

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF WORK SESSION MEETING
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2
Tuesday, October 22, 2024
Approved: November 12, 2024

Attendance

Board Members Present: Jack Dietrich, Eric Tunkey, Ken Lodovico, Matt Halvorson, Chris McCann
Staff, Volunteers and Public: Sean Caffrey, Annie Tunkey, Rob Weisbaum, Jeff Duke, Corey Tibljas

Changes to the Agenda

Meeting called to order at 3:11 pm by Board Chairman Chris McCann.

No changes to the agenda.

Staffing Presentation

CEO Caffrey facilitated the staffing presentation provided in the work session packet. Specific attention was paid to personnel and future hiring, specifically 6 people per shift and the addition of a training officer.

2025 Draft Budget Review

Caffrey presented the 2025 budget draft in detail. On the revenue side of the General Fund Caffrey suggests crediting 1 mill back to the taxpayers stating that if there is a plateau in assessed valuation, in the future, the utilization of that mill may become necessary especially as the State legislature continues to play with the assessed evaluation rates. The Bond Fund is tied directly to repayment, as such, the budget supports only taxing \$1,678,700 in 2025 for the annual payment. On the expenditure side of the General Fund, 2025 supports a modest pay increase and 13% increase in health insurance premiums. The reserve fund will have 2.2 million in it which is about 1/3 of the total year's spending and the required TABOR reserve. The impact fee reserve plus additional capital reserve will be utilized to purchase the new aerial truck. In 2026 those line items will zero out and need to be rebuilt. The discussion moved on to specific line items. Regarding staffing the Board asks about the addition of a training officer in 2025. Chief Weisbaum states that there is a qualified individual who may be interested and would be available to relocate in 2025 during the 4th quarter. CEO Caffrey is not opposed to 4th quarter hiring; however, he is reluctant to put that salary in the budget and would rather it be a budget amendment later in the fiscal year. The Board requests a training officer job announcement and job description at the November regular meeting. Firefighter physicals are included in the 2025 budget for all operational members on a 2-year rotation. Chairman McCann is in favor of the physical but suggests speaking to legal regarding potential fitness for duty restrictions and District responsibility. Board member Halvorson asks about the potential for an outsourced HR consultant. Caffrey states that the District does outsource to the Employers Council on a case-by-case basis and as staffing increases is not opposed to adding this as a budget expenditure in the future. Halvorson asks if there is a specified COLA in the budget, Caffrey responds in the affirmative but clarifies it's not all built into the salary 3-4% increase in the salary and benefits increase including additional employer contribution to retirement and insurance premiums. Board members agree the draft budget appears to be in good order and advise Caffrey to proceed.

Motion to adjourn at 5:03 pm by Lodovio, seconded by McCann. Motion passes unanimously.