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Chief Vinny Burns presented Gent and outgoing Secretary Harland Baker with appreciation awards. Outgoing Director Rachel Dunn did not attend the meeting.

Then, the newly-elected board members were sworn in. Treasurer Joyce Hartung won re-election, but Mark Gunderman, Gary Rusnak, and Larry Schwarz unseated Baker, Gent, and Dunn in the May 8 election. Election results should be posted on wescottfire.org.

Rusnak accused DWFPD of making errors in its 2018 budget and spending more money than it has, but Burns said he has never operated under deficit spending, and the consensus was to discuss it more at the next board meeting.

Two other concerns that Rusnak hoped the board would discuss soon included when public comments are allowed at meetings and how to consolidate the district into one single district with one tax rate.

The meeting lasted almost two hours and then went into executive session to consult with DWFPD’s attorney, Matt Court, but no announcements or votes were made afterwards.

Since this meeting happened so late in May, more details about the rest of this extensive meeting discussion will be included with the June 19 meeting article in the July issue of OCN.

Lisa Hatfield can be reached at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, May 29

Three new firefighters, four board members sworn in

By Lisa Hatfield

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