

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
STRATMOOR HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors for the Stratmoor Hills Fire Protection District was held pursuant to notice at 4:20 p.m. on February 21, 2024

Board Members present: President Robert Colgrove, Vice-President James Pesicka, Secretary/Treasurer John Willcox, Director Cindy Dent, and Director Richard Dull.

District Personnel present: Fire Chief Shawn Bittle and Administrative Chief Dottie Barrett.

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dull) to approve the Board meeting minutes for January 9, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the agenda as published. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Public Comment

Unfinished Business

New and Miscellaneous Business:

Bryan Stelmack and Martin Gafoon from Stiefil Financial gave a presentation to the Board about Bonds and Mill Levy increases. They presented a slide show for all those present and explained how both work. Further discussion will continue to take place as the months go by and the planning for the Ballot question(s) begins. Chief Bittle requested anyone wanting to join the Mill Levy Increase committee to let him know. Director Dent stated that Chief Bittle should ask for anyone from the community that wants to be on the committee to contact him.

Fire Chief Report –

- January 2024 Calls per District – starting the year off busy with 182 calls.
- Status reports
 - Chiefs' notes –
 - Chief Bittle did a different layout to his Major Projects List and discussed it with the Board.
 - Chief discussed
 - Apparatus - (responsibility assigned to – D/E Patalano)
 - Engine 414 Engine has been re-built at the cost of \$24,500.00 and is working really good.

- Engine 418 has had some work from SVI done and there are two (2) items that need to be finished and the final bill of \$7300.00 will be paid.
- Training (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - March training will be CEVO-4 Driving and Elevator Emergencies.
- Inspections (responsibility assigned to – Mark Stanwood)
- Recruiting (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - The FF Steven E. Carter Recruit Class is underway with thirteen (13) students and so far all are doing great.
 - Once they complete the Wildland portion of the Academy, they will dive into Certified Emergency Driving Class (CEVO) and Hazmat Operations.
 - Chief Bittle is hoping to have forty-five (45) volunteers by the end of 2024.
- Gear (responsibility assigned to – FF Jones)
- EMS (responsibility assigned to D/E Bosch)
 - Driver/Engineer Brad Aragon and Administrative Lt. Signe Gabrielson assisted in delivering a baby boy at the intersection of I-25 and S. Academy Blvd.
- Wildland (responsibility assigned to D/E Ortiz)

Administrative Chief Report –

- Informed the Board that the 2024 Budget with budget message and associated paperwork has been filed with the County Assessor and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. This information can be found at www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola under local government.
- Informed the Board that the Transparency Notice containing contact information for the Fire District, along with the times and locations designated for the regularly scheduled meetings and has been submitted to the SDA, DOLA and the District Website for posting.
- Informed the Board that she attended a meeting at PPSC on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in regard to the re-zoning of the land for an apartment complex and staff will keep the Board updated as the information comes in.

Amended 2023 Budget

Chief Barrett informed the Board of Directors at the November and December 2023 Board meetings that the Fire District is over budget and as a result an Amended 2023 Budget must be submitted and approved by the Board. The amendment to the 2023 budget is necessary due to the unbudgeted expense for the new truck purchase and several line items overbudgeted. A Notice as to Proposed Amended Budget has been published and posted for all District residents. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the enclosed **RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE AMENDED 2023 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE STRATMOOR HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023.** The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Annual Contract Renewal

Chief Barrett informed the Board of Directors that it is time to renew our annual contract with Rocky Top Resources with the updated coverage charges due for 2024. Mr. Fred Martin has already signed a copy of the contract and submitted payment. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dull) to approve the Rocky Top Resources Annual Contract Renewal and allow President Colgrove and Secretary/Treasurer Willcox to sign the contract. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Vehicle Maintenance Intergovernmental Agreement

Chief Barrett informed the Board that the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Fire District and Northeast Teller County Fire Protection District for vehicle maintenance needs to be updated and signed by the Board President Robert Colgrove. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dull) to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Fire District and the Northeast Teller County Fire Protection District and have Board President Robert Colgrove sign the IGA. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

VI. Financial Reports

The January 2024 check register report where the taxes and employee retirement (Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)) payments are highlighted was enclosed for the Directors' review. Chief Barrett informed the Board that the Fire District is really low on funds and will not be able to pay some bills until March 8, 2024, when the first big Property Tax Revenue deposit comes in. Further discussion took place regarding the Mill Levy Increase for 2025 and the revenue it can help generate for the Fire District. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the financial reports as presented for the District for the month of January 2024, subject to audit. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting. Copies of the financial reports are attached to these minutes and made a part hereof.

VII. Executive Session

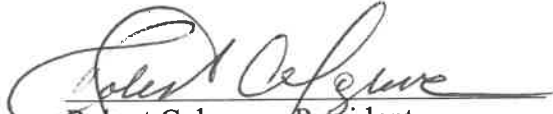
Other Business

Chief Bittle informed the Board that the six (6) career Driver/Engineers have all joined the International Association of Firefighters Union (IAFF) and are requesting their Union Dues be taken out of their paycheck and forwarded to their Union Bank. Chief Bittle informed the Board that a past Board denied this request and Chief Barrett informed the Board of their reason(s) at that time. Discussion regarding whether it is the Fire District responsibility to submit their Union Dues took place and Chief Bittle was asked to find out where their bank is and if they cannot submit their Union Dues payment through their own bank account.


Adjournment

It was noted that the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting would be held at 3:00 p.m. on March 20, 2024, at 2160 B Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.


As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 pm. (Pesicka/Willcox)



Robert Colgrove, President



James Pesicka, Vice-President



John Willcox, Secretary / Treasurer



Cindy Dent, Board Director



Richard Dull, Board Director