

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2
Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Approved: June 20, 2023

Attendance

Board Members Present: Chris McCann, Jack Dietrich, Ken Lodovico, Tina Kempin, Eric Tunkey
Guests: John Chmil- Lyons Gaddis Attorneys; Todd Goulding- Goulding Development Advisors
Staff, Volunteers and Public: Sean Caffrey, Robert Weisbaum, Annie Tunkey, Ric Ems, Joe Wonnacott, Jeff Duke, Dwayne Lehnertz

Changes to Agenda

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm by Board Chairman Chris McCann.
There were no changes to the agenda.

Oath of Office

Newly elected board members John (Jack) Dietrich, Kristina (Tina) Kempin, W. Eric Tunkey were duly sworn and seated.

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes April 2023 Regular Meeting
Approval of Monthly Financial Reports
Motion to approve the consent agenda by Dietrich, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

EMS & Fire Chief Report

Chief Weisbaum presented his written report highlighting the volunteer retention and recruitment challenges in the district. Weisbaum noted personnel changes including, Melvin Seyfried moving to part-time and Dustin Morgan retiring from emergency service. As such, there is currently a posting for a paramedic/firefighter, which will remain open until May 31, and John Bielak will be starting next week in the Engineer position. Chief Weisbaum notes that the Driver Operator Pumper training concluded and was a benefit to the department. In vehicle updates, an apparatus committee was formed for the engine replacement and the new ambulance build will be delayed due to supply chain issues. Chief Weisbaum has submitted an extension on the ambulance grant will hear if it is approved in June.

Public Comments

Mt. Crested Butte resident Dwayne Lehnertz, 25 Cinnamon Mountain Rd, addressed the board to comment on the district's election. Lehnertz felt that the ballot language "without raising taxes" was devious and that the De-brucing was asked for because the district needs more money for the station 1 construction. Additionally, Lehnertz states the instructions on the envelope and secrecy sleeve were conflicting stating, "There are several dozen people whose vote did not count". Lehnertz felt the election was "bungled" and may look at the process necessary to protest the election. Chairman McCann thanked Lehnertz for his comments and clarified that the TABOR issue was not related to the station 1 build but instead an attempt to rectify de-brucing that should have occurred in the 1990s. Further McCann states he is aware that the mail ballot was not perfect, on this first attempt, and that the board learned a lot. In the future, there will be drop boxes locally to receive ballots the day of the election.

New Business

CEO Caffrey provided his written report in the packet and touched on the election results stating that Colorado law is clear that ballots must be received by 7 pm on Election Day, unless you are an overseas UOCAVA voter. Tunkey suggests a drop box at the new HQ location and Kempin states she was happy with the voter participation. Dietrich asks about the property tax assessment. CEO Caffrey states the new assessment rates will increase CBFPD revenue by about 40%. Caffrey and A. Tunkey will be attending an SDA regional workshop in June, which will clarify legislation passed by the State Legislature regarding any tax credits due to assessed evaluation rates. Dietrich suggests being sensitive to the taxpayers new assessed valuations as we plan for the upcoming budget.

Fire Marshal Ems presented his written report stating the prevention office is under considerable pressure to turn over plan reviews at the start of the building season once again. In updates Ems states: two new subdivisions are being added to Mt. Crested Butte, dry hydrant testing is underway, and First Due representatives will be in the office Tuesday so the team has been hustling to get ESO transferred into the new software system. Kempin asks how the road/subdivision naming process works to prevent redundant names. Ems states that there is not a process to request names but he will always address issues in his plan review additionally, Caffrey states that he will take the redundant naming issue to the COM board.

In employee housing, Caffrey reports that CBFPD participated in the Lazy K lottery but were not chosen therefore, the information included in the packet is for future opportunities. The CBFPD is interested in a master lease at 65 Paradise Rd., which is owned by the Town of Mt. Crested Butte. The lease rate will be \$2800/ month and the district will subsidize at about \$700/month. Board member Kempin thinks a master lease is great and asks about the subsidy. Caffrey responds that as long as we are charging fair market rent the subsidy will not turn into compensation to the employee.

Both CEO Caffrey and Annie Tunkey will be of town for the June 9th regular board meeting. The board moved the meeting to June 20th.

The board suggests holding the strategic planning retreat November 9-11.

Unscheduled Business

Caffrey asks board members to mark their calendar for September 10th for the 50th Anniversary Open House.

Old Business

There has been no further design work on the campus project as we are waiting for the location and extent/land use meeting with the county. The planning commission meeting will take place at 9 am, May 18th at the Blackstock Building in Gunnison. Goulding states this meeting will “set the record” and anticipates having public present who may voice their concerns regarding water, sewer, and sustainability. Kempin asks about the on-going negotiation with the Town of Crested Butte and if that will affect the negotiations with the county. Caffrey states if we can be closer to an agreement with the Town of Crested Butte, it will likely benefit the May 18th meeting. Dietrich asks what the EQR for the tap fees would be for the Town of CB. Goulding states that he was carrying \$250,000 in the budget for tap fees; at this time the tap fees are looking to be closer to \$500,000.

Executive Session

Motion to enter executive session Pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S., Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators and Section 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive legal advice related to the new District facilities and potential utility services to those facilities by McCann, Seconded by Dietrich. Motion passes unanimously.

The board entered executive session at 7:00 pm.

Motion to exit executive session and adjourn by Dietrich, seconded by Tunkey at 7:55 pm. Motion passes unanimously.