

# AURORA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 7 pm

Station 920 Donald, Oregon

Public attendance also available via Telephonic access

### ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fire Chief Joshua Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Daroll Nicholson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Deb Barnes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Rick Olmsted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Greg Dyke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Admin Assistant Emily Murphy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Director Bobby Meyer		

### **CALL TO ORDER – Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call**

President Bobby Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All present.

Director	In attendance
Barnes	Present
Dyke	Present
Meyer	Present
Nicholson	Present
Olmsted	Present

**ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Director Dyke to approve the consent agenda for the month of November 2022. Motion seconded by Director Nicholson. All In favor, passed unanimously.

### **Roll call vote for approving consent agenda:**

Director	Vote
Barnes	Yes
Dyke	Yes
Meyer	Yes
Nicholson	Yes
Olmsted	Yes
<b>Result: 5-0 in favor, passed unanimously</b>	

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE –** None.

**DISTRICT #63 FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION UPDATE:** Nathan Severson said they had a good turnout for the annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, and the Santa Walk on December 19<sup>th</sup> for Aurora and Donald. Director Nicholson thanked Severson for the contribution of the Santa suit for the City of Donald Party.

**OPERATIONAL REPORTS (in packets):** Chief Williams added his report for the current weather advisory and how the district has prepared for potential freezing rain. If power goes out, the station will be a place people can go to get warm, charge phones, etc.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **HRA Veba update (Resolution)** – Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association, a special tax-exempt entity recognized under Code § 501(c)(9). Chief Williams asked the Board to approve the increase from \$1000 per year to \$1500 contribution annually as presented.

**A motion was made by Director Dyke to approve the HRA Veba Policy as presented. Motion seconded by Director Nicholson. All In favor, passed unanimously.**

**Roll call vote for approving HRA Veba Policy as presented:**

Director	Vote
Barnes	Yes
Dyke	Yes
Meyer	Yes
Nicholson	Yes
Olmsted	Yes
<b>Result: 5-0 in favor, passed unanimously</b>	

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Station Funding Update** – Presented by Chief Williams. He’s been working on getting funding, developed a second request to the legislature. Chief stated he will be requesting funds in the amount of \$2.6 million to complete the station. Also reached out to Mayor Olmsted regarding logistics of applying for a grant with the Mayor of Donald and Eric Underwood at Aurora for support as the sponsors. Director Meyer has also reached out to Representative Hovee and Senator Steiner and is waiting to hear back. Will update status next meeting.
- **RFP** – AC Corless presented that a total of 6 companies attended the required meeting regarding architectural services prior to submitting proposals on December 12<sup>th</sup>, meaning the District will only be allowed to accept 6 RFPs. The final deadline for submission will be January 4, 2023 at 4pm. The next step will be to create a team of people, including 2 board members, to grade them. Interviews will be conducted at the end of the month, with the goal to be narrow down to the top 3. Presented a rough cost sheet in the packet. Discussion of costs and suggestions provided for who to contact regarding well drilling.
- **Grant updates** – Chief Williams presented that FF Tanner Burke secured a matching grant for \$5000 for station security. Both the Aurora and Donald Stations will have key fobs in the future. Wanted to give Tanner Burke congratulations on applying for and success of getting that grant.

- **Grant updates continued...** Chief stated that we had 2 grant denials – for a water tender and SCBA's. He indicated that he has also put in for a grant with the State to secure \$600k in funds specifically for the purpose of hiring another daytime staff (Firefighter Capacity Grant). This amount may seem high; however, it would cover all fulltime employee benefits (i.e., insurance, PERS, etc.) as well as wages for 3 years. Expected to hear back in March or April 2023.
- **Public Contracting Rules** – Chief Williams is pleased to announce that the new legal team has been very efficient in providing documents and contracts for the District. They are currently drafting new public contracting rules. There will be additional information provided in the packets within the next couple weeks.

**Director Olmsted** – Thanked the Chief and everyone for use of the Donald Fire Station for the City of Donald's Christmas party.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Public asked to leave pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) and ORS 192.660(2)(i)

**ADJOURN BACK TO REGULAR BOARD MEETING** – Public invited back into the meeting.

**Board Action** – A motion was made by Director Dyke to accept the contract for Chief Joshua L. Williams as presented. Motion seconded by Director Barnes. All In favor, passed unanimously.

**Roll call vote for accepting Fire Chief's contract as presented:**

Director	Vote
Barnes	Yes
Dyke	Yes
Meyer	Yes
Nicholson	Yes
Olmsted	Yes
<b>Result: 5-0 in favor, passed unanimously</b>	

**Board Action** – A motion was made by Director Barnes to approve the Merit Award of 4% to Chief Joshua L. Williams as presented. Motion seconded by Director Olmsted. All In favor, passed unanimously.

**Roll call vote for presenting the Merit Award to Chief Williams as presented:**

Director	Vote
Barnes	Yes
Dyke	Yes
Meyer	Yes
Nicholson	Yes
Olmsted	Yes
<b>Result: 5-0 in favor, passed unanimously</b>	

**Discussion:** Director Greg Dyke inquired about previous long-time volunteer, board member, as well as previous board president Erwin Nyquist who recently passed. Need to get contact information regarding his family so flowers can be sent on behalf of the Aurora Fire District and the Board of Directors. The funeral arrangements have not been set yet. Confirmed that as soon as we are made aware of the arrangements, flowers will be sent.

Director Nicholson asked for an update on Volunteer Matthew Bathke and his daughter Vivienne, who were both injured earlier this year in a motorcycle accident when a drunk driver ran a stop sign. Reported that both Bathke and his daughter are doing well, but Bathke will need additional reconstruction surgery on his foot and has moved his FF status to support. Bathke is also working toward his accreditation to become a Chaplain for our fire district.

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING:** Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2023  
Time: 7 pm  
Location: Aurora Fire Station

**Motion to Adjourn the meeting by Director Meyer – All in favor.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm

Approved: Deb Barnes / 1-18-23  
Deb Barnes, Board Secretary/Treasurer Date