

CENTRAL ORCHARD MESA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board Meeting – February 6, 2020

PENSION BOARD MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Randy Patterson. In attendance were Ron Raschke, Randy Zellner, Dave Larsen, Tim Bevan, Murray Theissen and John Sigle. A quorum was established. Others in attendance were Chief Dave Gitchell and Administrative Assistant Linda Weber.

Minutes of the January 2020 Board Meeting was read. **MOTION** by Tim Bevan and seconded by Randy Zellner to accept the January 2020 minutes as written. Minutes approved 7 to 0.

OLD PENSION BUSINESS:

Last month Linda Weber was going check and see if the new actuarial study, with the increase in monthly funds, included the current retirees. She checked with they attorney, Emily Powell, and she said it does include the current retirees. Any increase in benefits will include the current retirees.

NEW PENSION BUSINESS:

Discussion continued about the possible contract with Grand Junction Fire and how the pension fund would be distributed.

MOTION by Tim Bevan and seconded by Randy Zellner contingent on signing a contract for serviced with some other department, anyone with 10 or more years of qualified service will be eligible for the Central Orchard Mesa Fire Protection District pension. Motion carried 7 + 0.

MOTION by Tim Bevan and seconded by Ron Raschke to increase the current pension benefit to \$300 per month starting March 2020 if possible. Motion passed 5 + 0 with 2 abstaining as they are current retiree recipients of funds.

Being no other pension board business Randy Patterson closed the meeting at 7:18 PM.

FIRE BOARD MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 7:18 PM by President Randy Patterson with board members Ron Raschke, Randy Zellner, Dave Larsen and Tim Bevan in attendance. A Quorum was established. Others present were Chief Dave Gitchell, Assistant Chief Murray Theissen and Administrative Assistant Linda Weber.

Minutes for January 2020 were read. **MOTION** by Tim Bevan and seconded by Randy Zellner to accept the January 2020 minutes. Motion carried 5 to 0.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Linda Weber gave the treasurers report. She went over the expenses for the month. Nothing unusual except this is the first payment on the Reimbursement Pay program.

Dave Larsen asked Chief Gitchell if it was still policy to require two years of service of any payments by the District for EMT classes. Chief Gitchell said yes but the District has not had to pay for any EMT classes. It's been covered by doing fund raisers through the Volunteer Department fund. Chief believes we have only had one person stay on the department of the last 8 people who have gone through the EMT program.

MOTION by Tim Bevan and seconded by Randy Zellner to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 5 + 0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Linda Weber and Chief Gitchell brought the latest information to the board on the process with contracting to Grand Junction Fire. Attorney Emily Powell received an email from City of Grand Junction attorney John Shaver who was under the impression we were wanting to go through Grand Junction Rural Fire for service. Mr. Shaver said that a contract with Grand Junction Rural Fire was not possible at this time. Emily asked about this information and Linda Weber explained to her that both Chief Gitchell and Chief Watkins (Grand Junction Fire Chief) understood Central Orchard Mesa was to contract directly with the City of Grand Junction. Everyone involved feels like this was just a communication misunderstanding with John Shaver.

Chief Gitchell and Linda Weber are attending a meeting on Monday and will try and reach out to Chief Watkins about this misunderstanding. They will try and get the contract negotiations back on track.

MOTION by Tim Bevan and seconded by Randy Zellner to form a sub-committee of two board members, Tim Bevan and Ron Raschke, to read over any contracts that may come from the City of Grand Junction. Motion carried 5 + 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION by Tim Bevan and seconded by Randy Zellner to approve Resolution 2020-002 calling for the regular May 2020 election of two officers to the board. Motion carried 5 + 0.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

CALLS: 12 calls for the month of January. Three fire calls, one false alarm, one CO alarm at a house, one structure fire out of district but in our response area. Just the Chief went from our area. Mutual aid from Clifton, Lands End and Palisade Fire. Four medical calls, one mutual aid Clifton, motor vehicle accident, hit a fire hydrant but the party left. One mutual aid call to Lands End that was cancelled. One welfare check. Four transports and one refusal.

Mesa County Chiefs: Chief Balke has began meetings on getting an East Valley Authority going again. We have a meeting on Monday the 10th for further discussions.

Building: Water has been of since 12/10/19. To date we don't have a new water bill. We will see what the next bill cycle says.

IAFF: Chief has cancelled the yearly fee to the International Association of Fire Fighters.

GJ Communication Center: New manager at the communication center. She comes from Garfield County.

Air Quality: Can obtain burn permits for the year. Daily burn advisories are being posted on their website.

Apparatus: No change. Was supposed to work on the ambulance but was under the weather.

Equipment: SCBA's – we are waiting for some stuff to come in and will get them on the trucks soon.

Recruitment and Retention: Had one new application but checked with the fire chief in his district and we won't be able to accept him.

Training: Still doing normal EMS and fire training. Concluded an ice dive rescue this last month. It was a really good class.

Membership: Ten total. Eight regular and two probationary. If this department does send service to Grand Junction Fire, we do have one member that would be a good member on another department and one member that would be a good board member.

AJDOURMENT:

Randy Patterson adjourned the meeting at 7:45PM.
Next meeting scheduled for March 5, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Weber: Administrative Assistant

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Attest: