

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BLACK FOREST FIRE/RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Black Forest Fire/Rescue Protection District held a regular board meeting on September 19, 2018, at Black Forest Fire Station One, such meeting duly posted for public notice.

A quorum present, the meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

Directors present: PJ Langmaid/R. McMorran/J. Hinton/R. Nearhoof/D. Hoffpaur
Directors absent: None
Also present: Chief Jack/Chief Rebitski/D. Arkowski/fire department personnel/community members

Roll Call: All directors were present.

Public Comment Fire Fighters IAFF Local 4502 representative Grant Finley presented information and handouts to the board regarding wages paid to fire fighters in the region, advising that the Black Forest FPD wages are below average. Mr. Finley stressed the importance of fair wages for retention of personnel, and thereby the optimization of training efforts. The handouts also had information concerning stipends paid at some departments for specific positions, and differences in pay grades. Chief Jack noted that pay grades 7 and 8 are place holders at Black Forest, with no personnel in those categories. Mr. Finley was thanked for his input.

Resident Judy Von Ahlefeldt addressed the board, speaking about specific information in the Black Forest Preservation Plan as it relates to the fire district and its powers. She urged the fire board and chief to press the county commissioners to allow impact fees to be assessed for the large areas of development that are being planned within the fire district. As comparison, Dr. Von Ahlefeldt stated that the Flying Horse North and McCune Ranch developments are responsible plans, while Sterling Ranch and the Retreat are out of control concerning the Preservation Plan. She recommended the fire officials use their powers to help preserve the will and wishes of Forest residents.

Minutes Concerning the minutes of the August 15, 2018 board meeting, a motion was made to table approval until the October 2018 meeting to allow time for corrections or rewriting of the document; the motion received a second; the motion was carried unanimously.

Financial Reports Treasurer Hinton reported that tax collections are nearly complete for 2018, with distributions on track with the budget. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the board approved the financial report; motion carried unanimously.**

Operations Report Given by Chief Jack. (A written report was prepared by Chief Jack, copy attached to the minutes.)

Response/Service

- 84 responses in last month and 36 transports.
- Nationally, 7.3 million acres have burned YTD as a result of 48,000 wild fires.

Training

- 133 training hours in last month.

EMS

- The purchase order has been received for the monitor grant and reimbursement paperwork is complete. The two monitors are in the station, and training will occur next week. The cost was \$32,000 each. These cardiac monitors will allow for field collection of patient data which can be shared with hospital personnel in real time.

Apparatus and Equipment

- All in service.

Facilities and Grounds

- The shed for the repeater site has been completed and will be installed next week. This work was done in-house.

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Other

- Staffing of Station 2 was 24 days at 77.5% and unstaffed 7 days at 22.5%.
- No updates on the SAFER grant application.
- An inclusion notice has been received for High Plains Development off Hodgen Road. The public hearing for that will be later in this agenda.

Brief discussion on turn-out times, noting there may be an anomaly in the data. This will be checked.

Old Business The fire district website is being upgraded but there are some issues with the calendar. The explanatory Gallagher Amendment video is on the website and easily accessible, along with power point presentations for district business. This work in progress will allow for rapid posting of information for the public.

TABOR ballot question: Vice Chair McMorran will write a pro statement for the TABOR notice, which will be submitted to DEO Bottorff before the deadline on Friday, September 21.

The ballot language was submitted to the County and a copy of the formatted ballot question has been received. It will be question number 6C.

New Business Resolution 2018-06 for inclusion of property: A request has been received for inclusion of 39.4 acres, to be subdivided into seven lots, owned by Savage Development on Hodgen Road; all required documents have been received; all legal postings have been done. **A motion was made to adopt Resolution 2018-06 to approve the inclusion of the described property in the Black Forest Fire/Rescue Protection District; the motion was seconded; the motion carried unanimously.**

2019 Budget: Budget preparations have been ongoing since June, involving all personnel. The preliminary County estimate for tax revenue is \$1,762,024. The final County assessment will be received in November. The initial draft budget did not change any other revenue line items, with a projected total income of \$2,212,524. The expenditure line items are in color if an increase is anticipated. Explanatory notes are also included in the draft budget. Chief Jack reviewed the draft budget by line item, providing explanation where needed. Some increased items were due to the possibility of being able to hire additional personnel in 2019. There may be the possibility of gaining a training tower to be placed on the BFFRPD property at a cost of \$30,000 and this is reflected in the draft budget. Minimal increases were included for supplies and expenses across the board.

Discussion ensued on amounts budgeted for wages, noting increases in 2017 were 4.5%, with 3% for COLA plus 1.5%; increases in 2018 were COLA only. The draft budget is based on current numbers and no mill levy increase. If a mill levy increase is approved, the budget will be revised to include increases in wages. It may be possible to purchase a new ambulance if grant funds are available.

Reports on Workshops and Meetings Director Hoffpauir attended the SDA conference where possible changes to the Gallagher Amendment were discussed, along with many informative matters for directors.

Correspondence Colorado Springs Utilities has requested an agreement with BFFRPD to provide incident response for wildland fires. **A motion was made and seconded to table this matter to next month and discuss it with the attorney for the district; motion carried with four ayes and one no.**

A thank you letter was received for helping fill a pool. High Forest Ranch expressed their appreciation with a monetary donation.

An article in *The Falcon Herald* was informative, but did not reflect all the subjects that were discussed in a meeting with the reporter.

Future Meetings An additional town hall type meeting will be held October 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed ballot question to increase the mill levy tax for the fire district. The next regular meeting will be held October 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The budget hearing for the 2019 budget will be scheduled November 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The December regular board meeting will be held one week early on December 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Langmaid urged all directors to work on the proposed budget to derive as much definition as

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possible in preparation for the October meeting.

Adjournment There being no further business, **and upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried,** the board adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Arkowski, Secretary