

Umatilla Fire District Meeting

The October 2, 2019 meeting was called to order by Board Chair Jon Lorence.

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated.

Present:

Jon Lorence, Fred Sheely, Kyle Sipe, Mark Keith and Darla Huxel

Approval of Minutes:

Mark Keith commented he appreciated more detail in the minutes

Motion to approve by Fred, 2nd by Kyle.

Discussion-

Minutes were approved unanimously.

Audience Participation:

Correspondence:

Statement of Bills list, checks and check register were reviewed and signed.

Information Items:

Paid on call information is being entered, Craig has created a spreadsheet for tracking the hours for the payroll file.

Chief's Report:

There were a total of 57 calls in September

40 – EMS

5- MVC's

12– FIRE

+8 calls for September 2018 (51==49)

-47 YTD under 2018 (477 vs. 430)

Maintenance-

No significant maintenance

Training-

Ladder Training

Spinal injury assessment and immobilization done at football field while doing stand by for football game.

Fire operations/overhaul techniques at bon fire.

First Responder appreciation Day was also this week.

Recruitment/Retention-

Recruitment flyers were handed out at the football game inviting people to join our volunteers down at the end zone while they did their training.

Chief Pott's would like to show recognition to the following people:

Jon, Fred and Darla thank you for attending the First Responder Appreciation Event.

Craig for his vigilance and work with the RI Program, business inspections, training and assisting with overhaul of the policies and SOG's that is ongoing.

Marc for apartment map books, continuing to improve through fire science program and performance improvement

Carl for his contributions over the last 16 years and continued contribution with the on call system and training

Zack Wilson for his contributions with the on call system and maintenance

Preston for working on float pump versus taking it to the shop

Bond Activities-

Variance was approved, Documentation received from the city and forwarded to the sign vendor. They are forwarding to installer who should be pulling the permits. Signs will now be constructed and sent to the installer. Once received they will schedule installation

General-

Chief Stanton and I have met to discuss several areas' including:

- Issues with Dispatch
- Changes moving forward to simplify radio communications with fire and EMS
- What our next steps are if the changes do not improve dispatch interactions
- More mutual response to motor accident on the north end of UCFD and the south end of URFPD
- Challenges related to low number of personnel that are structurally trained/certified.
- Training- specific for corrective actions and other training to supplement our training. Several challenges with this but we are continuing to discuss.

City is Contemplating a partnership where city workers would be trained and then available during the day to respond to calls. City Manager to present the idea to the city council later this month to see if support or not.

Continuing to overhaul Policy/SOG manual

Upcoming Activities-

October is fire prevention month. Station tours/presentations

Trick or Treat on 6th Street, hand out candy, information, recruitment info and kids packets

Business inspections continuing

Mark asked what the proposal with the city looked like; Steve stated it would be a volunteer effort on their part if they want to participate. It's in the early stages but that is a conversation that was had to start a process if the council was interested.

Fred asked if very many communities did this, Steve stated yes and we actually use to do this as well.

Volunteer Report:

No Volunteers present

Old Business:

1. District Loss Policy-discussed at the last meeting the need for a loss policy. Steve has some information he provided previously. Based on this Steve and Craig will begin developing a policy and will touch base with SDAO to review.

New Business:

1. Chief Rogelstad Report- (Copy will be included with minutes)

Chief Rogelstad went to the fire site, visited with FF Bensen (before reading any reports including Chief Potts) then proceeded to Bert's Auto Salvage to inspect the truck.

His Belief was FF were engaged in fighting the fire, they were not parked in the best spot however they did not have many options because of the terrain. They did not notice a spot fire that involved the engine, based on the location of the truck, the weather that day and the experience of the FF involved it was a very unfortunate accident. Spot fires had been occurring but the danger from that had not been completely recognized which is common with fire fighters that do not have long term experience. Experience is something we learn from and even with close to 5 years, the amount of calls has been limited so that contributes. Tunnel Vision played a role also, location of the fire. Other units were on the fire but due to the trees and terrain it was difficult to see all areas. Fuel load was also a factor; grass was thick and burns fast.

Chief Rogelstad stated this could happen anywhere, it could have happened to Hermiston or even to his district. He stated lots of lessons can be learned from this. Fred asked if Chief Rogelstad had ever lost a truck, he stated when he first began his career in Montana he did.

Darla asked if he has a policy in place that automatically activates an investigation and who does that, Chief stated he did not. He stated he served on a committee several years ago as the safety manager and that is typical of how wild land agencies do. He

states if he has any incident that could have liability he contacts his police department to investigate.

2. Fire Med- would the board like to approve fire med again this year for the district. Jeannie is working with Life Flight to have our own policy directly and then pay UCFD 1 for Ambulance Services. Using the same criteria that have been established for the last 2 years, Mark made a motion to approve paying fire med, 2nd by Fred, approved unanimously.

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

Mark feels it's important for the RI's to meet the board. Steve will arrange for this to happen.

Mark would like the district to promote the new equipment, Darla stated all of the new apparatus and equipment was at the First Responder Appreciation Day. Steve also stated we have held open houses to as we have added to our department.

AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

Jon Lorence, Chairman

Jeannie Bowman, Clerk