

Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 28th, 2018

Board Directors Present: President Frank Dominguez, Vice President Mark Pappas, Treasurer Steve Loo, Secretary Richard Kramer, Director Peggy Woods.

Staff Present: Chief Todd Holzwarth, Assistant Chief Dennis Soles, Fire Technician Adam Gosey, Training Coordinator Steve Waldorf, Volunteer Coordinator Jed Henry, Office Manager Kristen Rybij.

Board of Pension Trustees Present: Trustee Jody Campbell, Trustee John Hartlauer (by phone).

Legal Counsel Present: Mr. Bart Miller (Collins Cockrel & Cole).

There was no public present at this meeting.

Director Frank Dominguez opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:05 pm. There was a quorum of Directors present.

Frank asked if there were any additions to the agenda, Todd added the Tabernash Water Project dedication ceremony.

Frank asked if there was any public comment. There was no public present.

The February 28th, 2018 minutes were reviewed with one sentence noted for its unique structure. The minutes will remain unchanged.

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

Discussion of Financials: Taxes collected seem high due to the pre-payment of 2017 taxes in late 2017. ColoTrust is currently at 1.62%. Todd stated that we will be investing the YMCA recoupment into our laddered investments once it is received within the next month or two.

- ❖ Director Peggy Woods moved to approve the bills. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Director Peggy Woods moved to recess the Board of Directors meeting to open the Pension Board of Trustees meeting. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Directors meeting was recessed at 18:16 pm.

Director Frank Dominguez re-opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:24 p.m.

Chief's Report: The CO State Fire Chiefs and SDA are working hard to figure out Gallagher and its implications on Colorado's Special District revenues. One option they are working on is to change the time period between re-evaluation of the residential and non-residential assessment rates from two years to four. The School Districts are still pushing forward with Amendment 93. The State Fire Chief's spring meeting will be held at Devil's Thumb Ranch this year in the hopes that it will become an annual event. Todd gave a well-received presentation at the Rotary Club meeting this month; everything from Gallagher to the upcoming wildfire season was discussed. Winter Park has a new interim Town Manager, Stan Zemler (retired Town Manager, Vail). Garth Hein submitted a self-nomination form for a seat on the District's Board of Directors, giving us three candidates by the submission deadline. The 2018 election was cancelled and Garth will be sworn in as a new member of EGFPD's Board of Directors in May. Todd attended the Mountain Mutual Aid, State Division of Fire Protection and Control's regional meeting. They discussed updating the current regional mutual aid agreement to include a resource ordering system for structure fires, mass casualties, and HazMat. District calls for the year are up over 90. So far, our District has more calls this year than all of the other four Districts combined.

Fire Prevention Report: Inspections are slowing down a bit. The Ranches at Devils Thumb are moving to the final plat and are cooperating well with fire safety regulations. The ICC Code adoption process through the County continues to be challenging. It is state statute that the County Planning Commission give their approval of the ICC Code adoption before it moves forward with the County Commissioners. Todd and Dennis appeared before them recently and they unanimously approved the current ICC Code adoption. It was then discovered that the County did not give them the additional amendments prior to their review. Due to the missing amendments, the District will have to go back in front of them at their next meeting. Steve Loo asked if there is anything controversial in the amendments that would affect approval. Dennis explained that they simply deal with keeping us from having to deal with certain cryogenic hazardous materials. Commissioner Manguso reported some businesses feeling they would be put out of business if the County adopts the new codes. We are not trying to put people out of business and her objections are building code issues, not fire prevention code issues. Existing businesses have been built under the old code and would only have to upgrade if there is a change of use or if they are not maintaining current fire safety standards. Dennis opened a special discussion regarding how we can successfully continue to operate the Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) alongside increases in development, decrease in taxes, and our current fee system. Dennis would like to know how the Board feels about increasing the FPB's fees in order to cover part of the costs of its current operations. He explained that the goal of the FPB is public safety, not profit, but when the FPB was formed it was thought that the continued growth in development would pay for the increased work load of the FPB over time. This is not the case. Last year it cost the district approximately \$37 K to pay a half-time fire prevention technician to keep up on the workload. We only brought in \$12 K in fees. Big developments in our County are not paying fees or property taxes due to being a part of the Town of Winter Park. The structures we have to inspect and

protect are growing with no money coming in. Dennis discussed his concern over the upcoming Beaver's development. Everyone discussed things we can do to raise fees responsibly to ensure continued FPB operations and public safety. Other systems and their fee schedules were looked at. Dennis proposed to raise the fees 20% while a more permanent solution is formulated. We want to ensure the longevity and efficiency of the FPB while making sure the public is still our first concern. Frank agrees to the raising of the fees. Dennis will be working in this.

Training Coordinator Report: Completed live fire, HECC solar system education, and Haz-Mat trainings. We have one firefighter moving to Idaho for the wildland season. There are 8 probies. We have four members working on their Firefighter One certification and all have passed the practical so far. We have four members working on their Firefighter Two certification. Two members will be heading to FDIC in April. Banning and Jeremy are working on becoming Officers. Jed is working on exchanging the lights in the bay. Flow testing for SCBA packs is complete. Hydro testing for SCBA bottles is complete. Station hose testing and fire extinguisher / sprinkler system inspections are scheduled. Jed is working on a new recruit class starting in June. Applications are due mid-April. It is discussed why having forty core volunteers is a good number for successful operations. Adam passed out the specs and bids for the new 481 and discussion ensued over what was proposed versus our needs and our budget.

Director Frank Dominguez asked if there was any public comment. There was no public present.

Board Business / Action Items: Chief asked what dates would work for the Tabernash Water System dedication. We need to coordinate with Tabernash Meadows Water and Sanitation District. Bart Miller introduced himself. He has been with Colins Cockrel & Cole for just over a year. Before that, he spent thirty years in the Colorado State Legislature as a lawyer. He was also a founding council member of the Town of Centennial and ran on that for eight years. He is very familiar with public works issues and wants to help the District with our affordable housing issues. He passed out a benefits package for Eagle River and Water's Sanitation District (Vail Valley) as an idea generator. He pointed out that they buy and sell units to employees through a loan program within their district. Bart thinks it is difficult to address affordable housing as a fire district since it is not directly our responsibility, as we are just a part of the larger community on this issue. Bart asked what our intentions are with affordable housing and Peggy explained that we are interested in a housing project for the whole first responder community. It was not something that we would intend to provide specifically, but an inter-agency project that could work for the whole community. Frank asked if other communities have done something to help sway developers into including more seasonal and / or permanent affordable housing. How can we get the Town(s) attention regarding this issue? Calls have doubled over the last 8 years, and residences have only grown by about thirty folks (according to the Town of Winter Park's census). Frank suggested sitting down with the two Town Mayors and Town Managers as a first step. Bart agreed and is happy to help us with that approach.

- ❖ Director Rick Kramer moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 20:39 pm.

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Frank Dominguez

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Rick Kramer

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Margaret Woods

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Mark Pappas

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Steve Loo