

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

**Board of Directors Meeting  
320 N Molalla Ave, Molalla, OR  
Wednesday September 18, 2024**

1 **Directors Present:** President Mike Towner, Vice President Todd Gary and Secretary Brian Wolfe.

2

3 **Directors Absent:** Member Brian Lister and Member Steve Long.

4

5 **Others Present:** Chief Vince Stafford, Administrative Assistant Melissa Goodwater, Staff member Capt.  
6 Clint Shaver and Consultant Byron Wakefield via Zoom link.

7

8 **Call to Order:** The 733<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors of Molalla Rural Fire Protection District #73  
9 was called to order by President Mike Towner at 9:35am with no objections from the members.

10

11 **Flag Salute:** Brian Wolfe

12

13 **Approval of the August 20, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as follows:**

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

17

18 **Bills and General Ledger:**

19

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

22

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

25

26 **Financial Review:** Melissa Goodwater informed the Board that the Auditors from Accuity LLC were here  
27 on Monday. The audit went well with only one item of clarification with the ambulance billing that is  
28 being worked on. So far this year the District has been on thirteen conflagrations, twelve have been  
29 submitted to OSFM for reimbursement and five have been paid. We received a GEMT payment from  
30 2022-2023. The Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection has been started. Lt. Penunuri and Robbie  
31 Toumbs have helped with call reports and apparatus mileage. We are about 30% complete. Three of the  
32 Board members still need to take the Best Practices training.

33

34 **Old Business:**

35

36 OB-1 Urban Renewal: Chief Stafford took this time to review the expanding Urban Growth  
37 Boundaries that are currently up for review with the city. Predicted population growth  
38 for the city is 5000 in the next twenty years.

39

40 OB-2 Antique Buffalo Engines: Chris Wakefield would like to meet with Mike Towner to  
41 discuss fund raising ideas.

42

43 **New Business:**

44

45 NB-1 Grants and Class Updates: Byron Wakefield reviewed the status of several grants. The  
46 Mulino Solar Grant was turned down. Annual SAM registration has been completed. He  
47 will meet with Melissa tomorrow to go over the mid-report for the Wildland Fire  
48 upstaffing grant. Yesterday he signed the contract for the FEMA ice storm. We still  
49 have not been selected yet for a SAFER Grant. Mike Towner asked the reason we were  
50 turned down for the solar grant, Byron will research.

51

52 NB-2 District Funding and Operations: Chief Spoke to the Board about the 2025 MAWS.  
53 Legislation will not allocate money for grants so DPSST and OSFM will not have money

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54 available for MAWS or WFS Grants. NAFT has dissolved and will send a check for  
55 \$7200 in final funds for us to use for MAWS. Chief is working with other Districts for  
56 funding. Estacada has already pledged \$1000. Current funding for the WFS Grant is  
57 almost out. We have only about a week and a half of funds. Chief asked the Board if the  
58 District can fund the remaining of the month. The Board agreed. The Board would also  
59 like to see the upstaffing budgeted for next year. We have replaced the MDC's in all of  
60 the apparatus. Lt. Penunuri, Mark Horst and Robbie Toumbs have been working on  
61 programing and installing them. We will keep two of the old ones and salvage the others.

62  
63 NB-3 Resolutions 09-18-24 A through E. Resolutions appropriating unanticipated  
64 conflagration reimbursement from the Department of the State Fire Marshal to Personal  
65 Services and Capital Outlay. Mike Towner read each resolution to the Board.

66  
67 Todd Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 09-18-24 A as read. Brian  
68 Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

69  
70  
71 Todd Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 09-18-24 B as read. Brian Wolfe  
72 seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0..

73  
74  
75 Brian Wolfe made a motion to approve Resolution 09-18-24 C as read. Todd Gary  
76 seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0..

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79 Brian Wolfe made a motion to approve Resolution 09-18-24 D as read. Todd Gary  
80 seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

81  
82  
83 Brian Wolfe made a motion to approve Resolution 09-18-24 E as read. Todd Gary  
84 seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

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86  
87  
88 NB-4 Items that may come before the Board. Chief Stafford stated that the auditors also  
89 mentioned that the Department of Revenue is looking for government budget law  
90 violations and suggested that we look at our resolution that adopts the budget for next  
91 year to make sure we are in compliance.

92  
93 **Correspondence:** See Board Packet.

94  
95 **Chief's Report:** In addition to the Administration Report in the Board Packet, Chief Stafford mentioned  
96 that the Volunteer Association will be having a pancake breakfast fund raiser November 16<sup>th</sup> and that they  
97 would like to make it an annual event. Chief stated that he has been trying to make the Chamber meetings  
98 although it conflicts with another meeting he has and would like one of the Board members to try to make  
99 it. Chief Everhart and Chris Wakefield met with the Chamber to go over the Op Santa parade route and  
100 times. Chief also addressed the Board regarding the purchase of one or two vehicles for the overhead  
101 teams the District sponsors on conflagrations. The Board would like the Chief to get more information on  
102 costs and needs.

103  
104 **Volunteer President Report:** Eric Aleksich wanted the Board to know that Chris Wakefield is the IC for  
105 the Op Santa food drive. Chief Stafford also mentioned that Eric will be stepping down as President and  
106 that new members will be voted on at the next association meeting.

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107

108 **Good of the Order:** Ethan Hupps new baby girl is still in NICU.

109

110 **Open Agenda:** Mike Towner mentioned that during the recent SDAO training he attended he learned that  
111 the long-held belief that a quorum of board members could not meet outside of a public meeting is not true  
112 if the gathering has nothing to do with district business and district business is not spoken of.

113

114 **Meeting adjourned at 10:28am for Executive Session ORS 192.660(2)(a)**

115

116 **Regular meeting resumed at 10:48am.**

117

118 The Board reconvened and made the decision to table Chief Stafford's contract renewal for next month.

119

120 **Meeting adjourned at 10:48am**

121

122  Board Member

10-16-24 (Date)

123  Board Member

10/16/24 (Date)

124

125