Sam Owen Fire District
Commissioner's Meeting
April 8, 2026

Attendance:
Lisa Wendle, District 2 Commissioner
Tony Butler, District 1 Commissioner, Treasurer
Terry Jensen, District 3 Commissioner, Chairman
Tim Scofield, Chief
Sara Knight, CPA
Al Sly, Captain, Media
Todd Wendle, Newsletter, Reporter, Trainer
Kelly Thompson, Captain
Shawn Finnerty, Boat Captain
Jack Craemer
Darius Ruen
Kathy Cifu via Zoom

Agenda:
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jensen at 6:02 P.M.

Action Item: There are no changes to the posted agenda.

There are no public comments at this time.

Action Item: The minutes from the 3/12/26 meeting were reviewed by the commissioners. Commissioner Butler makes a motion to approve the minutes with the change made to state that the cost of the volunteer trainer/coordinator is changed to $300.00 per trainer/coordinator per month. Commissioner Wendle seconds the motion. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:
Sara Knight reports that the LGIP account now has a balance of $200,561.59. She has provided the Commissioners with a list of the total amounts allocated per year per item for them to review. She notes that on Misc. Income the 2015 Ford that was on consignment has sold with $12,600.00 net after fees. The following bills were presented for payment.

EFTPS	$2,204.98

Alexa Garrison	$ 120.00
Avista	$ 274.37
Clark Fork Chevron	$ 343.79
Co-Op Energy	$ 938.00
Kelly Thompson	$1,751.88
Lucas Drywall	$2,595.00
Molly Simko	$ 110.00
Rivers End LLC	$ 509.36
Scotchman Electric	$1,490.00
Todd Wendle	$ 172.45
Waterfront Property	$ 84.16
Kelly Thompson	$2,076.40
Kathy Cifu	$ 663.23
Tim Scofield	$3,353.50
Tim Sanders	$1,398.48

Umpqua Bank Checking Account as of 4/8/26 $393,263.46
Umpqua Bank Savings Account as of 4/8/26 $36,805.52
Mountain West CD as of 4/8/26 $202,626.15
LGIP account as of 4/8/26 $200,561.59

Action Item: Commissioner Wendle makes a motion to pay the bills as presented. Commissioner Butler seconds the motion. All in favor.

Chief's Report:
There have been 3 medical calls and 5 fire calls so far this month.

Station 1 is in good working order. Painting of the exterior will happen soon. It will first be power washed, then caulked, then painted. The Chief is going to try to take care of the moss on the roof in house.

Station 2 is also in good working order. The same painter that is doing Station 1 will be giving a quote on painting the exterior of Station 2.

Starlink is up and running at Station 2. The chief found a kit for it for $400.00. There was the cost of $1,600.00 to hook it up, and then the monthly Business Service Account fee of $65.00.

The water system will be looked at soon.

As far as Equipment Status, many of the Engines have been serviced. Engine #1321 still has the light issue. As reported before, the old #1301 has been sold.

Tim Sanders has purchased a gas pump for #1372. Now each Tender has a pump included in its equipment.
Per Shawn Finnerty, the boat will be pulled out of the water next week. Just the standard service is being done. The pump is being worked on.

Todd Wendle informs the Commissioners that the Bonner County CPR course was held last Saturday. It was well attended. Breakfast and lunch were provided. Next week the first Specialty Training class will occur. It will be a ropes course. Then an Urban Interface Wildland refresher course will happen. Boat training will be in May. Stop The Bleed and General First Aid are the following courses. Clark Fork Fire has expressed an interest in attending these classes. Todd Wendle says that the State of Idaho is paying for the Ropes class.

Recruitment for the next Rookie class will start soon. Courses start in September.

Community Relations:
Some new fliers will be created soon.

Grant Status Waterways:
The reimbursement for $4,093.00 came in from last year's grant. The SOFD is planning to apply again this year. There is no new info on the Waterways Grant.

Action Item: SOG's 3.13 & 3.09. Upon review of these SOG's, Commissioner Wendle makes a motion to accept them as written. She is seconded by Commissioner Butler. All in favor.

