**Business Meeting Minutes August 14, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm. Present were Commissioner Chair Molly Olson, Vice Commissioner Chair Pat Sample, and Commissioners Kate Hayes and Jason Lavinsky. Also present were Chief Eric Andrews, Asst Chief Ernie Walters, MSA Pete Parrish, Battalion Chiefs Brandon Vargas and Scott Coulson, and Karen McPeters (recorder). Commissioner Rupp was absent.

**Public Commentary:** No public commentary

**EXECUTIVE**

**Community Wildfire Plan:** September is our next meeting on the CWPP. BC Thurston reports that our area residents have the highest number of returned survey forms for the plan. We have been hitting this hard on social media.

**Mobilizations –** State fire mobilizations continue to be high. We currently have one truck and crew on the Stehekin team, which may last for several weeks.

**Staffing issues -**We are experiencing difficulties getting enough staffing to fill needs at the stations. Many of our people have taken full time firefighter jobs. It is proving very difficult to recruit and train new people compared to the number of people leaving. We are working on contingency options for when we are unable to get needed staffing.

**Generator Grant –** Thanks to all the work from BC Thurston, we received a grant for $379,235.00 from FEMA to replace the generators at Station 54 and 55. Our share is 12.5% of the total cost.

**OPERATIONS (Chief Walters)**

**Facilities:**

**Station 53 –** HVAC system will be installed next week, just prior to the start of the EMT class. Due to staffing shortages, I have been unable to work on Station 53 much. I’m hoping to be able to find more time to work on it next month.

**AFG Grant**: An amendment to the AFG grant was submitted in hopes to use the unused monies to purchase an ultrasonic cleaner for Station 54. I hope to hear if it is approved in the next month or so.

**Apparatus:**

**Engine 54:** Engine 54 sustained minor damage months ago that was partially repaired but it was damaged again in the same spot and needs to be seen by Hughes Fire Equipment in Tacoma. We are waiting for an estimate and time to bring it down.

**New Br54:** The new brush truck is finally scheduled to be built. The truck should be built the week of September 19th. Bud Cleary Ford believes that the chassis will be available to be picked up the first week of October.

We have dismantled the old BR-54 and put it out for bid internally. We have not had any bids on the chassis at this time so it will be placed on the surplus website for sale.

We have sold the old truck boxes and will surplus the old slip-on unit in the next couple of months.

**New Aid Car:** The new aid car is still scheduled for delivery in late October of this year. Braun is starting the process of cutting the metal for fabricating the box of the aid car next month. We sent the decals, radio, modem and siren controller to Braun for them to install in the new aid car.

**EMS (Chief Simmons / Chief Parrish)**

**Continuous Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance (CQI/QA):** All ESO electronic health reports (EHRs) have been assigned to the QA team through July.

Code Stat is caught up, and all Cardiac Arrest and Advanced Airways have been annotated.

**SCEMS:**Protocol updates for 2025 are completed**.**

**EMT Class:** So far 22 students have signed up for EMT classes, and planning is in progress.

**CPR Training:**No update

**Personnel:** Two Paramedics have applied. We interviewed one and are awaiting further paperwork from the second.

Still actively recruiting.

**July ALS coverage:** 90% (76 hours not covered out of 774 total hours)

**TRAINING / SUPPORT SERVICES (Chief Coulson / Chief Thurston)**

**Training:**Three members attended the 5-day Firemanship Conference near Chicago, Illinois. Training included 3 days of lectures from nationally renowned speakers, and 2 days of hands-on training.

Staff completed 623 hours of training in July for a total of 4235 hours for the year.

**Recruiting:**Interviews for resident firefighters were completed with 4 people passing. There are three additional current members that wish to join for a total of 7 new resident firefighters.

**Emergency Management/Disaster Response:**

**IMT/Wildland:**

**Command Trailers:** CV53 Type 2 ICP was dispatched on its maiden voyage to the Diamond Complex Fire near Crater Lake, Oregon. It received $18,050 in reimbursement. COMS54 also deployed to the same fire and brought in $7900 in reimbursement. The IMT also contracted again with (2) of our mobile Starlink units bringing in a total of $8525 for their use. CV54 type 3 ICP trailer was dispatched to the Donkey fire to support the W. Washington Type 3 IMT and was reimbursed $3,500. Approximate YTD gross revenue for the IMT equipment deployments: $48,950.

**Wildland:** Br54 has been dispatched to Stehekin on a state mobilization. They were transported by barge and will be assigned for two weeks for structure protection and then we will switch out crews.

**Generator Grant:** We have received the draft grant contract from the State (see award in Executive report). This project may be delayed until Congress appropriates more funds to FEMA.

Secretary’s Report: Thanks to BC Vargas for all his work on meshing the new pay model with mobe reimbursements. It has been complicated, but we are figuring it out.

Many thanks to Commissioner Olson for auditing the petty cash fund.

Budget: Currently at 59%

Minutes: Molly moved to approve the July minutes. With a second from Pat, the motion passed unanimously.

Vouchers: Molly moved to approve vouchers 24-342 through 383 for $157,366.86, and voucher 14 from the construction fund for $294.70. With a second from Kate, the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll: Molly moved to approve payroll in the amount of $207,180.43. With a second from Pat, the motion passed unanimously.

Next regular meeting September 11, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31