

**NEHALEM BAY FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MAY 12, 2022**

**Public May Attend via Zoom:
Meeting ID: 882 4174 9471 Passcode: 938276**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President John Handler called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Board members in attendance were Secretary Charles Bridge, Treasurer Bob Forster, and Director John Steele. Also present were Fire Chief Chris Beswick and Executive Assistant Kristen Coyle. Vice President Mike Sims was absent.

II. WELCOME TO VISITORS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were two members of the public in attendance via the Zoom platform: Eric Swanson and Jacquelyn Fox from Tillamook Adventist Health. Neither opted to make a public comment.

B. READING AND APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 14, 2022

Handler asked the Board members if they had any corrections or comments after reviewing the minutes from the April 14, 2022 Board Meeting. Handler pointed out a typographical error concerning a fiscal year noted in the minutes.

Steele made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction noted; Bridge seconded the motion. Handler called for the question; motion passed unanimously.

C. READING AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 21, 2022

Handler asked the Board members if they had any corrections or comments after reviewing the minutes from the April 21, 2022 Budget Committee Meeting.

Forster made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Steele seconded the motion. Handler called for the question; motion passed unanimously.

III. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the Bills Paid, Visa Charges, and the Profit & Loss vs. Budget reports for the month of April. Handler noted that he saw that the City of Nehalem water rates will be increasing soon. A general discussion of water pressures ensued.

Bridge made a motion to approve the April 2022 financial reports as presented. Forster seconded. Handler called for the question; motion passed unanimously.

IV. STAFF REPORTS

A. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Beswick presented the call volume; there were 69 calls for the month of April; 47 calls were EMS related. He noted that the monthly volume was slower than earlier in the year; however, YTD call volume is still 12% higher than the first 4 months of 2021. 55% of ambulance calls responded within 20 minutes of dispatch. He noted there was a structure fire which resulted in a total loss and required Fire Marshal investigation. He also noted that water-rescue season is starting; there were two such incidents for April and one so far in May. Beswick told the board that surf conditions are evaluated before the skis are launched.

Beswick informed the board that the Clatsop County owned bridge leading into the Riverside Estates development has recently been inspected; its load capacity went from 27 tons to 7 tons and therefore it cannot withstand the weight of District apparatuses except for the brush truck with 250 gal. capacity and the rescue vehicle. Beswick reported that he mailed letters explaining the fire suppression limits to all impacted property owners. Beswick reports alternative access solutions are being explored via the Riverbend Estates development and ODF roads. Beswick noted that Clatsop Co. is aware of the fire suppression access issues and knows the bridge needs to be replaced. There is no timeframe when the replacement will occur. Beswick responded to board questions regarding property tax status for the impacted property owners and possible water draft locations if improvements made. Discussion ensued regarding other possibilities for water sources/supplies.

Beswick provided a recap of the FDIC (Fire District Instructors Conference) conference he recently attended along with one career firefighter and one volunteer firefighter. He was impressed with the caliber of the courses taught, and he indicated he had good takeaways in the areas of training, recruiting and retention, and responder mental health resources. Discussion of District volunteer responsibilities ensued.

Beswick also provided a recap of the OFCA (Oregon Fire Chiefs Association) conference he recently attended. He indicated several state and national issues were discussed as well as responder mental health. Beswick discussed Senate Bill 762 which allocates funds to the Fire Marshal for wildfire prevention.

Note at this time the facility's Internet service went down and the Zoom meeting could not continue. The phone system was also down so an audio only meeting was not possible.

The signed bill requires mandatory defensible space for "high risk" areas. He noted that NBFDRD is not part of this category; a small section of Wheeler is considered "medium" risk. The bill also provides funds for preparedness and response, including funding for seasonal personnel, PPE, equipment, training.

Beswick discussed the structure he envisions for the volunteer drone team. He sees the team response for incidents involving a structure fire, rope rescue, water rescue, and complex MVAs. He also provided an update on the District's new engine. The manufacturer, located in Minnesota, indicated the engine build is now in process; it is not providing a completion date. Beswick reminded the board that the District gets a discount on some of its insurance premiums if Board members enroll in the OFDDA Academy.

Beswick provided the volunteer headcount. There was one recent volunteer firefighter resignation. The volunteer was not very active and left on good terms. Beswick noted that a

very active volunteer will be leaving the district in the summer to pursue continued higher educational goals. Beswick concluded his report by noting he is exploring the feasibility of a District Open House to be held during the 4th of July weekend.

B. TRAINING REPORT

The April 2022 training report prepared by Division Chief/Training Officer Jesse Walsh was provided. Beswick highlighted a drill night devoted to a debriefing from a recent structure fire. He also noted wildland refresher training.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. REVISION OF PERSONNEL POLICY – MANDATORY DRUG TESTING

Beswick noted based upon his discussion with SDIS, a policy revision should be placed on hold. This is due to soon to be released SDAO policies and Federal guidance.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. REVIEW POLICY 1.1 – POLICY MANUAL

This policy, which was initially adopted in 2009 and reviewed in 2018, outlines the role the board policy manual plays for District operational decision making. Beswick noted he corrected some minor scrivener's errors, sees no need for additional changes to the policy, and recommends the board adopt the policy as presented.

Bridge made a motion to adopt Policy 1.1 – Policy Manual as presented; Forster seconded. Handler called the question; motion passed unanimously.

B. REVIEW POLICY 1.2 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This policy, which was initially adopted in 2009 and reviewed in 2018, outlines who may serve on the board and the directors' responsibilities. Beswick noted he corrected some minor scrivener's errors, he sees no need for additional changes to the policy, and he recommends the board adopt the policy as presented.

Steele made a motion to adopt policy 1.2 Board of Directors as presented; Forster seconded. Handler called for the question; motion passed unanimously.

C. RESOLUTION 22-06 A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE EAIP FUNDS

Chief Beswick noted that NBFR participates in the Oregon Employer-at-Injury Program (EAIP), which encourages the early return to work of injured workers. Oregon worker's compensation insurance repays the employer for 50% of the early return-to-work gross wages for up to 66 workdays. NBFR has received reimbursement for 28 days of light duty work which occurred earlier in the fiscal year. Within the General Fund, this resolution will designate \$7,259.33 to Miscellaneous Income and to Personnel Services.

Forster made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-06 A Resolution to Designate EAIP Funds, as written. Steele seconded. Handler called for the question; motion passed unanimously.

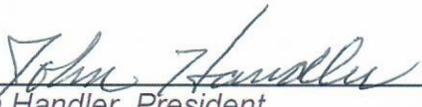
VII. REVIEW / SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The next monthly board meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2022. Coyle noted that the FY 2022-2023 will also be part of this meeting. Handler indicated State Level Emergency Preparedness activities will be taking place in Manzanita that day. The board meeting was scheduled for 7:00 PM.

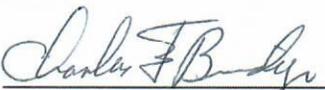
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

President Handler adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED BY BOARD
June 16, 2022



John Handler, President

ATTEST: 

Charles Bridge, Secretary