SW Polk Fire District
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2025 – 15455 Salt Creek Rd. Dallas, OR 97338

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
SW Polk Fire District Frank Pender Bob Davis (ARC)(V) Brad Weaver Jake Rosenbalm	Tom Gilson
	Administration Present
	Fred Hertel Sheila Peirce

Virtual- (V) Arrives after roll call- (ARC)

GENERAL BUSINESS		
Call to Order		Frank Pender opens the meeting at 6 p.m. SW Polk Fire District has a quorum of directors and will allow deliberation, decision making, and will take public comment per the posted agenda. Pledge of Allegiance was recited during the regular board meeting.
Roll Call		Sheila Peirce called roll as delineated above.
Approval of Minutes	*Discussion/Action*	The board reviewed the minutes for August 14, 2025, Regular Meeting. Pender asked to clarify in the Chief's report that the gentleman noted "was very critically injured" instead of "was very critical". **Motion** Weaver **Second** Rosenbalm *I move to approve the minutes, with corrections, for August 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting.* **Motion Passes with yes vote from Weaver, Pender and Rosenbalm. Davis and Gilson absent.**
Financial Report	*Discussion/Action*	The board reviewed the August financial report. The Chief noted the board packet that the budget to actual report didn't have the personnel services portion expanded. A new version was handed out. **Motion** Rosenbalm **Second** Weaver *I reviewed the August bank statements and financial reports, I move to approve the financials as presented.* **Motion Passes with yes vote from Weaver, Pender and Rosenbalm. Davis and Gilson absent.**
Audience Participation		Blaze Bault stated with this week's murder and discussion of freedom of speech I was compelled to come tonight. I am here to talk about Fred Hertel, and I won't use the word Chief because he does not deserve that title. Blaze said he was a volunteer, and I don't know my status of my volunteer membership because of Fred. There is fraud and abuse of public equipment occurring. Mr. Bault said that Fred requested district equipment be returned prior to me knowing what the issues of my volunteer status was. I have not been reached

		out by Fred about my volunteer status, and I would like to schedule a meeting to discuss that with the board as my witness. Chief Hertel agreed to meet with Mr. Bault at 5pm next week. President Pender asked the other board members if they knew what Mr. Bault was referring to. Directors Rosenbalm and Weaver stated they are very aware of Mr. Bault's issues.
Old Business		
A. Grant Tracker Update	*Discussion*	The board discussed the grant tracker. Discussion evolved around matching funds to the grants.
New Business		
A. Board Policies Updates	*Discussion/Action*	Board reviewed and discussed the updates on 903 Patient Medical – 809 Photography & Electronics Imaging – 303 Training Policy - 310 Americans with Disabilities Act and 401 Emergency Response Policies **Motion** Weaver **Second** Rosenbalm *I move to adopt policies 903,809,303,310, and 401 as presented.* **Motion Passes with yes vote from Weaver, Pender and Rosenbalm. Davis and Gilson absent.**
B. Conflict of Interest	*Discussion*	Attorney Truman Stone from Local Government Law Group provided documents with the goal of clarifying the states rules on conflict of interest. Discussion revolved around the documents provided. Attorney Stone took questions and answered them from the Board and Chief Hertel.
C. DOI Grant	*Discussion/Action*	Chief Hertel described the grant and what it was to accomplish for the District. **Motion** Rosenbalm **Second** Weaver *I move to accept the DOI grant award and give the Fire Chief directions to perform all necessary tasks to complete the grant.* **Motion Passes with yes vote from Weaver, Davis, Pender and Rosenbalm. Gilson was absent.**
D. Two Lucas Cardiac Compression Devices	*Discussion/Action*	Chief Hertel discussed how the district attained these two devices in the past. The staff is working with the City of Falls City and the Amity Fire District to surplus these two devices while still providing service to the citizens of our district. **Motion** Weaver **Second** Rosenbalm *I move to surplus two Lucas cardiac compression devices.* **Motion Passes with yes vote from Weaver, Davis, Pender and Rosenbalm. Gilson was absent.**
Chief's Report	Discussion	-Columbia Bank Account signature cards will be done next week. -Updated on the annexation process.

		-CWPP has been provided to the Polk County Commissioners and, as the responsible governing body, they are out for public comment on the document. -Working with the Wall of Heals event. -Grant for the Glidescopes, they have arrived and will be put into service soon.
Director Comments	Discussion	Rosenbalm asked for clarity on the process for agenda items from Pender. He noted that he attempted to communicate some items to Pender including financial cost cutting, Strengthening the volunteer program, levy educational materials, District performance records, public records and cybersecurity. Rosenbalm asked about the levy PAC – Chief Hertel stated that we should not talk about the PAC in a Board meeting. Chief Hertel outlined the levy educational material and noted that District performance measures are outlined in our strategic plan. Weaver asked about the request to move the next regular board meeting to Oct 16th. Pender said that we will set it up for October 16th.
Meeting Adjournment		**Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm**