

**Molalla Rural Fire Protection District No.73**

**Board of Directors Meeting  
320 N Molalla Ave, Molalla, OR  
Wednesday March 20, 2024**

1 **Directors Present:** President Mike Towner, Secretary Brian Wolfe and Member Steve Long.

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3 **Directors Absent:** Vice President Todd Gary and Member Brian Lister.

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5 **Others Present:** Administrative Assistant Melissa Goodwater, Staff Members Lt. Byron Wakefield, Lt.  
6 Mike Penunuri, Lt. Ethan Hupp, Ayden Zimmerman, Kalle Goforth, student Henri Smith and guests Lori  
7 Wakefield and Kim Penunuri.

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9 **Absent:** Chief Vince Stafford.

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11 **Call to Order:** The 727<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors of Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73  
12 was called to order by President Mike Towner at 9:30am with no objections from the members.

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14 **Flag Salute:** Brian Wolfe.

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16 Presentation of Retirement Bell to Lt. Byron Wakefield.

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18 **Approval of the February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as follows:**

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| Brian Wolfe moved to accept the minutes as submitted, Steve Long seconded the motion. The motion<br>21 carried 3/0. |
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23 **Bills and General Ledger:**

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| After review of the Check Report presented to the Board, Steve Long moved to pay the bills as presented.<br>26 Brian Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0. |
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28 **Call to the Public:** None. Melissa Goodwater confirmed there was no public write-in, Zoom attendance or  
29 call-ins.

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31 **Financial Review:** Melissa Goodwater stated that Chief Stafford has been working on the 2024-2025  
32 budget and that at the end of March he will have three quarters to base the Cash Carry Forward projection  
33 on.

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35 **Old Business:**

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37 OB-1 Urban Renewal: None.

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39 OB-2 Antique Buffalo Engines: None.

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41 OB-3 100 Year Anniversary: Lt. Penunuri told the Board that things have been ordered. Byron  
42 Wakefield has given the cups we received that were incorrect to a few of the local  
43 restaurants and most of the others have been given away.

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45 **New Business:**

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47 NB-1 Grants and Class Updates: Byron Wakefield stated that he is working on a grant for the  
48 2020 Wildfires that increased from 75% to 90%, an in-house PHTLS class for staff, the  
49 OSFM Wild Fire Upstaffing grant, AFG for a ventilation prop, the Mulino Station solar  
50 grant is almost ready for funding, MAWS has a commitment from NAFT, the SDAO  
51 Safety grant for the gate has been completed and he is working on a SAFER Grant that  
52 could be used to hire six new people. Discussion was held regarding the timeline of the

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53 SAFER Grant overlapping the levy renewal. He also stated that at 2pm today he has a  
54 zoom meeting with FEMA to discuss the hypochlorous acid machine.

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56 NB-2 District Funding and Operations: See Board Packet.

57  
58 NB-3 MOU 2024-1 Return from Retirement Program. Discussion was held regarding changes  
59 made to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement Article 14.5.

60 Brian Wolfe made a motion to approve MOU 2024-1 as written. Steve Long  
61 seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

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64 NB-6 Items that may come before the Board. None.

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66 **Correspondence:** See Board Packet.

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68 **Chief's Report:** Mike Towner reviewed the Administration Report submitted by Chief Stafford.

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70 **Volunteer President Report:** None.

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72 **Good of the Order:** Chief Stafford is recovering well from neck surgery.

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74 **Open Agenda:** None.

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76 Short break to celebrate Byron Wakefield's retirement with coffee and donuts.


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78 **Adjourn to Executive Session 192.660(2)(d) at 10:02am**

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80 **Resume Regular Meeting at 10:33am**

81 Based on discussion held in Executive Session, Brian Wolfe made a motion to approve an  
82 Independent Contractor Agreement between the Molalla Fire District and Byron Wakefield  
83 operating under Surefire Consulting, LLC as written. Steve Long seconded the motion.  
84 The motion carried 3/0

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89 **Meeting Adjourned at 10:35am.**

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91  Board Member

92  
93  Board Member

4-24-2024  
(Date)

4/24/24 (Date)