

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2
Tuesday, September 9, 2023
Approved: October 10, 2023

Attendance

Board Members Present: Chris McCann, Ken Lodovico, Jack Dietrich, Eric Tunkey

Board Members Excused: Tina Kempin

Staff, Volunteers and Public: Sean Caffrey, Annie Tunkey, Ric Ems, Joe Wonnacott, Jeff Duke, Beth Shaner

Guests: Todd Goulding- Goulding Development Advisors

Changes to Agenda

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm by Board Chairman Chris McCann.

There were no changes to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes August 2023 Regular Meeting

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Dietrich, seconded by McCann. Motion passes unanimously.

Fire Prevention Report

Fire Marshal Ems presented his written report highlighting new software program utilization at Red Mountain Ranch for home assessments and presented the new signs for outlying areas to designate addressing, water supply, and defensible space. Lodovico commends the prevention team stating residents in Red Mountain are pleased with the fire prevention work.

EMS & Fire Chief Report

Chief Weisbaum presented his written report thanking everyone for the 50th Anniversary Open House participation. In staff updates, Weisbaum commended the Lowline Fire Crew for their 2-week role, he reports that Zach Springer will transition to part-time in September, and that he has one application for the open Firefighter/Paramedic position. The EMT class is underway with 15 students. In training updates, Duke, Mirza and Tibljas attended a vehicle maintenance class. Weisbaum reports that Thursday night training will need to be addressed at the strategic planning retreat. Finally, in vehicle updates, Engine 3 is back in service, specs from the apparatus committee for the new vehicle should be coming soon, and staff had the opportunity to explore an electric engine that came to Crested Butte.

Chief Executive Report

CEO Caffrey presented his written report, highlighting the 50th Anniversary week and thanks staff and volunteers for their efforts. In addition to the written report, Caffrey included a draft of the 2024 Budget in the packet, which shows a substantial increase in assessed valuation; however, Proposition HH could affect this. The overall budgetary themes are capital investments and competitive employee salaries. Caffrey is proposing setting \$600,000 to \$700,000 in capital annually to keep the vehicle replacement schedule going annually. The upcoming strategic planning retreat will include budget planning; however, we will likely be unable to finalize the budget early this year due to Proposition HH. Board member Dietrich asks Caffrey, if the entire mill levy is not utilized does that become a temporary tax credit? Caffrey responds in the affirmative.

Public Comments

There were no public comments

Old Business

Old business began with Station 1 updates. Todd Goulding reports that on September 11th the Design Development (DD) package was received and will go out for pricing with FCI. Goulding advised the board that if there is anything in the DD package they do not like, they should send comments to Caffrey ASAP. Pricing should be back from FCI around October 20th and Goulding is requesting a special board meeting at that time. There were no questions from the board and Goulding reports the project is on schedule to break ground March-April 2024. The Board requests Kempin's involvement before scheduling a special meeting. McCann's only comments is that posts in the lobby area do not block views of Paradise Divide.

Moving along to the project budget Goulding reports the budget in the packet, has been updated. Caffery and Goulding assure the board that there are still many moving parts to the budget and it will be easier to forecast after FCI bids the DD package; however, the project will likely come in over budget. Understanding the budgetary constraints, the board moved into geothermal consideration. Gunnison County reports geothermal payback is 10-15 years and offers a decreased carbon footprint and lower utility costs. Caffrey anticipates after tax credits and a possible grant the district would still be looking at a \$1.5 million gap to add geothermal to the Station 1 project. Considerable board discussion followed. All board members were concerned with the financial implications of adding geothermal to Station 1. The Board members requested Goulding's advice. Todd states that he would stick with the current budgeted high-efficiency heating system. Eventually, all board members agree that the current high-efficiency heating system is fiducially responsible, but would like to add as many solar panels to the building as possible. Caffrey agrees and will explore grants and tax credits to facilitate solar on Station 1. Wrapping up old business Shaun Horne was commissioned to paint the cattle loader on the Station 1 building site that will hang in the lobby of the fire station. Finally, we are waiting to hear from the County that they have signed the deed and purchase documents for the Larkspur lots.

New Business

In new business, Chairman McCann suggests putting together a CBFDP hiring list with local citizens who might be interested in pursuing a career in the fire service. Weisbaum reports that he has been actively been working with other Chief's on fire academies and that there many volunteers who are interested in moving to part-time or full time employment.

Motion to recess the regular board meeting and move to the Volunteer Pension Board Meeting by McCann, seconded by Lodovio. Motion passes unanimously. Regular board meeting recessed at 6:39 pm.

Motion to reconvene the regular board meeting at 6:50 by Dietrich, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

Unscheduled Business

No unscheduled business.

Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(a), C.R.S., concerning the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal or other property interest for member housing by McCann, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

Board entered executive session at 6:51 pm.

Motion to exit executive session at 7:27 by Dietrich, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to enter executive session Pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S., for personnel matters concerning the annual performance review of Chief Robert Weisbaum by McCann, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

Board entered executive session at 7:27 pm.

Motion to exit executive session & adjourn at 7:41 by McCann, Seconded by Dietrich. Motion passes unanimously.