

**JOSEPHINE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION  
COMMITTEE**

*May 27, 2020*

*3:00 p.m.*

*Zoom Meeting*

**MINUTES**

<b>Present:</b>	Scott Blower, Charlie Chase, Bryan Hawkins, Janet Lancaster, Dave Mathews, John Maupin, Rick McClintock, Richard Wharton, Dorothy Yetter, Austin Prince – Rural Metro, Jason Folkstad – County Fire, Commissioner Fowler – Liaison, Sara Rubrecht – Staff, Annette Sorensen - Staff
<b>Absent:</b>	Mike Jones, Vivian Kirkpatrick-Pilger, Harry Mackin, Jeff Wolf, Mariana Ruiz-Temple, Dave Larson – ODF, Mike McLaughlin – Fire Defense Board Chief
<b>Public Attendees:</b>	Sue Densmore
<b>Recorder</b>	Annette Sorensen

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Wharton called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Video attendance noted by Annette

Chair Wharton added that there may be another item added to the agenda, which will be a continuation of the workshop of delivery systems and options.

**3. Status Update**

**a. Contract from Personal Services with Public Consulting Group**

Commissioner Fowler said that the BCC liked the contract with Public Consulting Group, and it is moving forward through Legal Counsel. He thinks the work that the committee has done will help accelerate the timeline for the consultant. Chair Wharton stated that there were items that the committee contributed that were added to the contract. It also includes looking at options and a feasibility study of requested. Commissioner Fowler feels that the consultant will have enough time to complete by or before the May 2021 ballot. We should get a product early enough to present this to the voters in a way that everyone understands what they are voting for. John Maupin suggested that the options work they are doing will help the consultant. Chair Wharton asked that the consultant share the timetable with the group they have completed it.

**b. Standards Update**

Annette reported that Legal Counsel should have the Standards ready this week. Commissioner Fowler added that the BCC will consider whether they should pass it on their own or have the consultant make a recommendation on the Standards presented.

**4. Feasibility Report from September 2019**

Chair Wharton shared the feasibility study completed by Jeff Wolf in 2019. The purpose of this feasibility study was to meet a ballot requirement to prove a tax rate of \$1.90-something would support the creation of a fire district. This showed that it was feasible to support a fire district at that amount. This was shared with Legal Counsel at their request. Charlie Chase said it was very well put together and thought out and should be glad to have such a helpful tool. Janet let everyone know that rate includes the capital investment. Charlie answered Scotts question that the reason Rural Metro's cost is lower than others is based on the population size it is servicing. Other items such as employee benefits and level of service provided are also a factor in cost.

## **5. Zoom Meeting Process**

Commissioner Fowler said the BCC will be discussing open the County and in-person meetings at tomorrow's Legal Counsel Meeting. The group agreed to continue having workshops. Dorothy added that some may want to continue meeting on Zoom even when in-person meeting resume. She also added that having phone-in and in-person meetings are difficult. Rick also agreed that it's a great way to keep our social distancing. Sara suggested having a hybrid meeting in-person and Zoom. She offered the SAR building as the location. Commissioner Fowler supported the idea of a hybrid meeting.

## **6. Matters from Committee Members**

Chair Wharton discussed that Jeff and Harry are still out with medical issues. Vivian is still considering whether she would like to continue on the committee.

Charlie asked if it effected the quorum if people are missing. Commissioner Fowler believes that it's based on the original number of members. Annette will get that information for the group before the next meeting. Janet shared that she is very disappointed that there will be nothing put on the November ballot and suggested having a postmortem meeting. Chair Wharton supported the idea of a postmortem meeting.

Dorothy asked if the County still had the 1.5 million. Commissioner Fowler said this money may disappear as the State is looking for money

## **7. Ex Officio Member Update**

Austin Prince reported he is glad attend and participate and as may be called away as fire season is approaching.

Jason Folkstad said he was out on a fire at the last meeting. He reminded everyone to be careful, be aware and be safe as fire season is approaching.

## **8. BCC Liaison Report**

Commissioner Fowler reported that he has met with a few fire committee members and invites any other members that would like to talk to him, to contact Annette to schedule a meeting.

Meeting ended at 3:51 p.m.

Next Meeting will be hybrid, in-person/Zoom meeting at the EOC on June 3, 2020 at 3:00.

## **WORKSHOP –**

Workshop began 3:51 p.m.

The group discussed the Analysis of Alternatives for Fire Protection worksheet, working with the pros and cons of delivery options and systems.

Dorothy reviewed the changes she made to the worksheet. The group discussed the pros and cons to the alternatives.

Dorothy will split the two documents and send to Annette to distribute to the group to make their own notes. Chair Wharton suggested to discuss what option has the highest probability of success from the voters. John suggested they also review which alternatives meet the principles of agreement.

Workshop adjourned at 5:01 p.m.