

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
August 26th, 2019**

Board Directors Present: Acting President Mark Pappas, Acting Vice President Frank Dominguez, 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.

Public Present: Brad Holzwarth.

Director Mark Pappas opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:08 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present.

Mark asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Frank asked that they run their executive session prior to the business of the rest of the meeting. Garth supports this in case he must leave meeting.

Mark asked if there was any public comment. Brad gave gratitude to the staff and volunteers for their efforts in making Donnie Thompson's memorial service special.

Mark asks Frank to make a move to move into executive session per statute 24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S., Personnel matters.

- ❖ Director Frank Dominguez moved to move into executive session. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The regular meeting was adjourned, and executive session entered at 18:11 pm.
The executive session was adjourned, and regular Board meeting resumed at 19:10 pm.

- ❖ Director Steve Loo moved to approve the July 24th, 2019 minutes as written. Director Rick Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials:

- ❖ Director Steve loo moved to pay the bills. Director Rick Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a short discussion over the correlation between the amount of fees charged and our general bank account balance. COLOTrust's interest rate is stagnant. More investment trades in our SIGMA account have been made in order to lock in better rates of return. The preliminary Certification of Values is in. Todd created a chart detailing the break-down of assessed valuation in the county. This discussion brought up concerns with how we deal with fire mitigation in No Man's Land. Todd noted that there is a plan in place for this and the County has created a fee schedule in case of the need to charge folks for our services since they do not pay taxes to any District. Todd pointed out the assessed valuation for the Towns, the School and Fire Districts, and the Recreation District. He highlighted that the most value lies in our District containing over half the valuation increases. The preliminary Certification of values will bring in an estimated 2.1 million which was close to our rough calculations. We do expect it to decrease a bit in December. Kristen noted that the amount of decrease between the two values has fluctuated greatly over the last 4 years with amounts differing from 60K to over 130K.

Chief's Report:

Donnie's memorial brought in 200 - 300 folks and was a great success. The 2018 Audit is complete and filed with the State; no problems were noted. The current outcome of our new actuarial study will be discussed further at the pension meeting this month. FPPA's rate of return dropped from 7.5% to 7% which in turn gave us negative results regarding the future increase in monthly pension benefit amounts. Sunset Ridge is ready to be paid the 20K for the new hydrant. Kristen presented the check to the Board for approval and signature. A new manager was hired to lead our GC Office of Emergency Management. Todd gave a short update on our staff meetings. We have been operationally very busy this month with multiple, simultaneous calls that included two wildfires. We had a crew on the Cabin Fire (local) and a crew that was sent to Dumont under our Mountain Mutual Aid Agreement. Mark voiced concern that the Grand Lake Fire Chief was the only one quoted in the Sky Hi News regarding the Mill Creek Fire in Dumont and the Board all wondered why Grand Lake Fire was even there. Todd explained that the call for mutual aid went out to the whole County and Steve Waldorf further explained that Grand Lake Fire hired a dedicated wildland crew this year and they were ready for deployment especially as this wildfire season has not offered much work for them. Mark just wanted to make sure that East Grand had an equal voice in the news. Todd confirmed that we will continue to stay professional with truthful news, which is most important. Steve asked if Sky Hi News and WP Times are connected to our social media updates. Kristen confirmed that agencies such as

the GC Office of Emergency Management, GC Sheriff, local Police departments, the USFS Sulphur Ranger District, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, and our local news are all well-connected social media wise, especially when there is an incident. Mark asked Dennis if he has provided inspection services in Grand Lake. He has not in the recent future. Dennis confirmed to the Board that he made it clear to new Grand Lake chief that he was willing and happy to provide these services. Steve Waldorf closed the discussion noting the great strength of our relationships with our County's first responders and feels that right now that is the most important asset to our continued and successful community service. There is a short discussion over how wildfires on private land in our district are handled between us and the Sheriff's Office as technically it is their responsibility to handle the resources and funding. It is confirmed that it is a positive asset to us to be able to hand over command to Sheriff's Office. They hold the actual agreements with the State of CO regarding resources and funding. Todd plans to send our Annual Operating Plan to the Board for further information regarding this mutual aid; it is good, but still a work in progress with the County. Todd moved on to discuss the presentation of our Gallagher video and Annual Report to the Fraser Town Council. It was well received with a successful question and answer session.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report:

New construction is still going strong. Dennis completed several tenant finishes; mostly at the WP Village with some at Sitzmark. Adam has been very active doing wildfire hazard reviews. Dennis and Todd will be meeting with the owners of the Woodspur Lodge next week to move forward with their hood replacement project. Plan reviews have slowed, Dennis is not sure if this is sign of what is to come economically. Dennis noted the fun time the staff had educating our local Girl Scouts about basic first aid in preparation for their upcoming river trip. Steve further discussed the great time him and Jed had with this small and mighty crew who coined a new term, the "Heimlich Remover." Mark urged us to keep up our interaction with our County's kids. Everyone discussed the current education events we do with the kids. Garth noted the importance of sharing these experiences on social media with our community and voiced his concern of posting photos of children without proper permission. This will be investigated with our legal counsel. The discussion turned back to fire prevention. Adam presented to reality of the great fire dangers found at the Arlberg Club to the owners. He was then asked to come back and do a full hazard review of the whole site; this was done and they are moving forward with suggested mitigation projects.

Training Coordinator Report: Training this month consisted of hose work, confined space rescue in full gear with CPR administration, and training in a donated structure (house) where they can set up unique fire mitigation and rescue scenarios with no limitations to the demolition and destruction they can cause. Steve missed the Officer's meeting due to the final walk through for 481 in Minnesota. There were 48 changes to be made before the truck is delivered in the next couple weeks. Steve also made a checklist which will be used to train and prepare the engineers with the new truck and its operations. Steve noted the upcoming Elementary School Health Fair and Fall Fest. Steve discussed the late wildfire season starting a few weeks behind. Annual truck maintenance is almost done.

Mark asked for public comment. There was none.

Board Business: Mark addressed resolution 2019-8-26-01. Kristen pointed out the final resolution and the redlined version as passed out to Staff and Board. Todd asked Kristen to update the Resolution with a resolution number. This will be done. Mark was concerned that the line in our ballot measure that reads "Shall East Grand Fire be authorized beginning in 2021 to set the mill levy at a rate sufficient to generate the tax revenues levied for collection in 2020..." did not include a word like "equal" or "the same." The Board and Staff understand Mark's concern but are all in agreement that the measure reads as intended without problem Mark is OK with moving forward and asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2019-8-26-01.

- ❖ Director Dominguez moved to approve Exhibit A - Election Resolution 2019-8-26-01: A Resolution Calling for a November 5, 2019 Special Election, Authorizing an Election on the Question of a Mill Levy Rate Adjustment and Appointing a Designated Election Official. Director Hein seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark addressed his new position as Board President. No one contested this so Mark Pappas is to officially take over the role of President of the EGFPD Board of Directors. Frank complimented the Staff's work and our increased presence at the Town meetings. He reiterated the help we need from them and them from us. Mark commented on this helping our continuing efforts in making changes regarding the commercial operations of residences and the way they pay property taxes.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:45 pm.

Mark Pappas

Rick Kramer

Garth Hein

Frank Dominguez

Steve Loo