

**TURNER FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2011
7605 3rd St SE, Turner
6:30 pm

Meeting called to order by Vice President Gary Tiffin at 6:30 pm. Other board members in attendance were Director Glenn Pennebaker, Director Gene Schaefer and Director Pat Walsh. Also present were Chief Henson, AC Remy, Rebecca Shivers Singleterry, Joe McNarie, Kristin Rux, Dave Gulledege, Mike O’laughlin, Chrystal Kiesel, Kris Boyer, and Anita DeVilliers (recording secretary).

Agenda: Director Tiffin announced the agenda had been revised and sent out and asked if there were any other additions. There were none.

Director Tiffin explained he would be chairing tonight’s meeting due the absence of President Anderson who had a death in his family.

Minutes: Director Tiffin welcomed sign ups to speak and asked for approval of March 2011 minutes. Director Walsh moved to approve the minutes and Director Schaefer seconded. The vote was unanimous and the minutes were approved. Director Pennebaker asked for confirmation that a correction on his vote was made. Yes, it was confirmed the minutes have been corrected.

Proclamations/Awards: None

Financials: Director Pennebaker asked about the auditor’s SAS115 letter. Some discussion ensued and it was clarified that it would be discussed under the New Business agenda item, Audit Committee Report.

Individual/Organizational Input:

1. TFD Vol. Assoc.: Kristin Rux reported that the annual breakfast was coming up in June and that the Cascade High School senior student scholarship recipients have been chosen. This year the Volunteer Association is awarding two; \$500, and \$250 to the runner up.
2. Local 2557: Union President Kris Boyer distributed a written statement and read it aloud.

Director Tiffin responded that the contents of his handout are related to WVFRA; WVFRA is responsible for hiring the Chief. Director Tiffin asked for the purpose of bringing this issue up again to the TFD board of directors.

Kris Boyer stated that the reason for bringing it up to the TFD board of directors is because two TFD board members sit on the WVFRA board and this is new evidence. Director Tiffin said all three agency board members spent three hours in an executive session without Chief Henson to review all the facts and findings and that this certainly was not “new evidence”. Director Tiffin went on to explain why WVFRA considers this issue closed.

Director Walsh echoed Director Tiffin. He added that all evidence, including the seat belt, was discussed. The decision was made by all three agency board members that a letter of reprimand was sufficient. Director Walsh then asked if the Union was planning on bringing

specific legal action. Discussion ensued. Kris Boyer asked what would happen if any other member of the Districts were in this same position. Director Walsh said it would be the same process. Director Tiffin said this was not the place for this topic. Discussion ensued. Director Walsh stated that each situation should be reviewed and considered based on its own merit.

Director Pennebaker stated that in his capacity as a former law enforcement officer, he has investigated over 500 accident investigations and testified as an expert. He stated he did his own investigation. He purchased a copy of the report and in his opinion the report was dismal. A lot of information was missing. He noted that the citation was written days later in regards to the driving of the emergency vehicle. Director Pennebaker commented that the deputy had the seat belt information but did not issue a citation for it. Director Pennebaker explained what he would have done with his experience in that given situation.

The report offered a personal opinion about the seat belt not being worn, but did not issue a citation. In that case he should not have said anything about it in the police report; if it came across his desk, he would have kicked it back.

Director Pennebaker went on to say he called the person in Albany who reviewed the black box. He gave his interpretation of the conversation about the mechanical malfunction problems. Director Pennebaker noted that the police report lacked many important details including evidence of a proper accident reconstruction, specific measurements, and calculations. He furthered that the report lacked actual sworn/signed witness statements and failed to show the location of any witnesses on the diagram. Director Pennebaker then asked Kris Boyer if he was willing to look our Chaplain and the Assistant Chief in the eyes and say they were lying. Discussion ensued.

Director Tiffin said he was closing the discussion. More discussion ensued.

Director Schaefer stated he, too, does accident investigations. He agreed that the police report was lacking; therefore, the decision the board members made was based on the information they had in front of them at the time (during the executive session).

Director Tiffin said he believes the way the Union has approached this issue, in his opinion, has made the situation worse instead of better.

Director Tiffin asked as a WVFRA board member that President Boyer please reflect on how we can create a different way to address these kinds of issues in the future. Discussion ensued.

