond Byrne, Jr. moved to accept Resolution #5 – Accepting Revenue & Authorizing Expenditures for the RoundHouse Grant, \$15,000. George Burnette Dillon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

No Unfinished Business

New Business

Operations Levy: Chief Bucich created a 5-year budget at the increased rate of \$1.05. The intent of the increase is to maintain current staffing levels.

The current levy is .60, so this proposal would increase the current levy an additional .45 cents per 1,000. The Board was provided with a copy of the 5-year budget prior to the meeting for review.

After discussion, Bruce Daniel moved to proceed with adding the levy, at \$1.05, to the ballot next May 2024. Raymond Byrne, Jr. seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The renewed levy would not go into effect until November of 2025.

Good of the Order

1631 and personnel are at Dexter Rural Fire Protection District today, attending the memorial service of long-time volunteer and employee Jason Lyda.

Raymond Byrne, Jr. thanked the Board for their continued involvement and unity in District meetings. He also thanked Chief Bucich and the staff for their transparency and reports provided monthly. In turn, Chief Bucich thanked the Board for their oversight and vision for the future of McKenzie Fire & Rescue.



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The annual Volunteer Appreciation Christmas Breakfast and Dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 20th, at 9 am and 6 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 18, 2023, at the Leaburg Training Center.

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

Raymond Byrne, Jr., Secretary / Treasurer