

**SWEET HOME FIRE & AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
August 20th, 2024**

The **August 20th, 2024** meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sweet Home Fire & Ambulance District was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Board Vice President Larry Johnson.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER  
Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken by Director Larry Johnson. Directors present were Charlene Adams, Larry Johnson, Rob Younger, Jim Yon and Dawn Mitchell (via Zoom call). Fire District personnel in attendance were Fire Chief Nick Tyler, Deputy Chief George Virtue (6:42 PM), Assistant to the Chief Julie Mayfield, BC Randy Whitfield (6:49 PM) BC Shannon Pettner, LT Jeff Mather, AIC Ryan Paul, Wildland Division Chief Christian Whitfield, LT Mike Severns (7:42 PM), FF Josh Marvin, FF Kelso Ellis, FF Jake Hepler, EMT Tucker Weld, FF Tyson Rust and Board Recording Secretary Julie Harvey. Community members present included Pam Whitfield, Nicole Whitfield, Georgia Whitfield, Maysel Whitfield, Vidalia Whitfield and Sky Chappell from the New Era.

**PINNING of Wildland Division Chief Christian Whitfield:**

- \* Swearing in by Chief Tyler
- \* Pinning by Nicole Whitfield

**READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the **July 16th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting** were presented and reviewed.

**24-29** A motion was made by Director Rob Younger to approve the **July 16th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting** minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Director Jim Yon and passed unanimously.

**24-30** Director Jim Yon moved to approve the **July 2024 Financial Report** as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Rob Younger and passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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**Bond Update - Bond Sale to Webster Bank - Chief Nick Tyler:**

- \* Working through the processes and paperwork for the bond
- \* Closing documents should be signed August 27th, 2024
- \* Close and be funded on September 5th, 2024
- \* Official lender letter read in its entirety by Chief Nick Tyler
- \* Board Vice President Larry Johnson signed acknowledging the letter

**Wildland Testing Process - Wildland Division Chief (WDC) Christian Whitfield**

- \* Testing has been going on for 2-3 weeks
- \* 6 conditional job officers (1 seasonal position, 5 full time employees) with more to come, some starting as soon as tomorrow because those people are already volunteers with our district (no intake necessary)
- \* 32 applicants for 7 different job classifications, up to 20 positions
- \* Total of 14 positions currently planned between seasonal and full time
- \* Two types of seasonal – Fire Seasonal (4 months) and 10 month with 2 month layout (matches forest service)
- \* Lots of excitement and applicants with this new crew

**Wildland Project & Equipment - CWRR Manager Christian Whitfield**

- \* map of roads included in the contract
- \* two of the proposed roads were on either side of the current Pyramid fire so those roads have been created during that response, there will be an equivalent amount of work that will replace those now existing roads to maintain the contract
- \* WDC Christian Whitfield pointed out several locations and current activities on a map displayed on the large monitor

**New Chipper**

- \* Unique product – being built in Michigan, worked through procurement process, have a spot in production, should be delivered first of October
- \* Christian Whitfield and Josh Starha got to go see production and try out equipment, comes with some great safety features, like outside access to change the knives which is great for maintenance and a dual feed system
- \* Forest Service is also excited about potential use of chipper

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**Fire Training - AIC Ryan Paul:**

**Between 7/1/24 - 8/1/2024 crews completed:**

- \* 15 hours of online
  - \* 106 hours dedicated to drills
  - \* 86.5 hours on shift training
  - \* 24 hours of outside training
  - \* 40 hours for fire corp, sent some people to Portland
- Total = 271.5 plus hours of training

**Vehicle Maintenance & Equipment - BC Randy Whitfield:**

- \* Engine 25 - rough three weeks on conflagration, has a list of issues and needed minor repairs, get back in a week or so
- \* Rosenbauer was deployed, high pressure hoses worked really well, one small hose problem probably a factory defect
- \* Medic 2 - sent out for A/C problems but is back and working
- \* Medic 4 - brake and air conditioning problems, wheel bearing was put in improperly and will be covered by the shop
- \* Medic 3 - rear differential seal leaking
- \* Pump testing done, all passed
- \* Looking for new medic units, some promising new suppliers

**R & R and Public Interactions - AIC Ryan Paul:**

- \* Part Time Program – 1 leaving soon, 2 moving to casual – 2 new starting and will reopen testing process
- \* Volunteer candidates in various stages of the process headed to fall academy and will need to find more to replace those hired for the wildland program
- \* 5 Chemeketa students
- \* School Events starting to get scheduled

**Ambulance Collections & Other Information - Asst to the Chief Julie Mayfield:**

- \* Report next month
- \* \$161,000 in ambulance revenue, high month

**Association President:**

- \* Nothing to report