

Lane Fire Authority

Minutes for February 16th, 2017 Regular Board Meeting 88050 Territorial Hwy., Veneta

Members Present:

Greg Deedon Bill Clendenen Ryan Walker John Baxter Pete Holmes

The regular board meeting for Lane Fire Authority was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Pete Holmes.

Minutes, Treasurer's Report and Bills:

Minutes from the January 19th Board Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – There were no questions. Positive comments from several board members were made regarding the purchase of two power loaders – board members were very pleased.

Correspondence: No correspondence

Chief's Report:

Budgets -Chief Ney is working on the last details of bringing the three budgets together in preparation for upcoming budget activities.

Cease and Desist Letter - The district has an ongoing issue with Eugene/Springfield Fire auto generating notices to patrons (in LFA boundaries) requiring third party inspections of sprinkler systems. Letters were sent to LFA protected properties demanding that within 30 days their sprinkler system must be properly inspected and serviced which in turn caused people to scramble to get inspections and unnecessarily spend money. Chief Ney had LFA's attorney write a cease and desist letter to the Eugene/Springfield city attorney's office regarding this.

Board members requested a letter be sent from LFA to folks in that particular area of our district letting them know they do not need to respond to Eugene/Springfield's demand letter.

Health Insurance - Chief Ney reported that the district's health insurance renewal will be a 4% increase in medical, a 2.45% increase in dental and no increase on vision insurance.

Power Loader - The district received a grant from SDAO for a second power loader. Chief Ney will continue to look for way to equip the other three ambulances with power loaders and wants to see what the results are from other grant funding before pursuing other avenues. Ultimately, the goal is to have all ambulances equipped with the same style of power loader.

A question was asked regarding receiving funds from the injured workers program. We have received money for various items through our workers comp carrier. Most recently we received shop equipment for tire handling – the equipment must enable the injured worker to return to their regular job or an alternate job i.e., equipment must be specific to the injured employee.

Firefighter/Paramedic - The district is on track to bring one more FF/Paramedic on board July 1st. That FTE will be used to staff 101 on a scheduled basis. There are no clear cut days or hours of high demand so we will have some flexibility in scheduling. The position has been offered to line people first and there has been some interest. It is likely the position will be staffed by existing person which will work well for training purposes.

The union will allow the district to establish a part time list for a non-union single role position.

When we test again we will also test for a part time list. The idea is to have relief from the amount of money the district spends on overtime.

Public Comment:

None

Volunteer Association Input:

Tickets will be issued for this year's Awards Banquet – each person will receive two.

Preston Henne is the Association's new president.

Best Practices:

Chief Ney is working on updating job descriptions for firefighter, engineer and captain.

New Business:

Property next to Station 101 – The back portion of the property north and adjacent to Station 101 has never been developed and the owner is interested in selling. The current owner is purchasing the property on a private land sale note with approximately eight years remaining. The party carrying the note is willing to let the district take over the note in a separate arrangement for \$150,000. There is \$97,000 left on note – the district would need to come up with \$53,000 (which we do have).

No appraisal has been done, comparables are very difficult to come up with for this piece and appraisals for commercial property are very expensive. A lot line adjustment would be needed. The intention would be to pave most of it to extend our parking lot/training ground, ultimately building a logistics building.

The “back lot” at station 101 – has never been developed and is not effective for our use. Chief’s recommendation is to sell this piece, ideally to Pioneer Property who owns Pioneer Park Apartments which is adjacent to the back lot. Julie is in the process of contacting the owner to see if there is interest.

Topic	Explore Purchasing the Vacant Lot Adjacent to Station 101
Discussion	See above.
Action taken	Motion made by Greg Deedon and seconded by John Baxter directing Chief Ney to explore purchasing the vacant lot north of Station 101. All ayes.

Chiefs Evaluation - Chief Ney’s current contract expires June 30th, 2017. Chief would like to enter into negotiations and suggested an evaluation process for everyone to participate in. The Board of Directors requested assistance from SDAO in providing a survey. Chief Ney will contact SDAO.

Santa Clara Update - Chief Wood and the paid staff are very interested in developing some kind of a comprehensive working relationship with Lane Fire Authority and seem ready to move forward. Entering into a 190 agreement similar to what LFA did between LCFD#1 and LRFR appears to be the most practical approach at this time. The new model would be a very different Santa Clara model. Chiefs Ney and Wood are working on a presentation for the Santa Clara Board of Directors.

All positions, except Chief Wood’s, would remain within their agency. With some reshuffling, there is potential to have a ladder company out of Station 115.

Chief Heppel’s position may become vacant in the very near future which would allow freedom to bring Chief Wood on board.

Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(b) the Lane Fire Authority Board of Directors went into executive session.

The regular session of the Board of Directors Meeting resumed – there was no further business and the Regular Board Meeting of Lane Fire Authority was adjourned by Pete Holmes at 7:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 16th 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 88050 Territorial Hwy., Veneta, OR