

CENTRAL OREGON COAST FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 16, 2024

1. Notice of Budget Committee Meeting. President Eckerman read the notice of the Budget Committee Meeting.

2. Call to Order. The Central Oregon Coast Fire & Rescue District Budget Committee meeting was called to order by President Eckerman at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

3. Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Eckerman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call. Budget Committee members present were Jovita Ballentine, Steve Barham, Susan Swander, Joe Vandehey, Louise Solliday who was participating online, and Budget Officer Jamie Mason. Directors present were Zach Akin, Rick Booth, Reda Eckerman, Jon MacCulloch, and Greg Dunn. A quorum was present.

5. Election of Chairperson. Mrs. Swander moved to nominate Mr. Barham as Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Vandehey; no other nominations being made the motion carried. Mr. Barham then turned the meeting over to Budget Officer Mason.

6. Presentation of Budget. Chief Mason explained the funding basis for the budget: a permanent tax rate of \$.8209/1000, an operations levy of \$1.27/1000, and a secondary serial levy of \$.35/1000. He anticipates a total of \$1,134,374.10 from taxes and a carryover of \$242,000 from 2023-2024. He reviewed the other anticipated sources of revenue, which included \$1 to keep lines open for surplus sales and grants, estimates for several income sources which can't be guaranteed, and a tax anticipation note of \$300,000 to cover expenses until November of 2024 when next year's taxes will be coming in. The leftovers from previous years have been used up because expenses have increased but the levies haven't. We have two more years at the current levies, which are at a 2012 basis until a possible increase, so a tax note will be necessary for next year also.

Chief Mason turned to the operating budget, which he anticipates will result in a carryover of \$198,770 at the end of 2024-25. He reviewed the personnel costs, which is where most of the funds go. Apparatus repairs and maintenance plus fuel are the biggest operational costs, while PPE was cut back as it is mostly new. Under material and services, this includes the standard office expenses, dispatch cost, and mortgage. This year insurance expense went up about 18% for Oregon fire services. Mrs. Swander asked if personnel are getting paid appropriately; Chief Mason said no. Discussion of need to increase levies which haven't been raised in years. The permanent levy is \$.82 from 1998; raises are capped at 3%. The operating levy will need to be raised in November 2025 or May 2026 or it will cease to exist, as will the district. Mr. Vandehey pointed out that when he moved to Waldport from the Seal Rock district his insurance rate was cut by 50% because of our favorable ISO rates. Further discussion of the need to get necessary information out to the public. Ms. Ballentine had a question regarding training; Captain Knudson has received the necessary training to work on apparatus and may be able to do so for other districts. Chief Mason explained that maintenance is a big issue as most of our vehicles are classified as "antique". We are getting a new tender through a grant that will replace a 1981 tender.

7. Discussion of Budget. Discussion took place during presentation. Captain Knudson said that Mrs. Solliday has been watching online and for the record when the approval motion is made she is in favor.

8. Public Comment on Budget. None.

9. Recommendations or Changes. None.

10. Approval of Budget. Moved by Mr. Vandehey, seconded by Mr. Barham, to approve the 2024-2025 budget as presented and forward it to the Board of Directors for approval; motion carried.

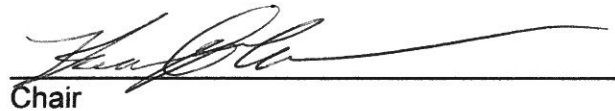
There being no further business to come before the Budget Committee the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan K. Hansen, Recording Secretary

Approved:



Chair