

SW Polk Fire District

Regular Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2021 – 15455 Salt Creek Rd. Dallas, OR 97338*

Meeting was held virtually via RingCentral Meetings

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
SW Polk Fire District Rod Watson Frank Pender Keith Moore Bruce Sigloh Bob Davis	None
	Administration Present
	Fred Hertel Christine Talley Jennifer Stone Zach Leigh

Virtual- (V) Arrives after roll call- (ARC)

GENERAL BUSINESS		
Call to Order		President Rod Watson opens the meeting at 6:00 pm. SW Polk Fire District has a quorum of directors and will allow deliberation, decision making, and will take public comment per the posted agenda. Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
Approval of Minutes		None
Financial Report	Discussion/Action	The board reviews the November and October financials. All questions are answered. Motion: Pender Second: Davis <i>I move to approve the October financials.</i> Motion passes unanimously Motion: Davis Second: Pender <i>I move to approve the November financials.</i> Motion passes unanimously
Audience Participation		None
Levy (not on agenda)	Discussion	Board discusses future levy. Hertel says he will draft a levy and place it back on the agenda for review by the board, hopefully sometime in January with a goal to formalize it by March.
Chief's Performance Review	Discussion	Board reviews the performance review. They agree to each fill out the form and bring it back for the January regular meeting. Hertel asks if the board wants to do the review in Executive Session. Watson says yes.
Billing Ordinance & Ambulance Fees	Discussion	Hertel explains this ordinance is built off the one that was adopted in 2019. He states it adds ambulance billing and transport fees. Hertel explains they will need to have two special meetings to pass the ordinance and allow them to start billing for ambulance services on January 1 st . Moore asks if cost recovery is different per county. Hertel says it is based off the Oregon Mobilization Plan, and the board may choose any method they want. He says he chose to base it on a statewide platform because it is more justifiable.

		Discussion of billable incidents.
Director Comments		<p>Watson asks if Hertel has any idea what Sheridan is going for regarding a levy. Hertel says he has only heard rumors. Discussion of levies of surrounding districts.</p> <p>Discussion of Firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/Paramedic shortage. Watson states he'd rather be on the high end of wages than lose any staff. Hertel says they would be unable to stay under \$2/per thousand for a levy. Discussion of staff working overtime. Watson says they need to not send a rig out and favor their staff if they are putting in too much overtime. Davis states that personnel are their most valuable resource. Watson states they need to focus on ambulance. Hertel says he has passed all this information on to the new staff who are in the academy.</p> <p>Sigloh asks what the current tax rate is. Watson states it is 0.86 for the base tax rate and around 0.51 for the bond.</p> <p>Discussion of educating the public for the levy. Watson asks to continue the discussion at the next meeting in January.</p>
Chief's Report	Discussion	Hertel introduces the call volume report. Discussion of increase in call volume. Hertel discusses the academy that is being run for new employees are. He states December 25 th is the day 24/7 coverage begins. Hertel explains that old Rickreall station is being cleaned up.
Director Comments	Discussion	Watson states their IGA with West Valley is ending at the end of the month. He asks Hertel if he has any information on what West Valley is planning. Hertel states he has a copy of CTGR's contract proposal. He also says the rumor is that Sheridan passed their contract proposal with the \$250,000 amount rather than the \$275,000 to also provide administrative services. Hertel says Chris Greenhill has asked him if SW Polk could provide administrative services, but he told him it would need to be brought to the board. Watson says he believes the board is not interested in that. Hertel says West Valley still owes SW Polk for the \$5,000 and they are looking to coordinate a trade in equipment rather than dollars. The board agrees. Davis asks if they have lent West Valley any apparatus. Hertel says there is not any currently.
Meeting Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm

Upcoming meetings/events:

- January 13th Regular meeting

Board packet and handouts included:

- November Financials
- October Financials
- Chief Performance Review Form
- Billing Ordinance Draft
- Chief's Report