

*For approval May 11, 2021*

**MOUNTAIN VIEW FIRE AND RESCUE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
APRIL 27, 2021**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Commissioner Farrell called the regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 6:30pm.

**PRESENT FROM MVFR**

Commissioner Jim Farrell  
Commissioner Cathie McKinney  
Commissioner Scott Currie  
Commissioner Joanne Seng  
Deputy Chief Dawn Judkins  
Chief Greg Smith

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL /Guests**

Debbie Page  
Lee Mulvihill

*This meeting was held online via Zoom due to the Coronavirus Governor action related to OPMA.*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Commissioner Seng and seconded by Commissioner McKinney to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Commissioner McKinney and seconded by Commissioner Seng to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the April 13, 2021 regular meeting of the Board and the second half of April vouchers. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Introductions of Black Diamond City Council Members, Page and Mulvihill who said they are, "Looking to support (the Department) as best we can."

**UNION COMMENT**

No members present

**DEPUTY CHIEF’S REPORT:**

- A. Last Sunday (4/18) a large fire was reported in Green Valley and attracted news coverage. The fire started with someone burning in their yard. Sunday through Saturday the Department had 30-40 people working each day on scene. There were some resources from the state and an additional team was brought in from Salem, OR. Deputy Chief Judkins will provide a more formal presentation (including costs) to have available in the next couple of weeks. This will be shared with the County and the Commissioners.
  - a. One positive was that the Department got to know several members of the community and the neighbors worked together, stepping up to help bring bottled water, etc.
  - b. Several more calls regarding illegal burn incidents have come in this last week. Deputy Chief Judkins suspects that they are coming from the neighbors they met in the area and reporting on those around them.
- B. A promotional test is coming up this week. Several firefighters have been training and studying. Seven lieutenants are taking this test. The Department could potentially see three openings for Captains coming soon.
- C. MVFR needs to start looking at hiring in preparation for next year. It typically takes about one year to fully onboard someone. The next recruiting academy is August 30 and MVFR has four spots. Chief Smith and Deputy Chief Judkins promised a hiring plan will be coming through to the Board of Commissioners for the next meeting.

**FINANCE REPORT :**

April Expenses:

Payroll	\$321,559
Vouchers	\$230,311
Total for the Month	\$551,870

- A. Expenses are up slightly when compared to last year (approx. \$11k) but this includes an increase in the cost of medical insurance and was all budgeted for.
- B. Expenditures include but were not limited to propane fuel for Station 97, Computer Solutions (IT Joe), repair of some bay doors, office supplies, IT server backup, EMS supplies, legal, VHF radios, medical insurance, fire check services, firefighter plaques, etc.

Itemized	\$128,898
Utility and Ongoing	\$10,639
Total	\$139,537
Remaining	\$1,146

- C. April Expense Account = \$1,478,013.83
  - a. The budget is on track and the Department made it through Q1 without having to transfer money from emergency reserve accounts. Tax revenue continues to come in.

**CHIEF’S REPORT**

- A. April 12 – April 27:

- a. Incidents: 96
    - i. Black Diamond = 8
    - ii. Puget Sound Fire = 3
    - iii. Enumclaw = 7
  - b. EMS calls: 70 (73% of all calls)
  - c. Average calls per day: 6.86/per day (up from previous months and also when compared to the last few years).
- B. Green Valley Fire 4/18/21 (*see additional notes under "Deputy Chief's Report"*): This fire took up the majority of man hours while additional calls were also coming in. Most of the trees that burned were cut down and cleared. After the fire started, wind caused it to burn North and East. The Department spent six days on fire watch around a nearby home. In some areas this was a difficult fire to fight as it crept up a steep incline in a particularly woody area. A helicopter was called in to prevent fire from advancing North up the hill. There was only one minor injury on our part and no structures were lost. The District is looking at closing open burning, other than recreational, in June instead of the annual closing in July. We will be keeping a close watch on conditions and weather.
- a. Department will be sending handwritten 'thank you' cards to everyone who helped and contributed.
- C. Mountain View Fire new engine is in queue for engineering
- D. Fire Garage Study is ongoing
- E. Volunteer Academy is ongoing
- F. Black Diamond's new engine is nearly complete. A Captain and a firefighter will be sent out to do final inspections.
- G. Chief Smith and Deputy Chief Judkins have been recruiting at the Muckleshoot Reservation for volunteers for the Wildlands Team. Chief met with Department's insurance and there is no requirement for a GED/HS Diploma or a valid driver's license for Wildlands volunteers. There's not a requirement with the Department of Natural Resources, for red card either if someone is just looking to volunteer. Should the Board consider waiving this previously set requirement for next year?
- a. Commissioner Seng noted that we should "open the door" to anyone who's interested so long as it doesn't open MVFR up to a potential lawsuit/harm, etc. Commissioners Currie and McKinney agreed. Deputy Chief Judkins recommended the Department still include the background check as well.
  - b. Consensus is that these requirements (GED/HS Diploma + Driver's License) should be waived, for volunteer wildland firefighter

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Black Diamond ILA for Service— Chief Smith spoke to the executive session legal last and the next meeting with Black Diamond occurs in the middle of May. Black Diamond's legal team will present their first draft of their contract. Afterward, the Board will discuss in executive session.
- B. VHF System—Commissioner Currie is waiting for a breakdown of specific costs from Larry so we can determine next steps. At the moment, he needs to meet with Deputy Chief Judkins at Station 95 to discuss where to place radios.
- C. IT—n/a

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

N/A

**COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

Commissioner McKinney and Commissioner Currie took time to commend MVFR firefighters and Deputy Chief Judkins on their hard work this last week. The incident displayed the Department in a good light and provided some good PR. The Green Valley fire demonstrated to the area the strength of the Department.

**BOARD MEETING ADJOURN**

**It was moved by Commissioner Currie and seconded by Commissioner McKinney to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried at 7:20pm.**

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Joanne Seng (Position #1)

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Cathie Valentine-McKinney (Position #2)

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Scott Currie (Position #3)

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James Farrell, Chair (Position #4)

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Don Gentry (Position #5)

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Mackenzie Helgersen, Board Secretary