

MINUTES

Josephine County SAR
250 Tech Way
Grants Pass, OR 97526

Present:	Scott Blower, Charlie Chase, Dan DeYoung – Commissioner, Darin Fowler, Commissioner, Bryan Hawkins, Mike Jones, , Vivian Kirkpatrick-Pilger, Janet Lancaster, Harry Mackin, Dave Matthews, John Maupin, Rick McClintock, Richard Wharton, Jeff Wolf, Dorothy Yetter, Austin Prince – Rural Metro, Mike McLaughlin (via phone) – Fire Defense Board Chief, Sara Rubrecht - Staff
Absent:	Lily Morgan – Commissioner, Annette Sorensen – Staff, Dan Trader – County Fire, Mariana Ruiz-Temple – Oregon State Fire Marshal, Dave Larson - ODF
Public Attendees:	Rich Holloway, Michael W.
Recorder	Sara Rubrecht

1. Opening

Chairman Wharton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Review / Approval of Minutes from 02/11/2020 and 02/04/2020

02/11/2020 – One correction to the minutes – change the word “worshop” to “workshop.” Scott Blower made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Charlie Chase seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Wharton thanked Austin Prince and Rural Metro for the great tour last week.

02/04/2020 – Chairman Wharton requested that the last sentence in the last paragraph in the minutes reflect that he was asking a rhetorical question, not ordering a suspension of the committee. Scott Blower made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Harry Mackin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. BCC Liaison Report

Commissioner Fowler had no Liaison updates.

4. Commissioner Liaison Relations - Wharton

Chairman Wharton passed out a handout (attached) and explained the history of the committee and where possible confusion has come from.

- Jeff Wolf spoke about the history of the feasibility study and the requirement to have one.
- Harry Mackin spoke about his concern in regards to contractor recommendation.
- Scott Blower spoke to his concern about the lack of support to this committee by Wally Hicks in the RFQ process. He is in support of a hired contractor, with this committee as a steering group for that contractor. Should wait for consultant before working on the other requested tasks and do them together.
- Dorothy Yetter spoke to her frustrations about the RFQ writing process. Wants to go out on Community Listening Sessions.
- Charlie Chase spoke about the importance of the BCC support of the movement.
- Dave Mathews asked what are next steps for the committee? What would the Board like the committee to do?
- Janet Lancaster spoke about her frustration with instructions for committee being changed. Her opinion is that something needs to go on the ballot. Status quo is not fine. She is interested in

continuing with what the ballot question suggested, but not interested in doing anything else for the County.

- Bryan Hawkins reiterates importance of SWOT process. Also concerned about wildfire/structure fire relationship.
- Commissioner Fowler says that the group needs a mission statement. Would like the BCC and the Committee to review the RFQ together. What are the next steps. We will always make time to meet with you. Would like to see broader research than what is on the advisory ballot question. Thank you for letting us know that there were struggles with communications.
- Commissioner DeYoung would like a review of what has been produced by this committee to date, nothing has come to the Board as of yet. He does not want the committee to dissolve.

5. Committee Report

SWOT Final Draft passed out – Scott Blower requested to review before voting to approve. Charlie Chase seconded this request. Charlie Chase makes the official motion. It was decided that any comments would be sent to Bryan Hawkins and Janet Lancaster (with a cc to Annette) by COB Friday. Final vote by committee will be on next Tuesday.

Bryan Hawkins personally paid for copies at Staples. Vivian Kirkpatrick-Pilger made a motion and Janet Lancaster made a second for the group to request for reimbursement from the County. The receipt has been given to staff for consideration.

Discussion was had about conducting “Listening Tours” in the public. Perhaps public meetings for education and/or hear what the public wants with a Fire District. Need vetted talking points (FAQ’s).

1. Boundaries – what’s needed?
2. Standards
3. Rates
4. Service Areas

Dorothy Yetter suggested there be a subcommittee to create a package for public sets of community meetings.

Charlie Chase suggested that we clarify standards. Those have been discussed by subcommittee early in the process. Rick McClintock suggested they be translated into lay person terms.

Discussion was had about the timing of a potential ballot measure. Vivian Kirkpatrick-Pilger shared concern about some difficulties in a November 2020 ballot measure.

Janet Lancaster asked Commissioner Fowler if Senator Herman Baertschiger cannot fund the contractor through legislative funding, will the County pay for the contractor with general funds? Still questions about original 1.5 million funding.

She also asked if this group comes forward with a feasibility, will he put on ballot for vote? Yes or no? Why? Commissioner Fowler is committed to this process.

6. Other Business:

Meeting adjourned at 7:41.