

Clackamas Fire District #1



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION
October 18, 2019**

(This meeting was recorded.)

**1. CALL TO ORDER PER ORS 192.610 TO 192.710
ORS 192.650 – The meeting is being recorded.**

President Trotter called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Present: Board of Directors Jay Cross, Jim Syring, Thomas Joseph and Don Trotter; Chief Fred Charlton; Deputy Chief Doug Whiteley; Deputy Chief Ryan Hari; Division Chief Mike Corless; Division Chief Josh Gehrke; Battalion Chief Steve Deters; Battalion Chief Brent Olson; Battalion Chief Brian Stewart; Fire Marshal Shawn Olson; Captain Mark Corless; Inspector Izak Hamilton, Volunteer Jerry Kearny, Citizen John Kihlstrum and Administrative Technician Rachel Trotman. Director Wall was absent.

2. Contract for Service with Estacada Fire District #69

Chief Charlton shared that they would like to take some time with the Board to discuss the proposed intergovernmental agreement (IGA) in the form of a Contract for Service between Clackamas Fire District #1 (CFD) and Estacada Fire #69 (EFD). The contract was provided in the Work Session packet.

Chief Charlton stated that Wednesday evening, October 16th, the EFD Board discussed this issue and approved the contract with a four to one vote.

Chief Charlton provided a handout that was a draft Transition Plan for the Intergovernmental Agreement between CFD and EFD. Chief Charlton shared that there were several questions that were asked Wednesday evening and at the Interagency Committee Meeting that he would like to discuss.

Question: How will CFD utilize the current EFD Chaplain Program?

BC Deters explained how CFD's chaplain program worked. He added that they got a cost estimate for covering Estacada with that program.

BC Deters noted that EFD's concern was that their program was self-dispatched. With EFD's program right now, they went to car wrecks, EMS scenes, house fires, etc. CFD doesn't do that. They were concerned how they were going to interact with the community. BC Deters shared he believed CFD could utilize them within CFD's program adding that if someone in the community asked for a chaplain, CFD did its best to offer a chaplain.

BC Deters recommended that CFD meet with EFD's group to explain how CFD's program works and how it planned to utilize them. He added that they would explain to them that when they do get a chaplain page, it may be to go to Milwaukie or Oregon City. They would be part of CFD's program.

Director Syring shared that Director McAdoo noted that sometimes specifically, a citizen would request a chaplain. If this happened, then CCOM could activate a chaplain.

Question/Comment: Concern related to the sentence in the contract stating: "Facility improvements will be made per our Fire District [CFD #1] standards."

Chief Charlton noted that this referred to things such as a roof that was leaking needed to be repaired to CFD standards, not just repair it to get by. He also mentioned that if things needed to improve with security, those will be addressed.

Chief Charlton explained that everyone understood what that meant; their concern was; what was CFD's standard and how many improvements were going to be made. He explained that these standards were concerning the health and well-being of employees, volunteers and community.

Question: Our ability or intent to increase staffing at Station 18 (Eagle Creek).

Chief Charlton explained that this contract did not include increasing staffing at CFD Eagle Creek Station 18. He added that it was CFD's decision to look to do something.

Chief Charlton noted that right now, there were 40-hour staffing and volunteers at Station 18. If the staffing needed to be modified, it would be CFD's decision, and was not in the contract.

Chief Charlton shared that he had explained to the EFD Directors that CFD was working with other agencies on a county-wide rewrite of the ambulance service plan and there may be some efficiencies found in the plan that would help with coverage of Station 18.

Group discussion followed.

Question: Request or a statement from EFD about the current interagency committee being involved in establishing a timeline for transition.

Chief Charlton noted that in the contract, it was mentioned that a Joint Oversight Committee would be identified. Chief Charlton also noted that this was included in the handout of the Transition Plan that was a draft of what needed to take place.

Chief Charlton briefly went through the Transition Plan handout.

