

Wamic Rural Fire Protection District

Board Meeting

March 16, 2024

This meeting was called to order by Larry Warren at 10:06am.

Board Members present were Larry Warren, John Creel, Neil Senger, John Ickes and Cindy Koch. Members of the Audience were Coral Anne Roeder, John Goleman, Jaime Magill, Chief Larry Magill, Bill Aarnio and Connie Hatfield.

Minutes of the January 2024 Board Meeting: Motion to accept the minutes was made by Neil Senger. Cindy Koch seconded this motion. Motion passed.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report: Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement were distributed to all in attendance at this meeting.

Chief's Report:

The Five County Cooperative Mutual Aid Agreement between the Fire Protection Agencies of Wasco County, Hood River County, Sherman County, Klickitat County and Skamania County has been approved by Chief Magill. The last one was from 2012. A copy was given to all in attendance.

County Legal Agreements to be updated in April 2024. These were last approved in 2006.

Equipment Report:

- 557 -Transmission is not working. It locks in 4th gear. It is totally out of service. Checking to see if it can be rebuilt, or another transmission will have to be installed to put this back in circulation.
- 523 -Out of service also. May have a cracked block, but this is unconfirmed at this time. We have another motor to put into this vehicle but are in the process of finding a mechanic that can make this motor swap.
- P80- Gas was accidentally put in this diesel truck. It costs \$13,000 to fix this problem. Our insurance accepted our claim and has already paid the fire department \$12,500.00. The remaining \$500 due will be paid by the Fire Department.

EMS: The new ambulance is working great and is a lot more comfortable and less noisy than those we have had before. There have been 25 call outs in Jan and Feb, which is normal for this time period. 4 calls were DOA.

Training: WRFPD is working on becoming an accredited training agency. We just need a Sign Off to get processed in Salem. This accreditation could be completed in less than three weeks.

John Goleman already has extensive training in High Angle Rope Rescue and is looking forward to training our firefighters in this technique. This would be especially valuable due to our varied terrain.

Communications: Nothing new to report

Safety: These winter months have provided time to increase the amount of training that could be completed.

Old Business:

Grants pending or open:

- Cares Act-FEMA LABOR GRANT – Active, With the State Fire Marshall. An additional grant could be possible and has been applied for.
- HUB Grant (formerly known as the FEMA building grant) is still active. It is no longer a federal grant but a state grant.
- Generator grant has been FEMA approved. Generators are scheduled to ship March 25, 2024, and anticipated to arrive early April 2024.
- Defensible Space Grant has been applied for. These funds would be used to clear out dead or diseased trees and to assist homeowners to make their property safer from wildfires.
- Wildland Staffing Grant of \$35,000 has been applied for. These funds would assist in Summer Staffing.
- BLM Slip In Fire Unit Grant has been applied for. This grant would provide for some newer, upgraded equipment for the Fire Department.

New Business:

- There will be a Meeting April 16th at the Grange at 6pm with the State Insurance Board to discuss the new fire risk map. Also, the purpose of our expected increase of fire insurance premiums will be explored.
- The 3rd annual Wildfire Community Meeting will be on May 11 at 2:00 pm at the Grange.

A motion was made to eliminate the \$400 fee for non-transport ambulance service. Cindy Koch made the motion to eliminate this fee, and Neil Senger seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52am

Submitted by Cindy Koch