Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue
2625 Highway 101 North, Florence, OR 97439

Minutes of Budget Meeting – May 15, 2013

The FY 2013-2014 Budget Committee meeting was called to order by Board President Steve Olienyk at 7:02 p.m.

Those in attendance included Fire Chief John Buchanan, Committee Members Ed Groshens, Rick Cox, Cindy Spinner, Clara Anderson-Kuhn, Lori Gates, Melissa Phillips, David Sedlacek, Rob Ward, and Steve Olienyk. John Scott was not in attendance.

Others present included Division Chief of Administration and Budget Officer Janet Huston, Division Chief/ Fire Marshal Sean Barrett, Division Chief of Operations Marvin Tipler.

Fire Marshal Barrett provided statistical data for the activity in 2012 and Division Chief Tipler provided a brief synopsis of the projects that he and his crew accomplished during this fiscal year, as well as some projects planned for FY 2013/2014.

Budget Officer Huston called for nominations for President of the Budget Committee.

Lori Gates made a motion to nominate Ed Groshens for President of the Budget Committee. The motion was seconded by Clara Anderson-Kuhn. The nominations were closed and the members of the budget committee cast a unanimous ballot for Ed Groshens.

The meeting was turned over to Budget Committee President Ed Groshens, who informed the Budget Committee that this was his third year on the committee and he requested that he be allowed to serve another term. He indicated that he takes the responsibility seriously and given the retirement of two key individuals this year, Chief Buchanan and Janet Huston, he would like to continue his work to fine tune the format, and insuring that the budgets correlate with the subsequent audited financial statements. He also wants to make certain that he understands the district’s financial condition so that if anyone questions him, he can answer him/her with honesty and clarity.

Budget Committee Groshens acknowledged the only guest, Keith Stanton. He then called upon Budget Officer Huston to present the budget.

Budget Officer Huston highlighted a few facts that were also contained in the Budget Message, more specifically the 2% increase to the full-time and part-time staff, the PERS
increase as a result of the Merriman Actuarial Valuation, an independent firm hired by PERS, and that the payroll taxes increased proportionately with the salary increases. She then reviewed the revenue page of the budget, line by line, reiterating that her efforts when preparing it, were to avoid having to raise the levied tax rate more than five (5) cents per $1,000. Budget Committee member Clara Anderson-Kuhn requested that in addition to the budget comparisons set forth on the Revenue page, that we include the actual revenue amounts for the most recent fiscal year. There followed a question and answer period during which the committee members requested clarification pertaining to particular expense items.

Budget Committee President Groshens requested that in the future we include comments on the budget document when expenditures exceed the budgeted line items.

*Ed Groshen made a motion to approve the budget as submitted for fiscal year 2013/2014, to approve the permanent tax rate of $1.5417 per $1,000 and to levy the tax rate of $ .9391 per $1,000 assessed valuation for fiscal year 2013/2014. The motion was seconded by Clara Anderson-Kuhn and the motion carried unanimously.*

The Budget Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Huston  
Division Chief of Operations