



Fall River Estates Special Road District
PO BOX 4181
Bend, Oregon 97707

Fall River Special Road District Meeting Minutes

Date: June 18, 2019

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: 15052 Fall River Drive

Quorum of the Board Present: YES

Open to the public

The meeting was called to order by Bill Swanson, Chairman at 11:00 AM

Board Members in attendance: Aileen Winge, Richard Bestwick, Bill Swanson

Others in attendance: Russ Winge, Richard Thompson, Tom McManus, Mike Stowe, Alice Carey-Swanson

Positions on the SRD Board were decided:

- Chairman - Bill Swanson
- Secretary - Aileen Winge
- Treasurer - Richard Bestwick
- Further decisions of assigned positions to be made at the end of the year.

Road District Budget:

- Resolution to adopt FRSRD 2019-2020 budget.
- Bill Swanson presented to the board Oregon Tax Form LB-50 (Notice of Property Tax and Certification of Intent to Impose a Tax, Fee, Assessment, or Charge on Property) which needs to be filed with the Deschutes County Assessor's Office by July 15th.
- A copy of the SRD budget had been posted on the community bulletin board in late May. It was also emailed to all residents on the email distribution list. It was also handed out at the annual meeting on May 25, 2019
- Tom McManus asked if he could see the budget. Aileen Winge handed a copy of the budget to Mr. McManus.
- Bill Swanson explained the budget to Mr. McManus (see notes in discussion sections)

SDAO Training:

- Bill Swanson informed board members of the SDAO Board of Directors and Management Training.
- This workshop will be presented this summer five different times at five different locations. It is open to Special Road District Boards only
- The SRD Board agreed to attend the August 13th workshop in Redmond at \$75 per attendant.

Discussion:

Tom McManus questioned the budget. Bill Swanson explained that the SRD no longer gets donations from HOA, as was routine until 2018. Tom McManus asked if the SRD requested any assistance. Bill Swanson asked if that was *now* needed. McManus said he has been advised by his attorney to not donate to the Road District unless the SRD can prove they need it and can prove they have a specific project they need it for. In all past years, donation was made by all,

including those residents who are not part of the HOA, to assist in the cost of snow removal. Mr. McManus also said that he has been advised by his attorney that he cannot have the HOA earmark any money to help the Road District if they need it during heavy snow years.

Tom McManus inquired about the SRD going to the county and raise the tax rate of the Fall River residents - possibly by one percent. By doing this, he said, the SRD wouldn't need assistance from the HOA for snow removal. Bill Swanson explained that we are currently taxed at .09876% (that's less than one tenth of a percent of assessed value of our properties) .

Aileen Winge explained that, before our roads were paved, at an annual meeting, during the SRD portion of the meeting, all Fall River residents, those who were members of the HOA and those not, took a vote to raise money to pave our roads. All owners within the Special Road District area agreed to donate \$200 per year toward this effort. The HOA board at the time agreed to handle the money. For a number of years, until around 2012 or so, every lot owner donated \$200 annually until the roads were paid off. The HOA did not donate the money, but they did collect and bank the money and distribute it to the SRD to pay for the roads.

Mike Stowe had complaints about the road near his house, where he said there is a crack that needs repair. He suggested that the crack needed to be filled with tar and that he could use his torch to make the repairs. Tom McManus offered his torch as well. Bill Swanson said he would inspect the road and see that any repairs needed would be done.

Discussion about clearing the road rights-away of the new growth: This would help the snow plowing. Everyone agrees that this needs to be done regularly. *As this was not on the agenda; it will be moved to another meeting.*

Discussion about the fire exit was had. *This topic was not on the agenda and will be moved to another time or an HOA meeting.*

Fire abatement was also discussed. *This also will be moved to a different meeting as this was not part of the agenda.*

Bill Swanson adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM

These minutes are preliminary as they have not yet been submitted for approval. They will be submitted at the next SRD Board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be in July 2019: Date, Time, Location, and Agenda will be announced and posted.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,
Aileen Winge
SRD Secretary

Notes by SRD

Regarding raising property taxes: The person suggesting that we ask the county to raise our taxes by 1% quite possibly did not realize the impact. Raising our taxes by 1% would increase what we pay in taxes by ten-fold. A property assessed at \$200,000 currently pays \$192.72 in taxes for our road district. An increase of one percent to 1.09876% would increase the tax amount for that same property to \$2,195.72 per year (a tax increase of \$2,000.00). He may have meant an increase of *one tenth* of a percent: A tenth of a percent on this same \$200,000 property would increase the taxes to \$395.72 annually (an increase of \$200). Again, he was just making suggestions\inquiries and not requesting a tax increase. The FRE SRD does NOT intend to request an increase in our taxes.

The SRD saves money over the years to pay for large expenses like new Chip Sealing. Snow removal expenses occur every year. Some years (heavy snow fall years) the expense for snow removal is high. Although it appears that the SRD has enough money on hand to handle heavy snowfall, at the same time we must be accumulating enough funds to handle the next layer of chip seal that will become necessary in a few years. It generally takes several years to save enough money for a new layer of chip seal on all of our private roads.

Regarding repairing a crack in the road: Mike and Tom's offer to volunteer to make the repairs is appreciated, however the SRD has since consulted with experts regarding chip seal repair, and we have plans to treat the crack in mid to late July.

Regarding McManus's remark about not receiving a request for contribution to the SRD for snow removal: This has not been the practice over the years. Past HOA boards budgeted money for the SRD and have written a check without a request.