

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2
Tuesday, December 10, 2024
Approved: January 14, 2025

Attendance

Board Members Present: Jack Dietrich, Ken Lodovico, Matt Halvorson, Chris McCann, Eric Tunkey
Guests: Todd Goulding- Goulding Development Advisors
Staff, Volunteers and Public: Sean Caffrey, Annie Tunkey, Rob Weisbaum, Joe Wonnacott, Ric Ems, Dale Hoots, Scott Wimmer, Glo Cunningham, Jim Starr, Veronica Jarolimek, John Bielak, Jordan Iraola, Randy Felix, Michael Helland

Changes to the Agenda

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

Recognitions

Scott Wimmer recognition for 32 years of service to the Crested Butte Fire Protection District.

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes November Regular Meeting
Approval of Monthly Financial Reports for November
Board member Dietrich asks that the minutes reflect clarification regarding 65 Paradise Rd.
Motion to approve the consent agenda with minutes amendment by Dietrich seconded by McCann. Motion passes unanimously.

EMS & Fire Chief Report

Chief Weisbaum presented his written report stating that call volume is slightly down compared to last year and that he is working with the Mountain Clinic and GVH to deliver whole blood to patients in the field when needed. Chief Weisbaum gave accolades to the 2024 CBFPD award winners: Jeff Duke, Peter Esselstyn, Jeremy McDonnell and Joe Wonnacott. Final comments were on the proposed training building at the HQ site with a recommendation by Weisbaum to allocate funding in 2025 to initiate the project. Board member Dietrich asks if the training building needs county approval. CEO Caffrey said the building was included in the county land use change from May of 2023, however, the District will need to pull a building permit for it and will need to take public comment per request of the Town of Crested Butte MOU.

Fire Prevention Report

Fire Marshal Ems presented his written report. Ems updated the board on First Due and the CB Community School, which is compliant with CBFPD fire prevention division. The East River Ranches dry hydrant has been fixed and the Homestead project is being inspected. Per board directive Ems and Caffrey met with Cathie Pagano regarding the Whetstone project. Ems reports the meeting was productive and the two entities are remedying communication barriers.

Chief Executive Report

CEO Caffrey provided his written report in the packet. In further update, Caffrey states the cellular phone site in CB South is moving forward and he expects an update next month. In budgeting the district is still waiting on payment for some 2024 wildland deployments; however, revenues for 2024 are over budget by \$500,000.

Considering revenues and current reserve estimates, Caffrey indicates funding is now in place for the entire cost of the quint apparatus currently on order.

Public Comments

No public comments

Old Business

Todd Goulding reports positive progress on the Emergency Services Campus project and commends FCI for their performance. The project scope regarding low-voltage and IT components is now approximately 90% complete. Furniture vendors have been selected, and the lift station design has been submitted to the State for review.

Key project updates include:

- **SAR Building:** The structure is dried in, windows are being installed, bay doors are on-site, and heating will be added. The slab is scheduled for pouring in late December or January.
- **HQ Building:** The roof membrane is being applied, and slab-on-grade work will commence in January, with completion anticipated in February.

The overall project remains on track for completion in August or early September and is within budget. To date, 17% of the contingency fund has been utilized, leaving \$2.1 million. FCI has implemented some zero-cost change orders. While some contingency funds will likely be needed for finishes, risks are steadily decreasing, aside from potential weather impacts.

Goulding is confident that \$1 million of the contingency could be allocated toward a training building. CEO Caffrey supports using \$950,000, noting \$100,000 in pending change orders. However, Dietrich suggests waiting until public awareness efforts are completed before releasing funds. Lodovico raises concerns about obtaining approval from the Town of Crested Butte.

A motion to approve the use of \$950,000 from the contingency budget for the training building was made by McCann and seconded by Tunkey. The motion passed 4-1, with Dietrich voting no, citing the need for public hearings and engagement before releasing the funds.

2025 board election has three seats up:

- Chris McCann (4-year term)
- Ken Lodovico (4-year term)
- Matt Halvorson (2-year term)

In January, the Designated Election Official (DEO) will be appointed, a call for nominations will be published and self-nomination forms will be accepted. Election day is May 6, 2025, and will be a polling place election. Kurt Schlegel of Special District Solutions proposal for providing election assistance, including managing the eligible voter list, UOCAVA/absentee mailings, and DEO support, is budgeted at \$3,500–\$5,000. This number is based on an hourly rate.

The new Employee Home Ownership Program (EHOP) documents were included in the meeting packet. The updated program includes an equity share structure and an amortized loan option at a 2% interest rate.

A motion to approve the 2025 version of the Employee Home Ownership Program was made by Dietrich and seconded by McCann. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

CEO Caffrey presented the mill levy resolution. Board member Dietrich would like to move back to a 2 mill credit after the building project is completed. CEO Caffrey agrees and is waiting to see what the arbitrage rebate obligation will be.

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-12-1 to Set Mill Levies and Resolution 2024-12-2 to Appropriate Sums of Money by Dietrich, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously.

Unscheduled Business

Annie Tunkey inquired if board members were experiencing any issues with their iPads, to which all members responded that their devices were functioning well. She also shared that the Gunnison Masonic Lodge generously

donated \$10,000 to the district.

Executive Session

Motion to enter executive session pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss annual review for CEO & Commissioner Sean Caffrey by McCann, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously. Board entered executive session at 6:32 pm.

Motion to exit executive session by McCann, seconded by Lodovico. Motion passes unanimously at 6:48 pm.

Motion to move CEO Caffrey to Grade 5 effective January 1, 2025, by McCann seconded by Dietrich. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to adjourn at 6:53 pm by McCann, seconded by Tunkey. Motion passes unanimously.