

Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue

Budget Committee Meeting

April 30, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Bob Bengston.
The Flag Salute was led by John Meredith.

Nomination for Budget Committee Chairperson.

Kay Norberg was nominated and unanimously chosen as Chairperson.

Nomination for Budget Committee Secretary.

Brad Pahl was nominated and unanimously chosen as Secretary.

Roll call of Budget Committee members taken by Brad Pahl. Present were Fire board members Bob Bengston, Barbara Oakley, John Meredith; Fire Chief Harry Ward, Assistant Fire Chief Sean Hartley, Administrative Secretary Dana Schultke; Budget Committee members Brad Pahl, Keith Bedell, Mike Knoke, Bill Sundin, and Kay Norberg were present. Absent was Dennis Kirk.

The minutes of the 2018 budget committee were read and approved.

Chief Ward and Assistant Chief Hartley presented the budget message and the proposed budget for 2019-2020.

This budget has the increase from the levy recently passed. The chief and staff spent a lot of time going over this budget, making sure we have what we need and not what we want, but still within our means.

Goal and priorities and specifications were set, some may run over into the next year. The main mission of our dept. has been to meet our demands on our services. Each year new records are being set on these services.

One of the main goals of the dept. is the health and welfare of our personnel. As new research is being made, protecting our emergency responders from possible cancer, injuries and other health problems is a major concern.

Another goal is to replace our second out ambulance, which is now 20 years old. With transports increasing, it is, in turn, putting a lot of miles on our first out medic. In order to keep the first out medic another 10 years, it is imperative to replace our second out medic to help keep the miles down on the current first out.

Another goal for next year is to write for an AFG grant in this cycle for a Type 1-Type 3 wildland apparatus, a wildland interface engine. Even though we have the two one tons, they are not built to NFPA standards, so this gives us a good excuse to apply for the grant funding. Then one of the one tons would go away.

The General Fund highlights ambulance billing revenue is going up because call volume is going up.

Revenue from conflagration is unknown at this time.

Personal services include the cost of PERS, because we know there's an increase coming.

Discussions were on what made up the cost of the salaries, which include vacation buy backs.

Cost of insurance has gone up a little, but the district has ended up in a different group to save quite a bit, which also includes fair treatment for the higher deductibles.

Discussion on why the cutting of money for part time personnel during the summer months. The salary was reworked so that we are not hiring people requiring higher pay scale. Also, PERS has to be considered in this line item just in case.

Also discussed was volunteer stipends and where it comes from.

No capital expenditures are anticipated this year.

Material and services costs went up 4.9% this past year. Due to recertification not being required this year, there will be a decrease in this next year. We are also looking to change companies for the EMS billing since we received a notice the costs of our current billing company will increase \$12 per chart. It went from

\$14,000 for those services to \$7,000...a substantial savings. Also included in this line item are things that are mandatory.

Discussion on the costs of fuel, is it realistic with costs of fuel increasing. This was considered in the projecting of costs of fuel.

There was discussion on the cost of insurance on our building and equipment, since that line item was less.

There was discussion on fire operations and what was required this year, such as replacing hose. The discussion included what the dept. is mandated to do, and these costs are included in this line item. Also included in this was the turnout inspections and tests of the gear required, along with the physical agility tests.

Travel expenses was also discussed and included in that was the cost of training the possible new board members this coming year. There is also included the cost of training of folks within the dept. as Task Force leaders.

The costs of our utilities were expected to remain the same.

The costs of vehicle maintenance was discussed, and this is a cost projection as this is the first year of sending out our vehicles for maintenance instead of having our own vehicle maintenance person's salary. Also included in this was the costs of the pump tests on the apparatus.

Capital reserve only has one item in that; a down payment on a new ambulance. Expected cost of the new ambulance of around \$230,000. The proposal of \$155,000 being financed, with approximately \$75,000 down. Concern on financing was expressed. Finance rate expected was 3-4%. Questions if there are plans to propose more money than the \$25,000 moved to capital reserve was possible.

Correction was made on mistakes on proposed budget lines. The budget message was correct, but the entry was a mistake. It was corrected. The corrections were noted on lines 8, 9 and 10.

The Bond Fund is all preset. Nothing much to discuss on that. There were a couple of corrections in the lines in this report. This was refinanced last year at a lower interest but no extension of the repayment.

We all liked the NO Debt report.

More discussion was on the contingency fund and possible a larger amount transferred to our Capital Reserve Fund.

It was asked how the dept. is sitting financially. This year there is an expected at least \$234,000 in carry over to next year. We are sitting in very good shape, which pleased us all. The projection is pretty good.

Since there were no further questions from the budget committee or the public, a motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as submitted.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brad Pahl', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brad Pahl