Action Item: Funding the Training Officer and Coordinator positions.
A suggested starting fee of $300.00 per Trainer/Coordinator per month was suggested. The issue came up, that sometimes a different person than the trainer teaches the class. The question is, does the person that does the teaching get a fee too? The Chief felt that this was a valid issue that needs delving into. But, the issue of payment for the Trainer and Coordinator positions was a separate issue from this and that these positions need to get paid. A line item needs to be added to the budget for these positions. And possibly another line item for the teacher position too. Tony Butler agrees that coming up with a compensation structure plan for training is important. He also is in favor of retroactive pay for these positions. It is agreed that this still needs work. This item is tabled.

> Amend budget to create a line item for the Trainer and Coordinator positions. Possibly another line item for the Teacher position.

Action Item: Fund staffing for summer holiday weekends.
The Chief would like to fund the staffing for the fourth of July and the Labor Day weekends. Then look at funding and staffing for red flag warning days. He estimates that up to 6 red flag days would need to be funded. The funding for these would be for a Captain and one other volunteer firefighter. The Commissioner's feel that they will approve of the funding for these events, but a Special Meeting or Workshop will need to be held in order to iron out the details. Todd Wendle has worked with Kathy Cifu on creating a database of calls and types of events with dates. The SOFD office maintains a much simpler spreadsheet of these details. Per Todd, Thursday and Friday are the heaviest call event days. The busiest weekends were in August. July was the busiest during the week. Being response ready would mean being at the Station ready to roll on an emergency. These busy days could possibly be covered in shifts. The Chief will work on a weekend staffing proposal. Maybe consider making it part of the stipend program. The Chief will have this proposal ready in 2 weeks by April 22. He will also check with the stipend budget. This action item is tabled.

>Chief to have staffing proposal by April 22. Also to check on Stipend budget to see if it will cover holiday and red flag staffing costs.

Action Item: SOG 4.03. The Chief will re send re worded SOG. This item is tabled until next month.

> Chief to re send newly re worded SOG 4.03 to Commissioners.

Action Item: House Rules. Terry Jensen has suggestions about the rewording of this SOG. This item is tabled until next month.

Action Item: Residency Agreement. Commissioner Butler makes a motion to accept the new wording on the residency agreement. Commissioner Wendle seconds the motion. All in favor.

Old Business:
Kelly Thompson informs the Commissioners that the Station 1 renovation is going well. The floors are done as well as the trim. The painter is to come and finish the trim and doors. A second vanity needs to be purchased. The carpets need to be installed. Sara Knight informs the Commissioners that so far, the renovation has costed $31,234.00 which is over budget. Monies from building maintenance can be moved to cover the overage.

The Boat update has been covered.

Dormar Update. Darius Ruen came to the SOFD with the request that the SOFD change its position on the zoning change request. He brought maps and further explanations as to what the changes are. He addressed the issue of ingress/egress to the peninsula pertaining to the Dormar property. He spoke about the bus parking. He showed on the map the different access points on the property. Bob Howard of Emergency management has a tentative plan of emergency evacuation of the peninsula, but the Sheriff has the ultimate authority as to how the evacuation would occur. Mr. Ruen claims that Bonner County has plans to make the entire peninsula a resort zoned area. He says that Dormar is not planning to make any property developments. Dormar will be talking to the County Commission May 5th.

New Business:
The SOFD has updated its video/audio equipment. The SOFD has a Zoom account. People can attend the meeting electronically by requesting a Zoom invitation. There are still a few bugs in the system. The SOFD will continue testing.

Tony Butler will be working with Kathy Cifu and Tim Scofield about posting the Commissioners Meeting agenda and minutes online on our website.

The correct procedure for Executive session needs to be followed. Executive Session under Idaho code 74-206(a) should be posted on the agenda only if and when one will be called. Then a roll call needs to occur. Then the session. Then the closing of the executive session time needs to be noted.

The minutes from the Special Meeting 3/15/26 were reviewed by the commissioners. Commissioner Butler makes a motion to accept the minutes as written He is seconded by Commissioner Wendle. All in favor.

Action Item: A motion to adjourn is made by Commissioner Butler at 7:58 P.M. He is seconded by Commissioner Wendle. All in favor, Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexa Garrison, Secretary