

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
November 20th, 2019**

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

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

Legal Counsel Present: Linda Glesne.

Public Present: GC Emergency Manager Kat Conrad, Grand Fire Chief Brad White, Grand Fire Operations Chief Ron Thurston.

Director Mark Pappas opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:15 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present.

Mark asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

Mark asked if there was any public comment. Chief White and Chief Thurston expressed their gratitude for the strength of our relationship with them. We are all very thankful for being able to work and train together seamlessly and to be assured knowing that we look out for one another and help take care of each other.

- ❖ Director Rick Kramer moved to open the 2020 Budget Hearing. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Mark Pappas opened the 2020 Budget Hearing at 18:21 p.m.

Director Mark Pappas asked three times if there was any comment from the public regarding East Grand County Fire Protection District #4's 2020 proposed Budget. There was no comment.

- ❖ Director Frank Dominguez moved to close the 2020 Budget Hearing. Director Garth Hein seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The 2020 Budget Hearing was closed at 18:23.

- ❖ Director Steve Loo moved to approve the October 23rd, 2019 minutes as written. Director Rick Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: Taxes are still coming in. We are at 99% for the year. COLOTrust is starting to drop below 2%. Sigma converted some more of our laddered investments in order to keep a better interest rate intact. Todd reminded the Board that next year's revenues will be increased due to increased valuations, not the passing of our ballot question. This will backstop any possible losses starting in 2021.

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

Chief's Report: The new 481 is in service. Wildfire season is almost over. There is a small fire in Keyser Creek drainage "freezing to death." Burn season is open. The State Chief's meeting was a success. We flew the flag with Grand Fire for Veteran's Day Pancake Breakfast at Snow Mountain Ranch. The new flag and pole are installed and up at the Red Dirt Station. Calls are up by about 30 compared to this time last year. Rick asked how we can increase the maximum years of pension a volunteer firefighter can earn. The State Statute, rules, and exceptions regarding pension years was briefly discussed.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report: New construction is still going strong. The Building Official has approved the exiting plan / building permit for Ciao Monte allowing them to open with limited occupancy until the remodel is complete. Deno's Mountain Bistro received their occupancy load permits under the agreement that they will meet the ADA code standards. Wendy's and McDonalds have shown exemplary adherence to code. Fraser's Crossing / Founder's Pointe have taken care of their issues. Dennis ran into the State Inspector while inspecting both Grand Kids Day Care Centers and they were able to collaborate a bit. Dennis has had several productive meetings with the Building Official this month as well. Mark asked for clarification regarding Ciao Monte's exiting plan and the Casa de Mexico Fire. The plan for Cia Monte was confirmed and the Casa fire was discussed in more detail, including the incident and plans for future fire

prevention efforts. Mark was curious about the seemingly large number of elevator calls we go on. It was explained that this is not an unusual amount.

Training Coordinator Report: Winter operations were reviewed and remains an important training this time of year. Engineers were trained on the new 481. Officers pre-planned the Winter Park Mountain Lodge. The crew focused on vehicle fires and hazmat training following the major two-car accident that recently happened outside of Winter Park. Steve and Jed have been discussing possible changes to our current volunteer requirements. We have the lowest requirements alongside the highest benefits of local departments. It is tough to find the right balance that will continue to recruit and retain good volunteers as well as make sense with the amount of benefits given. Steve has found that some will do more with less requirements and that others will stop giving time once their requirements are met annually. Our current requirement currently equate to responders having to show for ~ 10.8% of our calls. It is common for other departments to require participation in upwards of 25% of their departments calls. Garth asked if we have considered quarterly requirements. They have, but this can be a bookkeeping nightmare as well as pose difficulties to those hardworking volunteers who spend their summers on wildfire crews to keep up good standing. Frank asked if they ever considered partial credit for a year towards pension. This is not possible under statute. Steve moved on with our current station update. There are some open rooms for residents, although we are in no hurry to fill them as it is important to have the right folks. Volunteers are working on state renewals. 5 volunteers are working on promotion to Engineer. Garth asked how long it takes to train on the new 481. Steve and Todd confirmed the ease of training as it works almost the same as the old 481, but in a more refined manor. Steve is continuing his work on policies and procedures. Steve noted that the County Training Officers group has been very successful They are busy coming up with a training plan for 2020. Auto-X in Kremmling was a huge success this year with 25 attendees from 5 agencies in participation. They will also continue focus on mutual aid wildfire training. This is crucial for our County. You want to know who you will be working with and what collective equipment is available. Repairs are being wrapped on the old 481 in preparations for sale. There is a short discussion on what needs to be done, how the sale will go and where it will be stored in the meantime. Steve finished programming Grand Lake's radios. The replacement of our Type 6 engine was discussed for next year. There was also detailed discussion regarding operations, lessons learned, and traffic control for this month's major incidents; the head-on accident, the deck fire at Sitzmark, and Rick Kramer's house fire.

Mark asked for public comment. There was none.

Kat Conrad, Grand Counties new Emergency Manager, was introduced. She discussed concerns regarding the importance of timely and accurate reporting of any resources (equipment and personnel) that are out of service, for whatever reason. There was discussion over the most efficient ways to keep these records current.

Board Business: Linda is building a worksheet that will assist us with formulas required to accurately calculate our revenues after the passing of our TABOR election. These new calculations will start in 2021. Mark thanked the staff for all the hard work that went into passing the election. The 2019 Impact fee study was discussed. The study has the single-family residential fee increasing from \$483 to \$632 per unit and the non-residential fee increasing from .268 to .28 per sq. footage. The current impact study is formulated using the "Buy In" method. In short, this method calculates fees by considering real estate this is pre-existing as well as projected growth. Our current impact fee structure was calculated using a method that took our projected capital considerations and projected new construction into account. A few preliminary dates for the upcoming Board election are discussed. The January workshop was set for January 13th, 2020 at 11:00 A.M. Frank wants to focus on strategic planning during the workshop.

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

The Board meeting was adjourned at 20:12 p.m.

Mark Pappas

Garth Hein

Frank Dominguez

Rick Kramer

Steve Loo