

Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 22nd, 2019

Board Directors Present: President Frank Dominguez, Vice President Mark Pappas, Treasurer Steve Loo, Secretary Richard Kramer, Director Garth Hein (telephonically).

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

Director Dominguez opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:21 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present.

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

Frank added a change of date request for the August Board meeting to Board Business.

- ❖ Director Mark Pappas moved to approve the April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 minutes as written. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: Taxes are coming in as expected. We will need to make shifts in the budget to accommodate the cost of replacing ~1,000 feet of defective hose.

- ❖ Director Steve Loo moved to approve the bills. Director Garth Hein seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief's Report: Todd did not prepare a written report this month due to time constraints surrounding his recent vacation. Todd opened discussion by thanking staff for taking care of the Station in his absence. Todd then addressed the 2018 Annual Report that was included in the Board packet. Contingent upon the Board's approval, Kristen will send the report to the Town Managers and County Managers alongside posting it on our website. Garth complimented Todd's work on the report and requested that it also be placed on our social media sites. Garth was then given time to address his thoughts before having to leave the meeting early. Garth suggested that we request attendance at next year's Board of County Commissioners 1st quarter meeting to present our 2019 Annual Report. He feels it is a good way to connect to the County and highlight any issues the District may be facing. He noted that it is an annual practice for Fire Chief's in city departments to present annual updates to their City Councils. Todd commented that it may be tough to get on their agenda, but thinks it is a good idea. Todd then added that he will be meeting with all the County Commissioners this summer to review our current NEXUS / Fire Impact Fee Study and may try to address it then. Garth then complimented Kristen for increasing our presence on social media. Jed has also been a big help, posting exciting volunteer training news. Garth then presented the idea of publishing a quarterly or biannual newsletter to be mailed to all registered voters in our District. He envisions the newsletter to be similar to an annual report but not as sterile, and to include such things as updates from each division, news from the Chiefs, and maybe a volunteer spotlight? The related, and possibly prohibitive, costs of the newsletter were noted and briefly discussed. Todd closed his report by confirming that the NEXUS / Impact Fee Study conducted by Economic and Planning Systems (EPS) was underway after legal review and editing to the contract to ensure legal compliance in Colorado.

- ❖ Director Mark Pappas moved to change the August Board meeting from Wednesday August 28<sup>th</sup> to Monday August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Kristen will make the necessary legal posting in the newspaper.

Fire Prevention Report: Tom Hawkinson, the Building Official for the Towns of Winter Park, Fraser, and Granby, has requested that Dennis work with him on all submitted plan reviews. He would like Dennis to provide him with a list of concerns for each property (if any). Dennis explained that although this will add to his workload, he is hopeful that it won't be significant as water supply and access are already dealt with during the initial development review. Most concerns will arise with additions and remodels on buildings that were not appropriately dealt with under the previous Building Official. Dennis looks forward to having this chance to address any safety hazards or past code violations while bringing buildings up to current code. There are a few development reviews in progress including East Mountain Filing 12 in Rendezvous, Fraser. This will be their last residential development in Fraser, although they still have 1-2 commercial locations still to be developed. They also own a large amount of developable land in Winter Park. Rendezvous has been agreeable to adding sprinklers to many of their buildings and will also be adding them to this last phase of development. Frank asked what is being built in between the Recreation Center and The Foundry. It is going to be mixed use, commercial on the bottom with residential on top. Dennis noted the two new breweries opening in Fraser, one being on Eisenhower Dr. Mark asked how this affected access for us. Dennis does not believe it to be an issue.