- Extend Current IGA through December 31, 2019.
 - He shared that on Monday, October 21, 2019, at the CFD Board meeting, there would be an action item to approve the contract. If the action was approved, the current IGA would be extended.
- Transition of Employees and Volunteers (Fit-for-Duty/Wages/Benefits)
- Standardization of Apparatus/Equipment/Facilities

- Financial Review
 - Chief Charlton shared that he and BC Deters met with EFD this past Monday to review their year-to-date budget.
- Facility Improvements
 - Complete a second bathroom. The bathroom improvement had begun. Currently, there was only one shower for all employees.
 - Construct/re-design turnout room for personal protection equipment (PPE) gear. Currently, the PPE was in the apparatus bay.
 - Physical fitness equipment. Currently, all EFD staff work out at a local gym. They don't have any fitness equipment in the stations. BC Deters noted this would also be included this in the standardization piece.
- Meetings of the Interagency Committee
 - With EFD.
 - Estacada City Council.
- Meetings of the Joint Oversight Committee
- Community Outreach
 - Public Education
 - Community Events
 - CFD has asked EFD for all reoccurring events that they were participating in throughout the community.
- Swearing-in Ceremony
 - If the Contract for Service was approved, a swearing in ceremony would take place on January 2, 2020.

Director Joseph noted that the Transition Plan draft gave a good view of the outline of what needed to happen. He added that it was a very good plan and contained good information.

Director Cross noted that there was no specific language for a breach of contract. Chief Charlton explained that there was failure to pay.

Director Cross stated that the plan was have citizens vote for the legal integration in the form of a merger in the November 2020 election, but the contract went to the end of June 2021. If it failed, CFD would still be in contract with them for seven more months. Chief Charlton explained that, if needed, there would also be the opportunity to have another vote placed on the special election in February or May if the Boards wanted it to go back to the voters.

Director Syring shared that if voters said no, it provided time to transition back and work hard with EFD to start them up again or extend the contract to another time period.

Chief Charlton expressed that this gave the Boards flexibility and options.

President Trotter noted that this would be a merger, not an annexation. He added that Boring was an annexation. He explained that from a public standpoint, EFD only had to take one vote, not two. A merger would only need one vote; a vote to accept the merger from both districts.

Director Cross asked about “B. Legal Integration 3,” on page eight in the Contract for Service where it stated: “Qualified electors of both districts (including qualified Estacada Board members and residents) will be eligible to apply for the eligible positions number 2 and 4 vacancies in the May 2021 election. He thought it was position 5. Chief Charlton shared that this would be researched and corrected before the meeting on Monday evening.

Director Syring shared that he planned to support the contract on Monday night at the Board meeting. He expressed that Chief Charlton and BC Deters did a great job leading the committee. He talked about some of the comments he had heard.

- It needs to be a win-win for both districts. He mentioned he heard a couple of the Chiefs call the map a horseshoe; noting that the CFD coverage area was a horseshoe around Estacada. This Contract for Service would help the community. He shared he thought it was a win-win.
- He heard several times that didn’t want to kick the can down the road. He felt the timeline was definitive, short, descriptive and detailed.
- He had heard that the EFD Board didn’t talk. He noted that they were speaking now. He added that they were positive and on board.
- CFD didn’t want to subsidize EFD. He expressed that CFD wasn’t subsidizing them; adding that it was revenue positive in all directions.

Director Joseph noted that from the very first IGA with Estacada to now, there had been a 180 degree turn from their community members and Directors. He mentioned that several factors that contributed to that was that CFD showed the importance of the contract, and how seriously CFD took the contract.

3. Public Comment

Citizen John Kihlstrum asked if there were any cost differences between a merger and annexation.

Chief Charlton shared that staff looked at what the potential cost difference would be. He explained that with a merger, a tax rate would be developed that wouldn’t collect any more revenue than if the districts would stay apart. Staff found a little bit of difference in cost with an annexation, which was about \$2000 less in tax revenue as the EFD rate would come down slightly. There wasn’t really any impact.

John Kihlstrum shared that he had followed this for quite a while. He commended everyone for their involvement and dedication. He added that he thought it would be very positive.

CFD Inspector Izak Hamilton noted that for him and his involvement with EFD historically and professionally, a merger was a great decision versus an annexation. He explained that there was still a lot of misunderstanding in the community and certain verbiage such as “take over” was being used. He recommended moving forward, to be thorough in educating Estacada’s community on the facts.

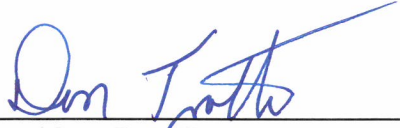
Director Cross shared that CFD had done a great job keeping the identity of the community fire station in Boring. He encouraged everyone to talk about the service provided, not losing the fire station. He explained that Boring and Damascus were perfect examples right now.

Director Syring concurred with Izak. He explained that in November, most citizens would know what a merger meant. He added that there were a lot of reasons why this was so important.


4. Adjournment

President Trotter adjourned the Work Session at 10:40 am.

Rachel Trotman
Administrative Technician



President Don Trotter



Secretary Thomas Joseph

