

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
Approved: March 14, 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, Ric Ems, Joe Wonnacott, Nicolas Kempin, Randy Felix, Jeff Duke
Guests: Todd Gouilding- Gouilding Development Advisors

Changes to Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes January 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. Updates include several pre-planning meetings for development projects, including the Whetstone Development, and work continues on the signage program in the county, which is supported by the adopted WUI code. The First Due software is up and running and fire prevention is working with operations to implement pre-fire planning. Finally, Fire Marshal Ems states CEO Caffrey included Resolution 2016-1 for board review regarding the Riverland Industrial Park.

EMS & Fire Chief Report

Chief Weisbaum presented his written report stating there have been several high acuity calls in January. Included in his report is the apparatus purchase memo. It is the recommendation of the apparatus committee to purchase the Rosenbauer Quint specified in the packet. Tunkey asked some specific questions about the use of this vehicle. Weisbaum states that this will not be a “daily driver” but will be in investment as a first out structural fire vehicle. To purchase the Quint, Caffrey states that the capital replacement fund will have about \$900,000 in the fund this year with an additional \$450,000 added in 2025 & 2026 to the fund to purchase. With the ability to earn interest on these funds, it makes most sense to avoid the pre-payment option. Chairman McCann states the buildings in the District are increasing in size and this necessitates a ladder responding immediately. Motion to approve the Rosenbauer purchase contract by McCann, Tunkey seconds. Motion passes unanimously. In response to a question about fire training Weisbaum states that Thursday night “pop up” trainings will continue and that he is waiting to hear from Montrose Fire as to when we can host a JPR weekend. Additionally, Weisbaum is looking at bringing the CoDFPC burn trailer to Crested Butte and hosting a training with Gunnison Fire. Finally, Kempin asks when the District will recognize Doug Collins for 10 years of volunteer service. Weisbaum responds he hopes to honor Doug at the March board meeting.

Chief Executive Report

CEO Caffrey provided his written report in the packet. Caffrey outlined the updates to the policy manual, which include an update to accommodate the new FAMLII benefits and short-term disability, wildland deployment pay, and eventual changes to the EHOP program. In addition, Caffrey states that the bond arbitrage rebate liability calculation is included in the packet. The District will carry and update that liability until it is payable in February

2027. Finally, RETAC obtained a federal grant that will help facilitate rural medicine communications. CBFPD will receive 6 vehicle setups with in-vehicle wireless routers including cellular and satellite connectivity. Those setups will have a \$300 / month service fee that will be funded for 2 years. Following the 2-year funding CBFPD will need to choose which vehicles will continue to have this set up. Finally, Caffrey informs the board that the fire prevention 800 radios are on order and all in service 800's will be programed to work as pagers. Board member Kempin states this will accomplish some of the strategic planning goals for communication and is pleased that fire prevention have good connectivity.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Old Business

Old business began with an update on the new HQ site. Todd Goulding joined the meeting and states that a permit set of drawings will be issued today by BG and then submitted to Gunnison County for the building permit tomorrow. FCI will take these drawings out for final GNP. The Board can anticipate a special meeting at the end of March or early April to approve the final contracts with FCI. CEO Caffrey presented the Town of Crested Butte's cost reimbursement agreement whereby the CBFPD will reimburse the cost of an independent review of the sewer connection. After third party review, the final IGA can be executed between CBFPD and the Town of Crested Butte for sewer connection and service at the new HQ site. Goulding reminds the Board that Gunnison County will want to see proof of sewer service prior to issuing the building permit. Motion to approve the Cost Reimbursement Agreement with the Town of Crested Butte by McCann, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

Caffrey presented the Volunteer & Reserve Program update. The board packet includes current part-time and volunteer members in the reserve program and a memo of costs assumptions. Caffrey explains that existing volunteers can continue indefinitely and new volunteers will be taken on a case-by-case basis. The District is willing to send potential members to wildland training or an in house EMT class. Activity requirements are 24 hours per month of activity and the District will identify the number single role firefighter & EMT members it will take along with the number of in district vs. out of district members. Board member Kempin had specific questions about components of the plan including identifying other avenues for joining as a volunteer, flexibility and clarification around the shift descriptions, and asked why the Volunteer Squad and Association section was added to the policy. Caffrey and Weisbaum clarify that support volunteers could include the Chaplin, a videographer/photographer, PIO, major incident support, and specialized tasks. Weisbaum clarifies that for the shift times volunteers have always been offered leniency but the standard is listed in the policy. Finally, the Squad and Association section as added per the request of the Squad and Association. Chief Weisbaum states his desire is not to "get rid" of the volunteer program but the past 5 years have exemplified how difficult it has been to recruit and retain volunteers. The part-time employment arrangement seems to be working better for many members. Considerable board discussion followed regarding recruitment strategies and nurturing the volunteer program. Kempin suggest making the information on the website more friendly and accessible for interested members and continuing to hold recruitment events.

Motion to recess at 7:12 pm to hold the Volunteer Pension Board Meeting by McCann, seconded by Lodovico. Motions passes unanimously

Motion to reconvene regular board meeting at 7:17 pm by McCann, seconded by Dietrich. Motion passes unanimously.

New Business

CEO Caffrey presented the Larkspur RFQ for construction of a 2-unit duplex on 30 Nicky Court. Kempin asks staff to consider changing the RFQ to encourage conventional construction along with modular construction as they budget for both has become very similar. Caffrey agrees, and will table RFQ approval until the March meeting. In other housing updates, FCI may be interested in leasing the unit at the Lazy K in Gunnison as there is no district personnel interested in that unit.

Unscheduled Business

In unscheduled business, board member Dietrich expressed concern about the Riverland Industrial Park conversation stating that the HOA has met the requirements of the County for water supply. Dietrich suggested that if the board would like to suggest changes to Resolution 2016-1 that the County and Riverland HOA be invited to a board meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm by McCann, seconded by Lodovio. Motion passes unanimously.