

WILLIAMS RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Special Board Meeting Minutes – Position 2 Interviews
February 24, 2022

Called to Order at 1:35pm

Roll Call:

Board Members Present

Position 1 – Heather Glass
Position 2 – **vacant**
Position 3 – Claudia Pratt
Position 4 – Bill Ertel
Position 5 – Brian Barton

Williams Staff Present

Administrative Assistant – Jennifer Vetter

Interviewees:

Steven Baltzell
Larry Smith
David Applegate
Allison Cleveland
Karen Rogers (Application Rescinded before interview time)

Announcements:

Position #2 was formerly Sue Nevotti’s position. There will be seven questions. Applicants will come into the board room one at a time with each board member having a turn to ask questions of each applicant. The following questions were asked:

What interested you in becoming a board member?

Do you consider yourself a team player? Explain

What do you feel are the most challenging issues facing the fire department? What do you believe the board’s role is in addressing these challenges?

If there were a decision you felt strongly about, how would you balance community concerns, state and federal law, staff considerations, and your personal value and beliefs in order to vote objectively??

Based on what your understanding of the fire department what do you think are its greatest strengths? And its greatest weakness?

How do you deal with conflict between individuals and/or differences in opinion? Can you be open and honest without bringing personal emotions into play?

How would you handle a situation if you were approached by an angry community member who complains about the department, staff, or another board member?

Each candidate answered each of the questions, gave formidable answers, and presented well. Karen Rogers rescinded her application and left the bay before being interviewed.

Comments/Statements/Questions to the Board

Candidates asked questions regarding how board members are placed onto the board, how long the positions are for, call volume and types of calls the fire department is dispatched to, how is the department funded (tax monies, grants, donations), and discussions of residency/voting status within the district were also discussed.

This is a 2 year position that will be filled by board appointment and then be back up on the ballot in 2023 Special Election. For those that are not appointed to the Board of Directors, the fire department has a Support Group and open position on the Budget Committee that one may join as well.

The board members can receive up to \$50 per Oregon statute for their participation. The current amount available to each board member is \$45 per month. There are also many resources that can enhance board member skills. Recommends that members participate in the SDAO trainings.

Board discussions took place about each applicant and how they answered questions, presented themselves, residency status within the district, and that they would each deliberate to come back to the regular board meeting in March to cast their independent votes. Each candidate presented strong, communicated well. The question is, "Who would be the best fit for the needs of the fire district?" Experience from multiple perspectives and representations are being discussed... community knowledge, medical knowledge, business knowledge, military knowledge.

Motion and vote to appoint a new board member will take place on Monday, March 7, 2022 at the open forum regular board meeting at 6pm.

Motion to Adjourn:

- A motion to adjourn was made by Heather Glass and seconded by Bill Ertel at 3:32pm. It was approved unanimously to adjourn.

Attachments: Board Interviewee Applications, Board Interviewer Questions

Respectfully Submitted:

Claudia Pratt, Board Chairperson