

Mid Rogue Fire District Board Meeting: October 27, 2025

5:30 p.m. – In Person– Merlin Community Park - 100 Acorn Street, Merlin Oregon

Live Streamed at www.youtube.com/@MidRogueFD

Rural Fire Protection District Attendance:

Directors Present: Vincent Ownbey, Ralph Weidling, Tom McGowan (Via Zoom)

Members Absent: Roy Hauser – Excused, Mark Jones - Excused

Recorder: Kassie Austin

Guest Presenters: None

General Public: John Holmes, Illinois Valley Fire, Austin Prince - Rural Metro Fire, Cheryl Johnson – Illinois Valley Fire

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
- b. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

The board reviewed today's agenda items. *Director Weidling made a motion to approve the agenda as listed. The motion was seconded by Director McGowan. Upon roll call; Director Ownbey – yes, Director McGowan – yes, Director Hauser – excused, Director Weidling – yes, Director. Jones – excused. Motion carried 3-0.*

3. Approval of Minutes

The board reviewed the meeting minutes for the date of October 13, 2025. *Director Weidling made a motion to approve the draft minutes. The motion was seconded by Director McGowan. Upon roll call; Director McGowan – yes, Director Hauser – excused, Director Weidling – yes, Director Ownbey – yes, and Director Jones – excused. Motion carried 3-0.*

4. Secretary/Treasurer Report

Director Weidling explained that after invoices have been paid the current balance for the district is \$306,849.39 In the Mid Rogue Fire District 767 calls took place within the district between July 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025.

5. Public Comment

Cheryl Johnson from Illinois Valley Fire spoke in regard to the OFDDA conference, and that all four applicants were approved for the scholarship for the November conference. It was confirmed that Director Roy Hauser will not be able to attend the conference. There may be a potential conflict with Director Weidling's schedule, and he may not be able to attend the conference.

6. Old Business

A. Starlink Mobile System

Director Weidling purchased the Starlink system. The district still needs to purchase a carrying case for the system.

B. Fire District Administrator Job Description Update

Director McGowan explained that SDAO no longer does the consulting as previously discussed. SDAO will review the job description for the district and give input. The district does get 8 consulting hours per year; anything further may be added with additional fee schedule. Director McGowan would like to discuss it further within an executive session. The district still needs to determine what the hiring process would look like. It was recommended that the board contracts with an individual, instead of hiring as a full time employee. Director Ownbey recommended a timeline to stay on track for this matter. This matter will come back to the next scheduled general meeting. Tentative executive session would be scheduled for November 24, 2025, meeting.

C. District Branding

Director Ownbey briefed the board. He presented stickers. Stickers are estimated to run at \$2.00 a piece. Shirts are still being worked on. Director Ownbey has located 18 locations for road signs to be placed. This will help

citizens recognize when they are entering and leaving the district boundaries. This matter comes back to the next scheduled general meeting.

D. Monitor Case/Microphone Purchase

Director Jones purchased the monitor case, and extra microphone and submitted the receipt for reimbursement.

7. New Business

A. Committee Reports:

Staffing: Nothing further to report.

Communication: Nothing further to report.

Policy: Nothing further to report.

Consideration: Nothing further to report.

Prevention: Nothing further to report.

B. Office Set Up

Director Ownbey explained that the district has obtained an office space at Rural Metro's Fire Station No. 2. The district will take residence of office as of November 1, 2025. Kassie Austin was appointed to meet with Rural Metro staff and set up the district office space without objection.

8. Correspondence

9. None heard.

10. Additional Matters of the Board

Director Weidling stated that he has not heard back from the LGIP account. Director McGowan discussed training. It was determined that the training matter should be placed under committee reports for further agendas. Director McGowan presented the email with the training invitation. Training has been assigned to district board members. Cheryl Johnson spoke on the training that the board is required to take in their elected terms. Director McGowan urged directors to take advantage of vector training, but also move forward with in person training, as those add value to the district.

11. Adjournment

The board adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m. without objection.


Kassie Austin, Recorder