**Umatilla Fire District Meeting**

The September 6, 2023, meeting called to order by Board Chair Kyle Sipe.

Present:

Robert Holden, Kyle Sipe (via Zoom), Darla Huxel, Steven Williams (via Zoom)

Absent: Amber Bieren

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Robert, 2nd Darla

Approved unanimously.

Audience Participation: None

Statements of Bills list, checks and check register were reviewed by the board members and signed. No additional questions asked regarding expenditure reports. Reviewed and signed. Motion to accept items presented by Darla, 2nd by Robert, Approved unanimously.

Information Items:

Chief Report: See Attached – Chief Grant recapped the Bensel Fire and the resources we have been provided by our neighboring agencies as well as the State. We are extremely appreciative of the assistance provided.

Chief Grant wanted to propose a 100.00 a month stipend to Jeannie for use of her personal vehicle. Motion to accept by Steven 2nd by Darla. Motion approved unanimously.

Volunteer Report: N/A

Old Business:

1. Seismic Upgrade- Station 12 is on schedule. We should be able to move back into in the early part of October, Robert questioned if we were able to do so, Chief Grant stated yes, we can. He would like to add additional smoke detectors to alert the crew in the event of an emergency.
2. Resolution 2-2023-2024 Billing Resolution- carry forward, Chief has revisions. Jeannie will send it out to the Board for review.

New Business:

1. FF/EMT Hiring Update- Position is posted, applications have been received and we are hoping for a few more before the assessment center on 9/22/23. Chief Grant and Jeannie have reviewed the budget and to help offset the overtime costs would like to hire for a

Rover position to backfill for vacations/PTO. They would be in a full-time position with benefits. The schedule is TBD. Motion to approve the hiring of an additional firefighter by Darla, 2nd by Robert. Motion approved unanimously.

Darla stated her preference will always be more people, she wants to move forward with Strategic Planning for the District but would like to see more FFs on shift before we move forward with building/renovations. She appreciates the conversations regarding growth and planning and wants to see the board continue those.

Darla nominated Robert as the 2nd person to start negotiations with the union for their contract. This was 2nd by Kyle and approved unanimously. Chief Grant will set up times with Robert and the Union Representatives to begin discussing.

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

 AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Motion to adjourn by Steven, 2nd by Robert. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Kyle Sipe, Chairman Jeannie Bowman, Clerk