

Pleasant Hill Goshen Fire & Rescue
Pleasant Hill Rural Fire Protection District
Goshen Rural Fire Protection District
Joint Board Meeting
December 14, 2021

Call to Order

The Joint Board Meeting was called to order at 6:54 p.m. by Fire Authority Board President, Willie Bronson.

Board reviewed the provided documents. Kevin Flory thinks that the response time map is very helpful. He thinks that if patrons understood they were in the 10-15 response time area they will be more apt to pay more to get help sooner. He added that since the majority of the calls are medical related, waiting 10-15 minutes when a loved one needs immediate medical attention, feels like forever. Kevin Flory would like to see a map of response times, if there was a staffed Pleasant Hill station.

Flag Salute

Attendance:

Pleasant Hill Board Members: President Terry McDiarmid, Secretary/Treasurer Rhett Green, and Board Members Kevin Flory, and Darrell Shoemaker. Absent: Vice President Todd Anderson

Goshen Board Members: President Willie Bronson, Vice President Rose Reinertson, Secretary/Treasurer Cameron Saxon, and Board Member Tom McClellan. Absent: Steve Lovely

Pleasant Hill Goshen Fire & Rescue Board Members: President Willie Bronson, Vice President Terry McDiarmid, Secretary/Treasurer Tom McClellan, and Board Member Darrell Shoemaker.

Staff: Fire Chief Andrew Smith and Executive Assistant Haley Meshnik.

Welcome to Visitor: Bob Schutte and GT Miller

GT Miller is concerned with the safety of the fire station. He thinks it should be shut down with x's on the doors. He is very passionate that the Pleasant Hill fire station needs to be addressed and rebuilt. He thinks it is important that there should be a town hall meeting/ tour at the station so the community can see the condition.

Willie Bronson shared that the board agrees with his concerns and that Chief Smith, and the Pleasant Hill President Terry McDiarmid can consider the suggestion to condemn the building. The board agrees that a public walk through of the station is important, but that the town hall should be at the community center first and then offer a tour of the station after the meeting.

Bob Schutte shared with the board that he is concerned about the urban growth that is approaching the districts. He feels that it's important to discuss the urban growth when considering the consolidation and the long-term planning. It's possible that some of the assessed values we would be counting on would be annexed into the larger cities in the next 25 years. Bob Schutte also feels that the construction of a new Pleasant Hill fire station should be the number one priority of the board.

Correspondence:

- None

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- a. **PLEASANT HILL Minutes of November 16, 2021, Work Session Minutes and Regular Joint Board Meeting Minutes** - The minutes of the November 16, 2021, Work Session and Regular Joint Board Meeting were both reviewed. **Terry McDiarmid made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2021, Work Session and Regular Joint Board Meeting. Darrell Shoemaker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- b. **GOSHEN Minutes of November 16, 2021, Work Session Minutes and Regular Joint Board Meeting Minutes** - The minutes of the November 16, 2021, Work Session and Regular Joint Board Meeting were both reviewed. **Rose Reinertson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2021, Work Session and Regular Joint Board Meeting. Tom McClelland seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- c. **PLEASANT HILL GOSHEN FIRE & RESCUE Minutes of November 16, 2021, Work Session Minutes and Regular Joint Board Meeting Minutes** - The minutes of the November 16, 2021, Work Session and Regular Joint Board Meeting were both reviewed. **Terry McDiarmid made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2021, Work Session and Regular Joint Board Meeting. Tom McClelland seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- d. **PLEASANT HILL Minutes of December 7, 2021, Special Work Session Minutes** - The minutes of the December 7, 2021, Special Work Session were reviewed. **Terry McDiarmid made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2021, Special Work Session. Kevin Flory seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- e. **GOSHEN Minutes of December 7, 2021, Work Session Minutes** – The minutes of the December 7, 2021, Special Work Session were not reviewed in time to approve. Will address in the January Board Meeting.

Review of Monthly Financial Reports

- President Biden has approved reimbursement from personnel expenses we had during the Holiday Farm Fire. We had to pay 25% of the grant, but we will now get that fully refunded.
 - We will expect \$6,100 to be refunded sometime this year.
- Chief Smith shared that the audits are draft only right now. Final ones are coming soon.
- Attorney informed us that our procurement policy is out of date. Chief Smith is working with the attorney on the update to get us compliant with the law. All three entities need to be updated.