Chief's report:

1. Chief Henson stated that Glen Winkle had passed away. He had been a member of the TFD. Senior officers and volunteers took E955 to the funeral to honor Mr. Winkle. Volunteer Lt. Joe McNarie added that "we" did the right thing for Mr. Winkle; being present for his family and friends felt good. Chief Remy added that Glen was a volunteer for 16 years and was a leader at the Burkland Mill. Mr. Winkle often stopped in and spoke to Chief Remy about what was going on in the District. Glen felt especially bonded to the TFD because of the excellent patient care he always received specifically from Chrystal Kiesel.
2. Maria Mitchell passed away and the services will be held at the Scottish Rite Temple on south Commercial. TFD will honor for her at her services on Friday, April 22, 2011. Chief Remy gave a brief history of her involvement with the TFD.
3. OFCA Spring Conference was earlier this month. Due to budget constraints no representatives from TFD went.
4. Budget preparations are still in full swing. TFD is very tight; however, the change in medic staffing has helped to offset the budget even though it is not balanced yet. Discussion ensued.

5. The social security work regarding changing to the 401(a) plan is done. All the social security refund checks have come in and the “refunds” were issued to staff (past and present) today. Chief Henson recognized Chief Remy, Rebecca, Capt. Scott Smith, and Capt. Kyle McMann for all their efforts and hard work seeing this through from start to finish.
6. Rural Battle Creek Neighborhood Association Newsletter. Chief Henson gave a brief history and presented the finished product as a handout available.

Old Business:

1. Chief Henson gave a report on the recent burn to learn Keizer. Chief Henson mentioned that there was a basement in the house which made an excellent training opportunity. Capt. Riley and ATO Woodley did a phenomenal job of preparing for the event. Sixty fire fighters from MCFD1, TFD including support staff that solely took care of all of the firefighter rehab for all the participating agencies, Jefferson Fire, and Keizer Fire. Excellent job by all.

New Business:

1. M95 Report: Chief Henson reviewed the Medic Utilization Data for Sta. 950 (part of the March Minutes packet). The change to staffing the ambulance 12 hours per day has had a positive financial impact and stated that he will continue to study and report.
2. TFD Volunteer Policy & Procedures: Chief Henson gave history over the past year and how the Volunteer P&P came to light. The goal was to create Turner Fire District Policy & Procedure in a similar alignment with WVFRA & MCFD1; using their templates while continuing to emphasize TFD identity. This is a draft, it is not the final product; the volunteers have not seen the packet as a whole yet. A suggestion was made to consider deferring any decision on this adoption for 30 days so the volunteers can review. Some discussion ensued.
3. Audit Committee Report: Chief Henson reported that all three agencies, WVFRA, TFD, and MCFD1 received a clean bill of financial health. Director Walsh gave a report explaining the process of events and the clean audit in place of President Anderson who was not present. Director Walsh went on to explain a concern about the turn over within the new audit firm TFD experienced while doing this first audit. Chief Remy stated there were some communication challenges and they were very blunt with Roy Rogers, the CEO, after the audit was completed. They made a commitment for a better process next year. Discussion ensued.
4. Update on Board discussion regarding WVFRA: Director Tiffin stated the TFD board members had an executive meeting to discuss options regarding the relationship with WVFRA but due to the absence of President Anderson tonight he would like to defer the discussion until the next Board meeting. Director Schaefer requested the audience members get the word out that the discussion will be happening at the next TFD board meeting. Director Walsh thanked Dave Gullledge for his attendance and recommend Ed Humber be at the next meeting too.

Joe McNarie asked the board members to reach out to the volunteers for their input in a non-public forum. Director Walsh said he will be available any time just let him know when and where. Some discussion ensued. Director Tiffin said one on one conversations still need to be weighted and evaluated. He believes this process needs to be public to gather all the collective input. Discussion ensued.

Volunteer Kristin Rux said at the last special meeting between the TFD board members and volunteers she felt nothing came of it. She saw no results. More discussion ensued.

All of the board members present verbalized being open to trying to meet with as many volunteers as they can on an individual basis to get their input. Discussion on options to achieve this ensued.

Director Tiffin stated that soon, the TFD board needs to take decisive action as to what the relations will be between TFD and WVFRA. More discussion involving board members and volunteers are needed to receive input before this decision is made. Director Schaefer stated it is not the volunteer's responsibility to seek out the board members, but rather, it is the board members that need to seek out the volunteers and ask for their input. Director Schaefer will give Joe McNarie his phone number to pass onto the volunteers. Discussion ensued.

Director Tiffin stated he thinks it will be hard for the volunteers to trust the board members. The board still may make decisions that will not be popular which may leave the volunteers feeling as though they aren't being heard. But he will leave this meeting with the intent that all BOD will reach out to the volunteers to discuss choices to move forward. Joe McNarie suggested reaching out through the E-board; Jordan, Cindy, or Kathy. More discussion.

Division Reports: None

Good of the order: None

Next Meeting: May 19, 2011, 6:30pm at 7605 3rd St SE, Turner.

Adjourn: Director Walsh moved, and Director Pennebaker seconded at 8:02 p.m.

D. Craig Anderson, Board President

Board Secretary