



Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District

P.O. Box B • 160 Detroit Ave. N. • Detroit, OR 97342
Detroit Office: 503-854-3494 • Idanha Station: 503-854-3540
idanhadetroit@gmail.com • www.idanhadetroitfire.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING October 10th, 2019 – Detroit City Hall Council Chambers 160 Detroit Ave N, Detroit, Oregon

Call to Order:

Director Collier called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Attendance:

Board of Directors: Linda Stice, Walt Collier, Jeff Skeeters

Staff: Fire Chief Will Ewing, AC Damon Faust, Lt Laura Harris

Others Present: Debby Ruyle, Leon Stice

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Changes to the Agenda: Lt Harris stated that she added this line just in case there were any suggested changes to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. No changes were suggested.

Announcements: AC Faust mentioned that it was Fire Prevention Week. Chief Ewing stated it was based on the Great Chicago Fire. AC Faust stated that we are starting a smoke-detector program for our communities. We will give out free smoke detectors and also use the opportunity for a recruitment push. Joe Darby, one of our volunteers, contacted the Red Cross and they provided everything we will need for installation including a step stool, tools, screws, the detectors, the batteries, and literature. Chief Ewing discussed that you have to make sure to buy the 9-volt batteries that are meant for smoke detectors. All the manufacturers make them, and they will have a "D" printed on them somewhere. AC Faust suggested that everyone who was present at the meeting take advantage of the program. Director Stice asked how to sign up for it. Lt Harris stated that she had created a survey that will be finalized and then posted on the district website soon.

Consent Agenda: Director Skeeters moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Director Stice seconded the motion. Aye votes heard from all directors present. Motion passed. Chief Ewing presented the financial statement and there was general discussion on the financials. Director Skeeters moved to accept the financial statement. Director Stice seconded the motion. Aye votes heard from all directors present. Motion passed.

Comments From the Public on Agenda Items: No public comments were made.

Old Business:

- a) **Idanha Station Upgrades:** Chief Ewing went to Marion County Safety and Planning, and the process is going to slow down. We may need sprinkler systems installed. Chief Ewing is going to be in contact with the mineralogist from the forest service so we can harvest the rocks from the quarries to use on the front of the station. He has been in contact with DAS about small generators that will fit the bill for this winter.
- b) **Apparatus Review:** We have the 2011 Ford F-550 in our fleet now. There may be a problem with the turbo and we will have it inspected and fixed as soon as possible. One of the squads had to be towed to a mechanic due to a computer issue. Director Stice mentioned that she had gone to a mechanic in Lyons and that they were highly

recommended. Lt Harris also said that she had used them and also recommends them. General discussion on the possibility of switching mechanics in favor of the mechanic being closer geographically.

- c) **ISO Review:** Chief Ewing stated that the representative from ISO had cancelled his previous appointment due to a family emergency and will instead be performing his review next week (October 15th.) We may be able to show most of our training files to him electronically.
- d) **Lease for extrication equipment:** Director Skeeters asked about the life expectancy of the new tools. Chief Ewing replied that the batteries will most likely have a 10-year lifespan, but some agencies have gotten at least 15 years of use. Chief Ewing stated that he wouldn't be asking for these tools if there wasn't a need for them, and he wants to have the tools available prior to the winter months. He will do everything he can to raise money for the annual payments on the lease. AC Faust stated that the representative from Holmatro will give our responders annual training on the tools.

General discussion on the advantages to buying new versus used tools. New tools come with warranties and training, used tools do not. Chief Ewing discussed the advantages of the lease if it were to be signed. The lease has a term of five years, and in that five years, if the board decided to back out of the lease, we could return the extrication tools with no obligation of further payments. AC Faust mentioned the wreck that recently occurred and that we could have saved between 10-15 minutes if we had been able to perform with our own tools instead of relying on Gates Fire. Lt Harris showed the board a few pictures from that wreck. Chief Ewing stated that our focus needed to return to fire calls, that we will still respond to medical calls, but our primary responsibility is being a fire department, and that means protection with structure fires, motor vehicle crashes, and wildland fires. Part of that responsibility is having the correct tools for the job we will be performing.

Lt Harris also mentioned that even though we've been relying on Gates Fire for extrication, that is not best practice. She asked "What happens when Gates is unable to respond? What would we do then?" Chief Ewing also stated that by Gates responding to our incidents, that leaves their district unprotected.

