

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 December 28, 2023, such meeting duly posted for public notice.

A quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Dowden.

Directors present: N. Dowden/K. Tarvainen via Zoom and speaker phone /J. Abendschan/J. Hinton/C. Behnken

Directors absent: None

Also present: C. Piepenberg/R. Dunn/D. Arkowski/fire department personnel/community members

Roll Call: All directors were present.

Firefighters Sworn in Four new firefighters were sworn in by Chair Dowden, as well as Koda, a K9 member. Family members pinned the badges on the new members.

Minutes A motion was made and seconded to approve the board meeting minutes for the November 15, 2023 regular board meeting; upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports Treasurer Hinton reported that the district has total assets of \$1.89 million as of November 30, 2023, with zero receipts from property taxes during November. \$2.654 in total assets. Budgeted spending is currently at 89.12%. All finances are in good order. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports; the motion carried unanimously.**

Operations Report A written report was prepared by Chief Langmaid and given to all directors. A copy is attached to the minutes.

Finance and Administrative – Admin. Officer Rachel Dunn:

- Notable revenues last month were ambulance receipts-\$12,417, tax revenues-\$34,016.
- Notable expenditures – nothing to report.
- Shipping containers received for training ground.
- PIO held ribbon cutting for new academy.
- Monthly hours worked – 7651. Deployment hours – zero.

Logistics

- Nothing new to report.

Ground Support

- Routine maintenance.
- Repairs to bay doors – getting three bids.
- Concrete work in training room completed.

Resources Unit

- Hired three people for Jan. 24 fire academy.

Operations – Given by Chief Piepenberg

- Training hours – 1802 of hours worked.
- Extensive training in a residential structure.
- Heavy vehicle extrication with Monument and Falcon.
- Hosted CSFD for live fire training.
- Major vehicle crash with entrapment.

Chief Langmaid noted that four were hired for the fire academy, but one was lost to a competitor. Also, inspection of the tender by Gavin Smith will be next week.

Old Business Revised 2024 Budget Proposition HH was not passed by the voters, so the proposed 2024 budget needed to be revised. The budget package contains the budget message, budget resolution, wage and leave schedule, and budget detail. The final assessment numbers for 2024 were delivered by the County early today. Changes in the budget reflect an increase in health insurance costs of 8.75 percent, the reduction in property market values by State senate bill SB23B-

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001, the application of a revised RAR assessment rate to the lower market values, resulting in a reduction of \$373,301 in revenue, which may be reimbursed by the State to the fire district. The proposed budget includes the \$373,301 as expected revenue, and if the State does not provide these funds, other avenues will be explored. The general operating expenses mill levy for 2024 is 14.951 mills, resulting in tax collections of \$4,969,010.

District financial operations will be conservative through the first seven months as revenue streams become more defined. **A motion was made to adopt the budget resolution 2023-15 as presented, and was seconded. Upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

Treasurer Hinton presented a financial initiative plan that covers the policies and procedures employed by the district for all financial decision making, urging that this information be included in the district policy manual and be available for inspection by all citizens. Mr. Hinton asked that the information be reviewed and presented for further consideration and approved by Attorney Glesne before implementation. It was noted that some policies and procedures are already in existence and may need revisions. Considering the amount of work needed for this task, and the personnel needed for its study, it may be necessary to schedule a work session in the future. Further discussion was tabled until the January board meeting.

New Business A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 2023-13, authorizing the inclusion of 13 properties into the Black Forest Fire District; motion was seconded; upon a vote, the resolution carried unanimously.

The board was presented with information concerning a City of Colorado Springs resolution that authorized the transfer of 952 addresses from the Black Forest Fire District into the City of Colorado Springs fire protection area. **A motion was made in which the board of directors of the Black Forest Fire/Rescue Protection District concurred with City of Colorado Springs Resolution 200-23 concerning the 952 properties slated for exclusion from the Black Forest Fire District, the addresses of which will be verified for accuracy. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously in a vote.** The addresses will be verified.

Board Member Reports None.

Correspondence None.

Future Meetings The January board meeting had been scheduled for January 10, 2024, earlier than the normal third Wednesday, to facilitate the finalization of the 2024 budget. Because the budget was finalized at the December 2023 meeting, **a motion was made and seconded to schedule the January board meeting for January 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**

Adjournment There being no further business, the board adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Arkowski
Recording Secretary