

Rocky Point Fire & EMS

Fire Chief

Diann Walker-Pope
Ph: 541-205-4934
chief@rpfire.com



Board Members

Bruce Harp
Greg Sullivan
Sandy Handsaker
Steve Jensen
Larry Dugger

Rocky Point Fire & EMS Board Meeting

April 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am in the bay of the fire station. Three board members were present, Bruce, Sandy and Greg, with Larry attending via phone and Steve not in attendance. Chief Diann along with multiple guests were also in attendance.

Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Sandy made a motion to approve, seconded by Greg. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report – Sandy presented the Treasurers report. Greg mentioned the need to have on display receipts of the monthly expenditures for review as required by our financial policy. It was agreed they will be available at subsequent meetings. Sandy made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Greg, and passed unanimously.

Board of Directors' report – None

Strategic Planning Committee report – Sandy reported that the next meeting of the committee would be held on May 4th. Two members from the committee will present, at the next scheduled board meeting, the findings and suggestions of this committee for board consideration.

Old Business – Greg presented the investment policy developed by Steve and Greg for board approval. Sandy made a motion to accept and approve, seconded by Greg, and the motion was passed unanimously.

The department is currently contracted with Systems Designs for our ambulance billing. The contract with Systems Designs is coming up for renewal in July. Discussion centered around whether or not Systems Designs was the best option for our department. Several departments in our area use the services of District 1 and their internal billing department. Greg and Steve met with District 1 to learn more about their process. Sandy made a motion to continue the services of our current provider. Greg asked for a copy of the contract and was presented one by Sandy. As the contract was 11 pages, Greg asked to postpone a decision until the following meeting. Bruce seconded the motion made by Sandy to renew the contract with Systems Designs. The motion passed by a vote of 3-1 with Greg casting the opposing vote. After the vote, Bruce wanted to go on record stating that Steve and Greg had no authority by the board to fact find or search out other possible options for the ambulance billing. Greg opposed his claim stating that in the previous meeting it was stated that both Greg and Steve wanted to do some due diligence with regard to the District 1 billing capabilities and no opposition was made by other board members at that time. Greg also stated he thought it is his duty to the taxpayers to perform such due diligence.

New Business - Bruce informed the board that donations in the amount of \$21,000 had been given to the department for the purchase of the new Jaws of Life equipment.

Several groups and committees have brought up the idea of once again being able to utilize the Aspen room for meetings. Currently, OSHA rules are interpreted that the room cannot be used by the public if it also functions as sleeping quarters for our volunteers. The idea of separating the room by use of a divider has been explored. Whether or not doing so is allowable by the Fire Marshall is being investigated and this subject will be tabled until the following board meeting.

Further clarification from OSHA is also expected at their next meeting either May 4th or 5th.

Some of the board members are having trouble with the department's email system and are not receiving department emails at times. Steve asked that this be brought up at the meeting and a solution found. Bruce was going to ask for help from Marcie and possibly look at using the department's computer in the meantime to retrieve emails on a timely basis.

Chief Diann read the ORS statute regarding district employees being unable to engage in election activities in any way while functioning in their capacity as an employee of the District. State election laws also require posting of statute ORS 260.432 at the station which has been done.

Chief Report – Our security policy/best practices policy is to be reviewed and adopted. SDAO has sent their recommendations and the Board is reviewing said recommendations to determine what is the best fit for our department. This will be revisited at the next board meeting. Chief Diann stated that the 12- lead defibrillator on the ambulance has been replaced at a cost of \$2,500.00. The board had previously approved the purchase up to a cost of \$4,500.00. An extrication class has been scheduled for April 18th. She also reported the department offered assistance to the Bixlers for a large burn on their property. A donation was made by the Bixlers in the amount of \$1,600 for the department's help with that burn. Diann reported there were three medical calls, 12 MVAs and one structure fire. The SCBAs have been hydrottested and the department purchased an additional seven new SCBA units. Diann then reported that at a recent call, our ambulance had broken down. The ambulance was towed to a mechanic in Klamath Falls and it was discovered that it had been vandalized. Per the mechanic, kitty litter had been dumped into the engine oil system which had destroyed most parts of the engine rendering it unrepairable. Diann notified the Klamath County Sheriff's Department as well as our insurance carrier. District 4 is currently providing us with one of their ambulances so we can maintain coverage for our community. All options for a temporary solution are being explored at this time. Both Greg and Sandy expressed the need to look at a security system for the fire station. No forced entry had been discovered. Diann recoded all doors and programmed the doors to lock automatically upon closure. It was

decided that the code to the doors will only be provided to active responders at this time. Greg volunteered to look into options for a security system. Diann displayed our new turnouts.

Good and Welfare – The focus of the comments centered around the news of losing our ambulance to vandalism. For the most part, staying positive and working together to get past this seemed to be the theme.

BBQ Committee report – The Committee is still looking for someone to head the kitchen and parade. Sandy reported that donations are coming in and things are progressing nicely. It is hopeful that the BBQ can be held this year.

Volunteer Association report – Linda Reed reported that due to Covid, no meeting was scheduled. She did report that the community brush clean and chipping material is still on schedule.

Sandy made a motion, seconded by Bruce to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 11:17am.

The next board meeting is to be held on May 10, 2021.

Submitted by Steve Jensen, Board Secretary