Director Collier asked for a motion to table or vote for the extrication tools. Director Stice moved to purchase the extrication equipment. Director Skeeters seconded the motion. Aye votes heard from all directors present. Motion passed. Chief Ewing suggested to do a second motion to approve the lease. Director Collier moved to lease the equipment through First Government Lease Company. Director Skeeters seconded the motion the motion. Aye votes heard from all directors present. Motion passed. Chief Ewing mentioned that the first payment of approximately \$9,600 will be due next year. He also stated that the main extrication set will be on the new rescue, and the combi-tool will be on the Seagrave. Director Stice asked what tools we are getting. Chief Ewing replied that we are getting a set of cutters, a set of spreaders, and a ram. We are also getting a combi-tool, stabilization support tools, and spare batteries.

New Business:

- a) **Surplus of 1998 Freightliner Heavy Rescue:** Chief Ewing stated that if sell the heavy rescue for more than the first payment for the extrication lease, his plan is to use those funds for that payment, and any amount we receive over that first payment should go

back into our fleet. Director Collier called for a motion. Director Stice moved to surplus the heavy rescue and to use the funds reserved for the first payment on the extrication lease. Director Skeeters seconded the motion. Aye votes heard from all directors present. Motion passed.

- b) Surplus of weight and exercise equipment:** Chief Ewing listed some of the equipment on the agenda for surplus, including a weight bench, elliptical, stationary bike, and punching bag. He also stated that whatever money we receive from the sale of the equipment will go towards the remodeling of the Idanha station. Director Skeeters moved to surplus the equipment and use the funds received for the remodel of the Idanha station. Director Stice seconded the motion. Discussion: Debby Ruyle asked how the equipment was being sold, because she knew someone who might be interested. Director Skeeters also stated he may be interested as well. Chief Ewing replied that he wanted to do a sealed bid for the equipment. Director Collier called for a vote. Aye votes heard from all directors present. Motion passed.

Staff and Committee Reports:

- a) Fire Chief:** Chief Ewing stated that the R&R grant ends this month, but AC Faust will be staying on as a training officer and will receive a small stipend from the district for that position. He also stated that we've run into a few issues with DPSST with our accreditation process, but we are attempting to move forward with that process.

The green FEPP vehicle will eventually be painted red to match the rest of our fleet, but it is a very low-priority item. We will use Willamette Collision, the same shop that donated a paint job for the Seagrave. He also stated that that vehicle will not be good for conflagrations, because we will only see half the revenue since we don't own the vehicle. We will be getting another Type VI from DAS, and Chief Ewing's plan is to fix it within 18 months and then sell it for a profit. He will be driving to California and towing it back with his truck.

Chief Ewing will be getting a door and a window for the Idanha station and will start work on the front of the station in November. He will be getting rid of the scrap metal and cleaning up the 2-bay for the remodel. He gave a brief update on our internal training program: it gives us a sense of pride and ownership for our volunteers.

- b) Recruitment Officers:** AC Faust stated that we have 12 volunteers, and 10 out of 12 are actively engaged and participating. General discussion on the demographics of our volunteers and the activeness of each. One way to keep our volunteers active in our slower months is to provide quality training. He has heard a lot of good things over the past few months about our district.

Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items: Debby Ruyle mentioned that during the Detroit City Council meeting, AC Faust represented the fire district very well. There was a discussion on the city's maintenance shed and the possibility of storing some apparatus in the shed. The City Council formed a sub-committee and AC Faust is part of that committee. Leon Stice mentioned that he came to the meeting to find out some information on the extrication equipment, and was very happy to hear that we are going with battery-powered tools as opposed to hydraulic tools. General discussion on the extrication call that we had and praise for Gates Fire. Lt Harris stated they did a phenomenal job. The only issue mentioned was that the hydraulic line had been stepped on and tripped over a few times.

Good of the Order: Lt Harris thanked the board for the aye vote for the extrication equipment lease. General agreement from the other staff members.

Next Board Meeting: November 14th at 5:00pm at Idanha City Hall

Adjournment: Director Collier moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Stice seconded the motion. Aye votes heard from all directors present. No nay votes were heard. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Board President

Office Administrator