**Umatilla Fire District Meeting**

The August 7, 2024, meeting called to order by Board Chairman Kyle Sipe

Present:

Board Members: Robert Holden, Darla Huxel, and Kyle Sipe.

Staff: Chris Grant, Jeannie Bowman,

Absent: Steven Williams and Amber Bieren.

Election of Officers: Darla motioned Kyle for President and Robert for Vice President, both accepted, Robert 2nd all in favor.

Audience Participation: None

Information Items:

Old Business:

1. TRCI Contract- no updates at this tim
2. Union Contract- Chief Grant presented a contract to move legal services to Oregon Government Law group and wants to send the contract for review. Jeannie asked if this was the best use of funds as the contract is not finalized and has not been reviewed by the board. Darla stated she would like the opportunity to review it as a board. Union President J. McCracken was asked if the union was at a point they were ready to send for review to which he and union member Ray Harris indicated they felt they were still working through area’s. Chief Grant stated he wanted to send for review so it would not give the appearance that the board was biased regarding the contract. Motion to send for review by Robert, 2nd by Darla and approved unanimously.
3. Policy Review: Section 10 (Employee Personnel section and the handbook will be presented at the September meeting. Some of these will depend on the contract language)

New Business:

1. Internal Staff Survey- Chris presented the survey he wished to use for strategic planning. This will be the survey that is used.
2. Timeline and Criteria for Chief Evaluation – Kyle submitted the previous evaluation form that had been approved through legal as the form to use. Those in attendance agreed with using this, Kyle will send it out and asked for the forms to be returned to him by the 22nd of August for him to compile. Jeannie clarified if the staff survey would be used, it will not be.

Items not on Agenda Open to Public, Board and Staff Participation:

Jeannie asked for clear guidance and duties that are expected of her. It was expressed that communication is not happening, duties are being taken that she does and has done for years. Financially she is being excluded as her job is to manage the budget and this is causing more tension. Jeannie expressed her frustration with issues that have been brought forward and have not been resolved.

AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Kyle Sipe, Chairman Jeannie Bowman, Clerk