

Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District Board of Directors Meeting
March 22, 2017

Board members present: Frank Dominguez, Mark Pappas, Peggy Woods, Steve Loo, Richard Kramer.

Pension Board of Trustees present: John Hartlauer, Lisa MacKendrick (by phone).

Staff present: Todd Holzwarth, Steve Waldorf, Jed Henry, Dennis Soles, Adam Gosey, Kristen Rybij.

Others present: Linda Glesne - Legal Counsel. See attached sign-in for public present.

Frank Dominguez called the meeting to order at 18:25 pm.

Frank Dominguez asks if there is any public comment. There is no comment at this time.

The February minutes were discussed, with a correction of who moved and who seconded the adoption of resolution 2017-02-22-1. Correction was noted on the minutes.

- ❖ Steve Loo moved to approve the February minutes as written. Mark Pappas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: We are on track with concern to the first quarter budget. Payroll taxes are higher than normal due to the volunteer incentive program, as are the legal fees due to the YMCA refund. Peggy asks what the reimbursement account included; Kristen will have a full breakdown for her at the April meeting.

- ❖ Mark Pappas moved to approve the bills. Peggy Woods seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

YMCA Tax Refund: The YMCA is willing to negotiate a 40% decrease on the interest they have collected if certain obligations are met as outlined in the attached letter directed to Mr. Staab. Attached you will also find the response to this letter constructed after a meeting of all involved taxing entities and the BOCC. Discussion ensues over whether we should try and recoup all, or only part of, the net taxes and interest paid back to the YMCA, as well as the unrealized taxes we should have collected over the years. Steve questions whether we can ask for retribution all at once or can it happen over a period of time. Linda confirms that with a refund and abatement, it can only happen once, when we certify the mill levy. We will certify the mill levy December 15th and will know the preliminary Residential Assessed Rate by the end of August. This helps us to determine which direction to go. There is the option of a TABOR election. Mark purposes we have a workshop with the other affected taxing entities to discuss everyone's plans on how they will deal with this loss. Frank thinks any public education about this situation would be helpful so that our community understands we are not the "bad" guys in the equation. Educating them will also help them understand why our current budget in addition the amount we need to get back is so important to our continued service to Grand County. Dates and ideas for the purposed meeting are discussed.

Gallagher Tabor Update: We could potentially experience an 18% decrease in revenues if everything stays static as far as the assessed valuation of homes, but we know that assessed valuation will change, it is just a matter of how much that will decipher our loss / gain. Linda will keep us informed on legislation that the SDA has been drafting to help solve the problem of valuations always being driven down and it has the potential to be on a statewide ballot. The SDA has also been meeting with Fire Chiefs since Fire Districts are hit the hardest by this issue. Other special district entities are able to raise their fees to help cushion this loss. We do not have that ability. Across the board though, all residential property owners will be affected by the increase in various fees that would be implemented. It is the opinion of John Suthers (CO Springs Mayor and past CO Attorney General) that maybe TABOR does not apply to all Gallagher related issues, meaning that the RAR does not always have to be driven down, but it can go up or down as it is following the Gallagher Amendment. This could be a strong argument in current legislation.

Frank requested a motion to recess the board meeting at 7:41pm for the pension board meeting.

- ❖ Peggy Woods moved to recess the board of directors meeting, Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The board meeting re-opens at 19:56 pm.

Chief's Report: The 2012-2016 District Report is updated and on the website. New work bench will complete the Station 2 bay project. The town fixed the hydrant at Headquarters. Kristen will be taking over the website and Facebook management for the district. There have been 25 calls for the period and 78 runs to date. There were two fires the district responded to that required Auto Aid from Grand Fire; Alta Vista Trailer Park and the YMCA.

Fire Prevention Report: Inspections are down but plan reviews are up significantly which is unusual this time of year.

Training Coordinator Report: There are many trainings coming up and everyone is busy. Met with state training officers to help plan a DO boot camp, not sure this is going to work for us. We have 4 recruits and probies are stacking up for another academy in June. Steve was trained on how to program radios. District started an academy here for driving and pumping. Researching option for 481 replacement. Regular maintenance is done on vehicles.

Frank asks if there is any public comment. There is no comment at this time

Kristen reminds the staff and board of the upcoming SDA conference which will be discussed next meeting.

❖ Peggy Woods moves to adjourn the meeting. Rick Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 20:22 pm.

Frank Dominguez

Rick Kramer

Margaret Woods

Mark Pappas

Steve Loo