***January 21st, 2025***

The ***January 21st, 2025*** meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sweet Home Fire & Ambulance District was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Board President Dawn Mitchell.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken by Director Charlene Adams. Directors present were Charlene Adams, Larry Johnson, Jim Yon, Rob Younger via zoom, and Dawn Mitchell. Fire District personnel in attendance were Fire Chief Nick Tyler via zoom, Deputy Chief George Virtue, Assistant to the Chief Julie Mayfield and BC Eli Harris. Community members present included Sarah Brown of the New Era.

**Liability Insurance update - Joel Keesecker with Unified Insurance**

\* 2025 premium will go up $4,604, approximately 9.46%

\* Average rate increases were above 10%, so the district increase is slightly less than the average

\* Biggest factor in the increase was the budget

\* Several changes, details, procedures and claims were discussed and questions answered

**Audit Results - Kori Sarrett from Accuity – rescheduled for future meeting**

**READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the **December 17th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting** were presented and reviewed.

**25-01** A motion was made by Director Larry Johnson to approve the **December 17th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting** minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Jim Yon and passed unanimously.

**25-02** Director Jim Yon moved to approve the **December 2024** **Financial Reports** as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Larry Johnson and passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**FIRE CHIEF REPORTS**

**Operational Report - Chief Nick Tyler:**

\* 280 incidents for the month: average 9 per day; 81% EMS with 226 EMS calls (average 7.2 per day)

\* 2 days with 15 calls, same as December

**California Deployment Update - Chief Nick Tyler:**

\* BC Shannon Pettner - Task force down on January 9th in the Malibu area

\* Chief Nick Tyler - Strike team down on January 11th with water tenders in the Beaumont area

\* 9 Total Sweet Home people on the 2 strike teams; huge financial benefit to participate in the conflagrations, lots of communication and cooperation with personnel that are still here at home

\* Called down today to new Lilac Fire today in San Diego

\* Working 12 hour days, accommodations comfortable and enough people for all to get adequate rest

\* Not the usual set up with not being assigned to a fire but being flexible and moving where needed

\* Also the Clay Fire in Riverside County, continue to ask for help, probably headed there

\* No big equipment breaks

\* No large fires at this time but expecting more back to back Santa Ana wind events

**Acknowledge Audit Findings / Plan of Action Discussion - Asst to the Chief Julie Mayfield:**

\* Overstated liabilities and expenditures

\* Audit findings that require filing a plan of action with Secretary of State’s Office, provided a template

\* Included in financials will be the balance sheet from now on

\* Fire Chief will review the balance sheet each month for accuracy and then review with the Board at the regular meeting

\* Correct the date on the plan of action, Chief Tyler signs when return

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**Building Maintenance:**

\* No Report

**EMS Officer:**

\* No Report

**Fire Training - BC Eli Harris:**

**Between 12/1/24 - 12/31/2024 crews completed:**

\* 106 hours of online

\* 116 hours dedicated to drills

\* 137 hours on shift training

\* 64 hours of outside training or Fire Corp

Total = 423 plus hours of training

\* Wildland division crew has been a real asset, having some cross training and filling in when and where they can with crews gone on conflagrations

\* New Training schedule is out including use of Prop Trailers for different training: Roof Ventilation, Forcible Entry, FLAG (Flammable Liquids and Gas),

Vehicle Fire

**Vehicle Maintenance & Equipment:**

\* No Report

**R & R and Public Interactions - BC Eli Harris:**

\* Interviews for Part Time Positions

\* Ad in the New Era for new volunteers, but the academy is coming up too

**Ambulance Collections - Asst to the Chief Julie Mayfield:**

\* Charges Oct - part of Dec - $737,147.50,

Credits with Adjustments - $286,177.25

\* Average of $95,000 per month; Shortfall of about $30,000 per month

\* Most of the claims pay only a fraction of the cost

**Association President:**

\* Some info shared by Deputy Chief George Virtue

\* Reactivating Scholarship Committee

\* Still deciding what to fundraise for

**FIRE DISTRICT PATRONS & PERSONNEL**

Procedural statement read by President Dawn Mitchell.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

\* Fire Board Candidate Filing Begins February 6th, 2025; positions coming up for re-election are Position 4 - Rob Younger and Position 5 - Dawn Mitchell

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors will be at 6:30 p.m.,

Tuesday, February 18th, 2025.

The Board of Directors regular meeting was adjourned by President Dawn Mitchell at 7:21 PM.

Submitted by,

Charlene Adams, Secretary/Treasurer

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