**Wamic Rural Fire Protection District**

**Board Meeting**

**August 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Larry Warren at 10:00am.

Board Members present were Larry Warren, John Ickes, John Creel, Neil Senger and Cindy Koch. Members of the Audience were John Goleman, Tina Goleman, Dave Deurwaarder, Chief Larry Magill and Bill Aarnio.

**Minutes of the August 19th, 2023 meeting**, Neil Senger made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Cindy Koch seconded this motion. Motion passed.

 **Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer’s Report**: A current treasurer’s report was not available at this time.

We now have a VIN to pay those on staff. The Fire Chief and Asst Fire Chief will be paid on the 1st of each month. Each Tuesday checks will be issued for current bills due.

**Chief’s Report:**

**Status of Vehicles:** All but one of the vehicles scheduled to be sold have been sold

 with the exception of the 501 Chevy.

**Status of staffing policy, pay and insurance**.: This is still in process of being completed.

**EMS:** Securing a new Medical Director for our area is still in process. 109 fire calls have been received since January 2023.

We are trying to get EMT advanced training (so IV’s can be administered) and intermediate training for our EMTs.

**Training:** All training will begin in September.

**Safety:** Driving school is still in process. Anyone driving a Fire Department vehicle must have this training.

**Old Business:**

**Securing more water**. Landowners must sign a document to put a main line on their property and to always leave a riser.

**Old Fire hose and used tires**: Unwanted fire hose is free for the taking. Our tires to be discarded can be purchased for $20 each. John Goleman made a rack for the tires we want to keep.

**Status of Grants pending or open:**

Cares act FEMA LABOR – Active

Oregon State Fire Marshall- Active

Staffing Grant – Active

OSFM Engine Grant -Denied

OSFM training – Applied.

SDAO safety grant – received, waiting for contractors

Generator Grant FEMA – approved. Generators being built.

Reader Board Grant – DHS- Denied

Chief Larry Magill is applying for a **Wildfire Mitigation Grant** for next summer.

This grant will help us educate and assist our community to protect their properties

from wildfires. Larry Magill just did his first property inspection on Dan VanFactors

home.

**BINGO**: During Labor Day weekend, we will have BINGO both Saturday and Sunday.

We need to have Roz start publicizing our Bingo schedule thru social media.

**Rock Creek Station Lease**, SDAO states that we need to consult an attorney. This is

being done.

**Taxing District Committee** started to meet in July. The second and third meetings

purpose will be fact finding. Larry Warren suggested that these fact-finding meetings be

continued until all the information possible has been gathered. The next meeting is

scheduled for September 21 and may include the opinions from guest speakers, from

the fire Department and also an insurance agent’s view of this proposed taxing district

favoring having a Taxing District and the value to the community.

Sportsman’s Park’s annual meeting is this September. The proposal for having a

tax will be introduced at this meeting.

The plan is to have this tax measure on the May 2024 ballet, but no later

than on the Fall 2024 ballet.

**Reroofing project for Community Center**. Three bids have been received for this

project. This building will be closed for 3-4 weeks while work is in the process. It was

suggested that we may want to have a sign made naming all those that contributed

$1,000 or more towards this reroofing project. All funds would go thru the Wamic Rural

Fire Department Foundation. It was also suggested that we get a loan for part of

this reroofing project. Interest rate would be 3.2 to 3.9 % and the loan process

would take about 2 weeks to complete. The motion was made to change any financing

and any donations made for the reroofing from the Community Center to the Wamic

Rural Fire Protection Foundation by Neil Senger. This motion was seconded by Cindy

Koch. Motion Passed.

**New Business:**

**New Newspaper**: There will be a new newspaper that will cover not only our

community but our neighbors as well. First edition will be available from local merchants

in October. Annual subscriptions will be available per information in this October issue of

the new Paper.

**Audit**: We are required to have a full audit this year. We are currently looking

For an approved auditor.

**Fund raiser for firefighter JR** and his family to send them to Ohio for JR’s medical

treatment. It was decided that a cash donation would not be appropriate from the Fire

Department or Foundation. Instead, the Fire Fighter’s Boot was used to secure

Donations, not only at our Rendezvous events, but was also passed around at the

Grass Car Races. That way the donations would not be coming out of either bank

account, but would only go to this one specific medical need in our community.

**Pickleball Court** It was suggested that we put a Pickleball Court in the area now

Used as a basketball court between the Community Cener and the Barlow Trail Grange.

There would be very little expense to do this, and we could post warning signs that

those using the court are doing so at their own risk. We do have ample insurance coverage already to cover a Pickleball court. There would not be any charge for the use of this court, but at times, it might have to be reserved so all can use it. Time will tell if this is necessary.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Koch