Pleasant Hill RFPD

****Transaction List & Financial Review.** The Board reviewed the financials and transaction list. **Terry McDiarmid made a motion to approve the Pleasant Hill RFPD Financials and to pay the Pleasant Hill bills. Darrell Shoemaker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Goshen RFPD

****Transaction List & Financial Review.** The Board reviewed the financials and transaction list. **Tom McClellan made a motion to approve the Goshen Financials and to pay the Goshen bills. Rose Reinertson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Fire Authority

****Transaction List & Financial Review.** The Board reviewed the financials and transaction list. **Tom McClellan made a motion to approve the Fire Authority Financials and to pay the fire authority bills. Terry McDiarmid seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Staff Reports

Fire Chief's Report

**The Board reviewed the Fire Chiefs Report and further staff reports, which were attached as addendums and are available on file.*

Topics Discussed:

- Hiring Full Time Shift Officer
- Audit
- Grant Writing
- Holiday Events and Information
- Annual Awards Banquet
- Recent Fires/Responses.
- Division Chief Barnhart is on medical leave.

Unfinished Business

- **Fire Authority – Email from Consultant:** Paige Richardson

- Kevin Flory thinks a consultant will help with risk assessment and assist with how we approach the community. The board agrees they want a consultant.
- The board wants a consultant to write the ballot measure.
- It was agreed that the sooner they have consultant bids to review, the sooner they can vote on a consultant.

Goshen RFPD

****Consultant Bids.** The board discussed the need for hiring a consultant.

Rose Reinertson made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to find bids for consultants who could assist with the consolidation, to seek high and low bids from each, consisting of minimal assistance to full campaign management, and provide the list of bids at the January board meeting. Willie Bronson added that Goshen will pay for ½ of the consultant costs and seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Pleasant Hill RFPD

****Consultant Bids.** The board discussed the need for hiring a consultant.

Terry McDiarmid made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to find bids for consultants who could assist with the consolidation, to seek high and low bids from each, consisting of minimal assistance to full campaign management, provide the list of bids at the January board meeting, and that Pleasant Hill will pay for ½ of the consultant costs. Darrell Shoemaker seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

- Terry McDiarmid added that if the range is between \$10K-\$40K and what we are trying to accomplish is for the next 20 years, he thinks we ought to do it right. \$10K in the grand scheme of things to get the fire station is going to be worth it.

- **Work Session Conclusions:**

- It is a consensus that the board does not want to annex, that was already shot down by the voters once.
- They are no longer considering the merger at \$1.39 because it would be a disservice to the community to drop the taxes that low.
- Board thinks that a consolidation is the most beneficial for all districts after many hours of thoughtful discussion. The consolidation allows for an adjusted tax rate to approximately \$1.99, which will provide lots of options for the community, and only have to go to the voters one time.
- Chief Smith to consider budgets with various tax rates between \$1.72 and \$1.99, to see what will be gained and lost in those ranges.
 - He will provide a side-by-side comparison.
- Willie Bronson suggests that Terry McDiarmid and he meet with Chief Smith, prior to the January Board meeting, to discuss the upcoming meeting.

- **Goshen – Lot Line Quitclaim:** No new developments.
- **Pleasant Hill – None.**

New Business

- **Fire Authority Action Items:**

- 1. Any actions from the preceding Work Session**

- Consensus to move forward with the consolidation proposals that we have discussed.
 - i. No objections.

Chief Smith reminded the board that they are more than welcome to come meet with him for coffee. Chief Smith also shared that he is meeting with Jeff Griffin who works for WHA. They are working on some board member training TBA.

Tasks for Staff:

- Seek bids from three consultants to assist with the November election.
 - Ask for their minimum service and their all-encompassing service.
- Ask Captain Moore to make a map showing response times if there was a manned Pleasant Hill station.
- Chief Smith to consider budgets with various tax rates between \$1.72 and \$1.99, to see what will be gained and not gained in those ranges.
 - He will provide a side-by-side comparison.
- Willie Bronson and Terry McDiarmid will meet with Chief Smith, prior to the January Board meeting, to discuss the upcoming meeting.
- Ask the attorney how to make sure the voters have a guarantee that a yes vote will get them a fire station.
- Update the procurement policy to be approved in the January meeting.

Willie Bronson adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Meshnik
Recording Secretary