

**Sam Owen Fire District
Commissioner's Meeting
March 12, 2025**

Attendance:

Tim Scofield, Chief
Stu Eigler, Administrative Officer, Accountant
Jassica Richards, Bookkeeper
Tony Butler, District 1 Commissioner, Treasurer
Terry Jensen, District 3 Commissioner, Chairman
Lisa Wendle, District 2 Commissioner
Todd Wendle, Newsletter, Reporter
Al Sly, Captain, Media
Cody Lofland, Captain, Trainer
Chris Popov, Volunteer Fire Fighter
Jack Craemer, Captain
Tim Sanders, Engineer

Agenda:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jensen at 6:00P.M. The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed. There was a change requested to make the word "contract"(in reference to the living quarters) to the word "agreement". With this change, Commissioner Butler makes a motion to accept the minutes, and is seconded by Commissioner Wendle. There are no changes to the posted agenda. There are no public comments at this time.

Chief's Report:

At Station 1, there are no issues to report. A repair to the front eave is immanent.
At Station 2, All is also in good working order.

Tim Sanders reports that there has been no notable interest in the old engine #1321 sale. He feels that doing a pump test might make it more interesting to buyers. A pump test costs around \$500.00. He has the Engine listed on Fenton Fire and on Facebook. Sean Craemer suggests putting it up for auction. Tony Butler suggests dropping the price and posting the pump video. Tim and Chief Scofield will re contact any interested parties and show pump vides and dropped price. Tim also reports that Oil Changes are being done to all the vehicles.

Volunteer Training: Cody Lofland reports that some participation of the classes and call response has dropped off. He is researching as to why this is happening. He is also trying to develop an entry level class for new volunteers. He reports that the volunteers say they are not comfortable with responding to calls in real life EMS situations. Todd Wendle confirms this. He says the volunteers don't feel able to contribute to an emergency response yet. A real life emergency is very different from class training.

Chris Popov suggested setting up "Partners" or "Mentors" for each new volunteer. Then they can participate together in both classes and call response. Lisa Wendle suggested that the officers make themselves more available to the trainees.

Cody will be looking to train the "Fire Fighters Mind Set" of call response and being available at any time to respond. The training program is front loaded so that a person can fully respond/participate to calls.

Commissioner Lisa Wendle questioned if the Stipend Program is working. The SOFD was using it as incentive to bump up participation in both the training sessions, and in call response. Chris Popov will email the paperwork re Stipend Program to Lisa for her review and input. In the mean time, Cody will give the volunteers a heads up as to the need to participate in calls. They should not attend classes only. Between phone notifications and pagers, there is no reason as to not knowing a call is happening. People will be put on probation for no call response if this situation does not change.

Community Relations:

Todd Wendle says that the second article has been sent in to The Reader. This article will be about night driving tips.

Grant Status:

Stu Eigler tells the Commissioners that the AFG grant is still outstanding. There has been no response to the SHPS Grant. The next Grant open will be the IDL Grant. The winner of the Grant is determined by the NFIRS reports.

Treasurer's Report:

Stu Eigler reports that the SOFD is on budget. About 60% of the contracts have been paid. The Audit Report has come in.

Stu has been researching the replacement options for Engine #1301. He recommends the State Bid purchase plan for fleets. He has received 2 bid options for a Tahoe 4 wheel drive. Option 1 is \$51,028.00 as the base price. The police special package with lights, sirens can be added on. (Option 2) He reminds the Commissioners that if they choose to do the police package, the lights and sirens are integrated in. It then is difficult to make repairs. There is a

local company that can add those items. This will make repairs (if needed) much easier. Sean Finnerty will also be researching Engine replacement options. Tim Sanders suggests the Commissioners develop a replacement plan for any vehicles that are getting old. Tim is working on compiling a list of the older Engines. He knows that Selkirk Fire and Sandpoint Fire are planning on reaching out to other departments for assistance in the future. The SOFD should be ready with a replacement plan. The State will also be doing a rating of each Fire Department and its vehicles for the insurance companies.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Alexa Garrison	\$ 120.00
Avista	\$ 288.19
Clark Fork Chevron	\$ 275.77
Co-Op Country Store	\$1,094.07
L.N. Curtis & Sons	\$ 289.70
Northwestern Payroll	\$ 450.00
Performance Systems	\$ 765.01
Racom	\$1,014.00
Tim Scofield	\$4,868.24
Visa	\$1,581.53
Waterfront Property	\$ 31.15
Cody Lofland	\$ 369.40
Tim Sanders	\$ 937.36
Tim Scofield	\$2,113.90

Umpqua Bank Checking account as of 3/12/25 \$265,081.69

Umpqua Bank Savings account as of 3/12/25 \$29,273.79

Umpqua CD as of 3/12/25 \$202,090.00

Mountain West Bank CD as of 3/12/25 \$202,626.15

Commissioner Wendle makes a motion to pay the bills as presented, she is seconded by Commissioner Butler. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

The appliances for the Station 2 renovation have been purchased. The Chief bought them from Home Depot. The trimming at Station 2 needs to be completed. Kelly Thompson and Chief Scofield will be working to Seal/Wax the floor. The Chief will buy 2 beds and kitchen tables and chairs for the units. The upstairs is currently locked.

There have been 2 applicants for the assistant to the Chief's position. Appointments for interviews need to be set up.

Tim Sanders is working on a personnel manual. This will be coordinating SOG information, Training info, Stipend info and be a welcome package. He is calling it The Rookie Book. Chris Popov will send the Stipend Program info to Tim. It will also include the disciplinary process. The new volunteers will need to sign off on it. This discussion is tabled until the Commissioners can review a copy of The Rookie Book.

New Business:

A few people have called the SOFD for water assistance. The SOFD does not have potable water to offer. There are other companies that do this. The SOFD can, in an emergency, fill a tank with water. But it is not potable. And it would be for emergencies only. The Commissioners need to review this issue.

Commissioner Butler says that the water that the SOFD has is for fire fighting, and is not rated as potable water. He feels that it would be OK for the volunteers to be doing it for themselves, as a perk for being a volunteer. It is also good practice at filling the vehicle tanks. But this is not a service for the general public. A waiver form will be created and need to be signed before the volunteers can do this service for themselves. Any current water receivers will be notified that this service is no longer available.

Commissioner Butler makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 P.M. He is seconded by Commissioner Wendle. All in favor. Motion carried, Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexa Garrison, Secretary