

Klamath County Fire District 1
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting Minutes
4:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Central Fire Station
143 N. Broad Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

1. Call Meeting to Order

President Storey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Storey led the Board and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board of Directors held a moment of silence for Director Gene Rogers.

3. Roll Call of Directors

Present:

Gloria Storey, President

Dennis Thomas, Secretary Treasurer

Ernie Palmer, Director

Absent:

Mike Jones, Vice-President

4. Approval of the Agenda

President Storey requested Board Vacancy be added under New Business, item c.

Secretary Treasurer Thomas made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Director Palmer, motion carried three to zero.

5. Executive Session *(The Board will reconvene to regular session.)*

Under ORS section 192.660 (2) (h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed and ORS section 192.660 (2) (d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated to carry on labor negotiations.

The regular meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 4:01 p.m. and reconvened to regular session at 4:17 p.m.

6. Approval of Minutes

a. January 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Director Palmer made a motion to approve the January 21, 2025 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Thomas, motion carried three to zero.

7. Financial Reports

a. January 2025 Financial Reports

Secretary Treasurer Thomas made a motion to approve the January 2025 financial reports, seconded by Director Palmer, motion carried three to zero.

b. Ratification of January 2025 Bills

Director Palmer made a motion to approve the January 2025 bills, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Thomas, motion carried three to zero.

c. January 2025 EMS Billing Reports

Secretary Treasurer Thomas made a motion to approve the January 2025 EMS billing reports, seconded by Director Palmer, motion carried three to zero.

8. Unfinished Business

a. Fire Mitigation Grant RFP Award

FM Tramp reviewed the process for bids received for the Moore Park mitigation grant program; it was recommended the bid be awarded to Lost River Fire Management at a cost not to exceed grant amount of \$146,900; the contractor is insured and bonded.

Secretary Treasurer Thomas made a motion to authorize FC Davis to review and sign the contract as submitted by Lost River Fire Management, seconded by Director Palmer, motion carried three to zero.

9. New Business

a. Civil Service Commission Vacancy

President Storey reported two applicants were interviewed and the recommendation made to appoint Heather Siracusa to the Civil Service Commission.

Director Palmer made a motion to accept the appointment of Heather Siracusa to the Civil Service Commission, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Thomas, motion carried three to zero.

b. GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transport)

DAS Hull requested Board authorization to pay the Federal leverage amount of \$121,776.76 and also the State administrative fee of \$24,355.35. It is unknown at this time what the payment will be to the District, but historically, the payment has been more than the leverage amount. Receipt of the payment is anticipated prior to end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Director Palmer made a motion to authorize payment as requested, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Thomas, motion carried three to zero.

c. Board Vacancy

President Storey reported Director Roger's term expires in 2027; the position needs to be open to the public, interviews conducted, and the chosen applicant appointed to complete the term. Applications should be set to be due by March 20, 2025, for review at the March meeting and have a new Director in place in April.

Director Palmer made a motion to start the process of filling the remainder of Director Roger's term, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Thomas, motion carried three to zero.

10. Informational Reports

Fire Chief

a. Fire Chief Activity Memo February

FC Davis and DC Hitchcock attended the KCEDA Annual Economic Summit; the forecast is slow moving, but steady and favorable. FC Davis met with City Manager Jonathan Teichert several times to solidify a vehicle and apparatus maintenance program with the City; a soft rollout will be done with vehicles prior to finalizing the program. FC Davis and DC Hitchcock attended the Western Fire Chiefs Association Ignite conference where several topics were discussed. A number of items are being completed from the District's Strategic Business Plan. The 2024 Annual Report will be ready for the March meeting. Recruitment opened up for the Deputy Chief of Operations position; DC

Hitchcock moved into the Deputy Chief of Support Services position (formerly Deputy Chief of Professional Services position).

- b. Thank you Correspondence
None.

Deputy Chief

- a. DC Activity Memo February

DC Hitchcock reported there were several project planning meetings involving topics such as the CAD rollout and radio planning. DC Hitchcock is working with Sid Humphries, who assists with working relationships between care homes and first responders, in regard to the high occurrence of calls to Pelican Pointe. Many calls are not appropriate for first responder response and should be handled by internal protocols with care home staff (primarily false alarm and lift assist calls). Cohesion meetings started back up for the beginning of fire season. A lot of meetings and work continues to go into the new CAD system with 911. The Naris system (NFIRS) is being implemented statewide and nationally; this system will provide capabilities not currently available to the District to access information. Implementation of Naris will need addressed by the end of the year. The captain exam calendar was lined out by the Captain's Exam Committee and advertised to the department.

- b. January Incident Activity
No report.

Division Chief – Training

- a. DC-Training Activity Memo February

DC Knutson reviewed the January fire, EMS and leadership trainings; three members were certified in Blue Card/Incident Command. In response to a question, DC Knutson explained newer employees are trained by Captains, along with walk-throughs, in regard to the intricacies of older buildings, such as those downtown.

Division Chief – Fire Marshal

- a. DC-Fire Marshal Activity Memo February

FM Tramp reported the Prevention Division is on track for 250 inspections in 2025; January included fire and life safety inspections at the city schools and the Sheriff's office/jail/corrections. Plan reviews are slow right now, but there will be a fourth building added to the Broadmore Business Park and a new Farm Credit building by Home Depot. Public education via radio is lined out for February (winter safety) and Prevention staff will be at the Home and Sportsman shows in March. The developer for the hotel and apartment building at Main and Esplanade is in the permitting process and groundbreaking is slated for mid-summer; the property is City owned.

11. Public comment

Union Local 890 President Zach Sweeney expressed sympathy for the passing of Board member Gene Rogers. President Sweeney asked if the Board knew and was involved in the decision to cancel the employee awards dinner and if the Board could offer a reason for the cancellation as President Sweeney is only operating off of the email issued by FC Davis. Board President Story replied that the Board members were invitees only.

Director Palmer ask how the District did weathering through the recent snow and wind storm and had questions in the event of something catastrophic. DC Hitchcock reported there were 104 calls over one 48-hour tour, several downed power lines, public assists, roof collapses, and auto accidents. Crews managed the storm, used tire chains, there were two type 1 vehicle outages recently, and it was very busy during the storm. In the case of a catastrophic event, the primary responsibility for evacuation is a shared

effort with law enforcement, facility staff, and the District. FC Davis added that in the case of a care home, which was almost the case 2-3 years ago, the care home is required to have a plan of where and how patients are moved; these plans are reviewed during facility state license inspections.

President Storey requested the date of the March Board meeting be rescheduled. Secretary Treasurer Thomas made a motion to change the March Board meeting to March 31, seconded by Director Palmer, motion carried three to zero.


12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Secretary Treasurer Thomas, seconded by Director Palmer, motion carried three to zero.

The regular session adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Klamath County Fire District 1 Board of Directors will be at the Central Fire Station, 143 N. Broad Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97601 on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER SIGNATURES



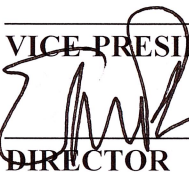
PRESIDENT




SECRETARY / TREASURER

Position vacant

DIRECTOR



VICE-PRESIDENT



DIRECTOR