

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2
Tuesday, December 12, 2023
Approved: January 9, 2024

Attendance

Board Members Present: Chris McCann, Jack Dietrich, Tina Kempin, Eric Tunkey, Ken Lodovico
Staff, Volunteers and Public: Sean Caffrey, Annie Tunkey, Rob Weisbaum, Joe Wonnacott, Ric Ems, Dale Hoots, Kent Cowherd, Beth Shaner, Katie Harper, A Shift, Randy Felix, Taylor Reeves, Evan Sandstrom, Sean Slattery, Mike Reily, Veronica Jarolimek
Guests: Todd Goulding- Goulding Development Advisors; Billy Harris, John Potter & Erin Robinson – BG + Co;

Changes to Agenda

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm by Board Chairman Chris McCann.
There were minor changes to the agenda.

Badging/Oath of Office

Tara Sweitzer received her badge and Sean Slattery took his Oath of Office.

Design Review of Materials by BG+ Co

Billy Harris and Erin Robinson with BG + Co. presented the exterior and interior materials for the new HQ building.

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes November 2023 Regular Meeting & Strategic Planning Work Session Minutes
Approval of Monthly Financial Reports
Motion to approve the consent agenda by Dietrich, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously

Fire Prevention Report

Fire Marshal Ems presented his written report and updated the board on Clark's Market progress, new restaurant openings in the Town of Crested Butte and the approval of Mineral Point housing project. Fire Marshal Ems revisited Kent Cowherd's concerns from the last meeting. Ems clarified that CBFPD does not determine building square footage and will continue to work with municipalities when determining square foot size. Ems reviewed what each plan review entails, feels the plan review structure is working and does not recommend a revision at this time.

Kent Cowherd responded that he is pleased to hear the CBFPD working with municipalities to determine square footage utilizing a "common method" and hopes the plan review process will continue to be open to adjustments.

EMS & Fire Chief Report

Chief Weisbaum presented his written report in the packet and thanked personnel who helped with EMT course. Weisbaum is waiting on an aerial apparatus bid from Spartan and should have a recommendation for the board in Q1.

Chief Executive Report

CEO Caffrey provided his written report in the packet. In financial reporting Caffrey informs the board that construction draws will be included in the board packet moving forward. CBFPD closed on the two Larkspur lots

on December 11, 2023. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for builders is being developed in conjunction with John Chmil for a two-unit build on one of the Larkspur lots. A resolution authorizing the RFQ process will be presented for review and approval in January.

Public Comments

There were no public comments

2024 Budget Hearing

Board Chairman McCann opened the 2024 budget hearing at 5:59 pm. CEO Caffrey reports he is waiting on the assessor's office for final numbers following the Colorado Legislature special meeting. Major investments for 2024 are an average of 7% increase to employee salaries, \$600,000 for station 1 construction, new ambulance and utility vehicle. Significant operational expenses include new radios, protective equipment and new full-time employee housing stipend. The budget reflects a reduction in the mill rate of 1 mill to provide tax payer relief due to the increase in the tax base. This reduction may change slightly after the final valuation is received. Board member Kempin states that the housing situation in the valley is challenging and states the district is doing a good job in trying to address this challenge. Randy Felix thanks the board for their support of the employees.

Chairman McCann closed the public clearing at 6:08pm.

Old Business

Motion to approve the 2024 budget and annual appropriation resolution 2023-12-1 and 2023-12-2 by McCann seconded by Kempin. Motion passes unanimously.

Todd Goulding provided the emergency services campus update and states the project remains on schedule. The plan is to mobilize site in late March or early April. In other updates, Caffrey states the district will be requesting a variance from Gunnison County for snowmelt on the apron as the adopted 2021 code bans outdoor snowmelt.

New Business

CEO Caffrey presented the suggested changes to the volunteer/part-time program. Staff is looking for feedback before moving forward with next steps. The proposed approach will allow current volunteer members to continue their service indefinitely and new recruits will enter via a part-time reserve program with common requirements applied to both volunteer and part-time reserve member types.

Board Chairman McCann asks about certification requirements to become a member and how the district proposes recruits gain certification. Considerable discussion followed with Chief Weisbaum citing challenges with the current district training model due to the absence of a dedicated training arm and facility. McCann acknowledges the challenges of our current model but would like to see the district have a process that allows new recruits to take an EMT class and FF I class in district. Considerable discussion followed around where training could originate outside the district and the responsibility of the district to provide training. Board member Kempin states she is struggling to understand the benefits of sun setting the volunteer program.

Caffrey states sun setting the volunteer program is off the table, as current volunteers can continue. The proposal is for new recruits to enter a part-time reserve program rather than a volunteer program. Discussion around the benefits of the proposed program continued with Assistant Volunteer Chief Mike Reily and Volunteer Coordinator Veronica Jarolimek weighing in on the difficulty of recruiting volunteers, retention, training and safety. Many "case by case" scenarios were discussed, as well as, the need for response in an all call. McCann asks staff if all membership has had a chance to weigh in on the proposed changes. Caffrey states that there has been initial feedback from staff and the volunteer association and anticipates more feedback as the

programmatic approach is finalized. Caffrey anticipates additional rounds of revisions and feedback over the next few months. Next steps will include additional revisions to the proposed program manual and work on a budget pro forma of the revised program.

Unscheduled Business

There was no unscheduled business.

Motion to adjourn at 7:38 pm by Dietrich, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.