

HAINES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2024 MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Garla Rowe with directors Dave Johnson, Jay Wilson and Peter Hall present with one position open. Also attending were Chief Jerry Hampton and Bookkeeper Mary-Lewis Johnson. No members of the public were in attendance. The Chief said he was adding an update from the SDAO to his report. Jay moved to accept the agenda with the change and the minutes from the January meeting, Dave seconded and motion was passed unanimously.

Mary presented the financial statement. Two payments not listed were payments of \$647.60 to Peter and \$856.70 to Dave for expenses related to the SDAO meeting in Seaside. Jay will put together his expenses later. There was income from a court case about taxes in the amount of over \$2800 owed from previous years. There is \$50,000 now invested with Baird financial split between short term Treasuries and CDs. Peter moved to accept the financial statement and pay the bills, Jay seconded and motion was passed unanimously. The Chief added that there would be payments made to two tenders next month, a minimum of \$5000 to vehicle 3844 and \$12,000 to vehicle 3845.

Garla said that the levy proposal must be done by March 21st. She will contact the county clerk to get the precise information about what is required to put the proposal on the ballot in May and then put the proposal together and give to the county clerk's office.

The Chief gave his report. The SDIS insurance that covers all of the fire districts materials and structures was going up in price, so the Chief made changes to the insurance levels to reduce the cost. There were 3 calls last month, 2 structure and 1 motor vehicle accident. Dave will replace Jerry at the district community levy presentation at the school in town in April. Garla will contact the school to reserve the space. Hopefully, Bob Seymor will be there, also, to frame the legal aspects. The Chief will put out a letter to district residents about the levy proposal by the end of next week. SDAO put out an update on possible rule changes by NFPA which will have to be enforced on fire districts by OSHA. This could cause large increases in expenditures by districts that could make it harder, and maybe impossible, to fulfill their duties. Some smaller districts could be dissolved as a result. The appreciation dinner for volunteers will be sometime in mid March and will have a menu that covers all appetites.

Dave gave a presentation on what he learned at the SDAO conference and thought was worth his attendance. He connected with someone from another district that may have parts that we could use for our equipment. The district can get a seismic examination for free to determine structural dangers. If problems are found, we can get help to write a grant to fix the issues. There was a capital investment firm that could provide loans to the district for station construction materials. Jay mentioned that we could have someone else build a new station, and then lease it to us. He also talked of pre-fabricated buildings that could reduce the cost to put in place. Jay said lots of fire districts attended. Dave talked of updating our website due to security compliance issues. The board agreed with the idea. Dave will talk to people at the website development firm, Streamline, about a new website. If the board decides to go with a Streamline site, then Peter will contact our present agent to shut down our current site and help transfer the content to the new site. Dave presented a statement that lays out equal opportunity employment policy that the district can use. The district can go through SDAO to store our records electronically

Peter attended the session at the conference on board Duties and Responsibilities where rules for contracts and conducting meetings was given. There is no need for the district board to have by laws, just policies to cover various aspects of district responsibilities and limitations.

Garla said that Bryson Allen turned down the offer of the open board position. He recommended that we contact Brad Feik regarding it. Other options were discussed for reaching out to other potential candidates.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm with the next meeting time on March 11, 2024 at 7 pm.