

Shasta Fire Protection District Board Minutes

February 19, 2024

In Attendance: Board members Rusty Swayne, Cynthia MacDonald and Susan Weale. Chief Eric Ohde, Asst. Chief Chris Varnum, Administrator Molly Gonzalez, and community member Tim Weaver.

Meeting Opened at 2:04pm:

1. Role Call: Board members and staff presented.

2. Approve Current Agenda: Oral Communication needing to be added to agendas. Cyndy would like a budget report and an update on legal council. Cyndi MacDonald makes a motion to move forward with current agenda as long as suggested line items are on the next agenda. Susan Weale seconded. Vote unanimous.

3. Previous meetings minutes: FRMS needs to be spelled out in full for the public. Under item 6, make a new paragraph after the motion. Under item 7, second line, discussion was had. Under item 8 Eric Ohde resounding approval. Under 10b. clarification, Susan Weale discussed the reserve funds and the best accounting method for earmarking separate amounts for specific capitol improvements. Motion was made to approve meeting minutes with said changes by Susan Weale. Seconded by Cyndi MacDonald. Vote unanimous.

4. Public Comment:

Tim Weaver spoke on the federal budget cuts that affect the fire fighters and spoke on the unique recruiting opportunity that this provides for us. Cyndi MacDonald asked about a stipend to entice interest. Chief Eric Ohde spoke about the training differences in wildland firefighters in comparison to the needs we as a community as a protection district, including buildings and medical calls. He believes that finding a Chief seems like the priority in this moment. Assistant Chief Chris Varnum spoke about the different avenues for recruiting.

Molly Gonzalez will be stepping down as the office administrator and the clerk of the board following the March board meeting. She will put together a job description to pass onto the Board as soon as possible.

Molly Gonzalez handed out the Budget vs Actual. It will be added as a line item in following meetings and has already been added to the template.

5. Update on Workers Compensation:

Resolution 25-02: Motion to accept made by Susan Weale. Seconded by Cyndi MacDonald. Vote unanimous.

Resolution 25-01: Motion to accept by Susan Weale. Seconded by Cyndi MacDonald. Vote unanimous.

6. Mission Statement: Cyndi MacDonald motioned to approve the Mission Statement as presented. Seconded by Susan Weale. Vote Unanimous.

7. Proposed Job Descriptions: Rusty Swayne would like to see that the volunteer fire fighters are required to pass a physical before becoming a volunteer. Benefit packages were discussed at length. Susan Weale brought up the need to have a dynamic leader to bolster community involvement. Discussion was had to make the Chief position non-exempt. Susan Weale made a motion to accept the Chief job description with the change of listing the position to non-exempt and as presented for volunteer, captain and engineer. Seconded by Cyndi MacDonald. Vote unanimous.

8. Travel Policy: Several wording/spelling changes were made. The daily rates were changed. A motion was made by Susan Weale to accept and adopt the Travel Policy with the changes made. Seconded by Cyndi MacDonald. Vote Unanimous.

9. Strategic Plan: Board members to mark up copies of the document and hand them into Tim Weaver. A motion was made by Cyndi MacDonald to accept with the discussed changes. Seconded by Susan Weale. Vote Unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:38pm.