Training Coordinator Report: The volunteers completed their Wildland Refresher. Steve took a class on Photovoltaic and Battery Energy Storage Systems. He then shared the education at Officer's

training. There are quite a few homes in our District with these systems as well as The Headwaters Center and Devil's Thumb Ranch. The last District training concentrated on high rises and standpipes in the Cooper Creek Square parking garage. Steve projected our current resident program to include 3 residents at the Tabernash Station and 5 at Headquarters. We look forward to having a Lieutenant, Engineer, and Firefighter resident in Tabernash. Jed is currently working on training 3 new recruits. We have 2 probies close to graduating and 3 new Firefighter One Certifications. East Grand Fire, Clear Creek Fire and Grand Fire will all be testing for Live Fire next week at Headquarters. Steve is still training with the new Lexipol policy and training system. Todd noted that he has heard very good things about the program and that it is well utilized by many other fire and police departments. Steve taught hose control and water equipment with good feedback at the mutual aid training in Granby. Hose testing was completed May 15<sup>th</sup>, with over 13,000 feet of hose tested. We will need to replace ~ 700' of 5" hose. Frank asked how old the hoses were. Todd explained that they are ~ 13-14 years old, but believes the failure is not caused by age, but by the type and amount of materials being used in their production. Todd confirmed that the current defects would not cause an "explosion", but certainly does not meet the required NFPA standards. Steve is getting bids from several different companies for replacement. Utility 472 is ready for wildland season. The new 481 has fallen behind schedule and may not be ready for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House Celebration. Flow tests for our SCBA equipment are being scheduled and regular truck maintenance is taking place as usual. We assisted Grand Fire with the double fatal accident that recently took place on Red Dirt Hill. We were not officially dispatched, and although generally frowned upon, moved forward with self-dispatch anticipating the severity of the incident. Grand Fire and the Sheriff's Department expressed their gratitude for our mutual aid. Our crew performed the extrication of the passenger, assisted in command and traffic control, and left when no longer needed. Mark asked why there were no responding firefighters at the Red Dirt Station. Steve explained that Grand Fire normally takes them during the day to assist at their Headquarters. Mark feels that the success of working scenes with other departments has been due largely in part to our consistent mutual aid trainings building relationships.

Frank asked for public comment. There was no public.

Board Business: Frank addressed the video being developed for us by the Colorado Fiscal Institute. The video will be used as a tool to help us educate our community about what the Gallagher / TABOR intersection is and how it negatively impacts our revenues and ultimately our service to Grand County. This video will be an important resource as we move forward with advocacy for our November Revenue Stabilization Ballot Question. Todd reiterated to the Board that he believes it to be in our best interest to only ask for a revenue stabilization type measure without a mill levy increase; this being due to the projected increase in our District's valuations alongside a small decrease in the RAR. It is our hope that the voters will approve a measure that would allow us to maintain our 2020 level of funding for upcoming years without regard to what the RAR does by fluctuating our mill levy. We would add clauses to the measure, one in order to protect our revenue from falling below this level, and one allowing us to take advantage of any new growth in our District. Todd noted that we were still in the exploratory phase of the election. He explained that Kristen had a rough plan for how to start education and advocacy for the measure on social media. Frank told the Board and staff that he plans on advocating for our ballot measure at his summer HOA meeting and would like for us to do the same at other local HOA meetings. Todd then moved the discussion to our progress with East Grand's Strategic Planning. Staff is currently dissecting their personal duties and compiling comprehensive lists of responsibilities. We hope to use these to evaluate the "big picture" of the District's operations and our continued viability with current staffing and resources. Where do we need help? What can we cut out? What plans need to be in place to meet the changing demands of our growing community? Progress will be discussed at the June Board meeting. Kristen then confirmed who will be attending the SDA conference September 18-20<sup>th</sup>. She will handle registration and accommodations. Frank and Todd will be attending SDA's Regional Training in Granby June 14<sup>th</sup>. It is reiterated that the new 481 is back dated 6-8 weeks and will probably not be done by our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House Celebration. Todd ordered a commemorative plaque that will capture the article Sky Hi News published highlighting our 50 years of service to Grand County. Currently, we have a caterer and photographer set up for the celebration but will have much planning ahead of us. Todd noted that we have been requested to shoot off the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks again this year (fire restriction dependent). Sunset Ridge has started work on the new hydrant and should also have the new cistern in place by June 24<sup>th</sup>.

- ❖ Director Mark Pappas moved to close the meeting. Director Rick Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:25 pm.

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Frank Dominguez

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Rick Kramer

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Garth Hein

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Mark Pappas

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Steve Loo