

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

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

1 **Directors Present:** President Mike Towner, Vice President Todd Gary (via Zoom) and Member Brian  
2 Lister (via Zoom).

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4 **Directors Absent:** Secretary Brian Wolfe and Member Steve Long.

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6 **Others Present:** Chief Vince Stafford, Administrative Assistant Melissa Goodwater, Staff Members Lt.  
7 Mike Penunuri and Grant Consultant Byron Wakefield.

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9 **Call to Order:** The 732<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors of Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73  
10 was called to order by President Mike Towner at 9:36am with no objections from the members.

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12 **Flag Salute:** Mike Towner

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14 **Approval of the July 17, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as follows:**

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16 Todd Gary moved to accept the minutes as submitted, Brian Lister seconded the motion. The motion  
17 carried 3/0.

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19 **Bills and General Ledger:**

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21 After review of the Check Report presented to the Board, Todd Gary moved to pay the bills as presented.  
22 Brian Lister seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

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24 **Call to the Public:** None. Melissa Goodwater confirmed there was no public Zoom attendance, write-ins  
25 or conference call-ins.

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27 **Financial Review:** Melissa Goodwater handed out the Letter of Engagement from Accuity, LLC to the  
28 Board and let them know that in-person audit will be September 16<sup>th</sup> and financial report done by the end of  
29 the year. She also went over some conflagration numbers from the last 12 years stating that in 2018 we had  
30 the record of 9 conflagrations billed and in 2019 there were none. So far this year we have been on 11  
31 conflagrations. The Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection survey has been started with Lt.  
32 Penunuri and Robert Toumbs helping with call reports and apparatus information. There is still lots to do  
33 on it. The Best Practices Board Public Meeting Training is available now and an email has been sent to the  
34 Board members with instructions on how to access it. One member has completed it so far.

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36 **Old Business:**

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38 OB-1 Urban Renewal: None.

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40 OB-2 Antique Buffalo Engines: None.

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42 OB-3 100 Year Anniversary: The anniversary events went real well. This item will be  
43 removed from future agendas.

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45 **New Business:**

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47 NB-1 Grants and Class Updates: Byron Wakefield reviewed the status of several grants.  
48 MAWS is complete and waiting for final reimbursement from NAFT. We are waiting for  
49 meal reimbursement for the PHTLS class. We are half way through eh OSFM staffing  
50 grant. The solar grant will be late August or early September. We are about to close on  
51 one of the FEMA grants that went from 75% coverage to 90%. The FEMA Ice Storm  
52 grant will be \$29,151.00. SAFER grant started to be handed out last week. There were  
53 no updates on classes.

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NB-2 District Funding and Operations: There have been a lot of fires lately. We are looking at grass and brush fires to become the norm. The seasonal fire fighters have been the first on scene during the last three brush fires. This has been a big help to keep our ambulances on the road. Mike Towner asked about the call stats for one of the seasonals. He was informed that the one in question was not hired.

NB-3 Resolution 08-20-24 Ambulance Fees. Resolution was read in it's entirety by Mike Towner.

Todd Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 08-20-24 as read. Brian Lister seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

After the motion, Mike Towner asked about the Board Packet insert from Terrie Stafford regarding Ambulance Surprise Billing. Chief Stafford stated that it was a new thing and he has been discussing with another District's Chief.

NB-4 Cical Service Commission Applicant Approval. Chief Stafford reviewed the letter of interest submitted by Rob Mathis who is interested in serving on the Joint Civil Service Commission.

Todd Gary made a motion to appoint Rob Mathis as the Molalla Representative to the Joint Civil Service Commission. Brian Lister seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

NB-5 Items that may come before the Board. Mike Towner addressed Chief Stafford's letter of intent to renew his contract for another year. He has asked the Chief to give a definitive date due to the fact that the district will be losing historic experience in the next couple of years and he would like the new Chief to have the advantage of seeing how things run. Brian Lister stated that he also believes that we are in desperate need of succession planning.

**Correspondence:** See Board Packet.

**Chief's Report:** In addition to the Administration Report in the Board Packet, Chief Stafford reiterated that it will be a long fire season and there is a lot on the landscape. Fire Chief's will be looking at the warming weather and the east winds. Chief Stafford asked Mike Penunuri to brief the Board on the Civil Service testing. Mike stated that there were 69 FF/EMT and 4 FF/Paramedic applications. There will be 20 basic and 4 paramedic interviews on Sept. 23/24<sup>th</sup>. He has proctors lined up from Canby, Colton, Aurora and Molalla. If there is not enough paramedics, we will advertise for paramedic only with FF1 as a preference not a requirement.

**Volunteer President Report:** None. Mike Towner asked about the Board being able to purchase/receive one of the 100 Year Anniversary badges.

**Good of the Order:** Mike Everhart's mother-in-law passed away (Denise's mother). Ethan Hupp is on paternity leave, The baby has not been born yet.

**Open Agenda:** Mike Towner asked for clarification of the current organizational chart and had had some corrections on Policy 4. He also asked Chief Stafford if he had a list of interpreters on hand. Comment was made that SDAO would be consulted.

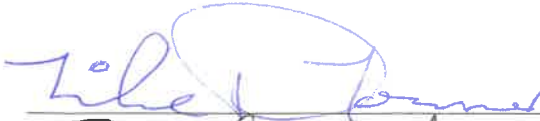
**Meeting adjourned at 10:07am**

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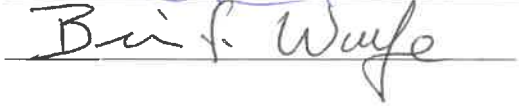
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 Board Member

9-18-24 (Date)

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9/18/24 (Date)