

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
August 26th, 2020**

Board Directors Present: President Mark Pappas, Treasurer Steve Loo (remotely), Secretary Richard Kramer, Director Donald Maurais.

Staff Present: Chief Todd Holzwarth, Assistant Chief Dennis Soles, Assistant Fire Marshal Ryan Mowrey, Volunteer Coordinator Jed Henry, Office Manager Kristen Rybij.

Director Mark Pappas opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:05 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present. Mark asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none. Mark asked for public comment. There was no public.

The Board reviewed the July 22nd, 2020 minutes.

- ❖ Director Rick Kramer moved to approve the July 22nd, 2020 minutes as written. Director Donald Maurais seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: General Property taxes are showing at 101% of the budgeted amount. Kristen has been unable to find the error at this time but will continue to investigate. The County has fully reimbursed us for Ryan and Nick's work on the COVID IMT, bringing payroll back within budgeted parameters. Nick has been called to participate in the GC IMT for the Williams Fork Fire and we may see a temporary spike in payroll again until reimbursement. Mark asked for an explanation regarding the minimal spending budgeted for "Uniforms" and Fire Prevention and Outreach." Jed explained that uniforms are normally purchased in October and a new decision has been made to only award Class A uniforms to those with 5 years of service; therefore there will be an uptick in spending on uniforms in the next months just not as much as previous years. The Fire Prevention expenditures will also increase due to recent wildfire preparedness ads Dennis and Ryan created for the newspaper. Spending will still be less this year as Kristen has held off purchasing any school-based fire prevention items due to the current uncertainty of COVID's effect on school functions. Mark proposed the possibility supporting the green addressing sign project with Fire Prevention funds. This will be looked at. It is noted that COLOTrust has dropped to 0.39% interest.

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

Chief's Report: Todd updated the Board on the Williams Fork Fire which is currently just under 10,000 acres. The Staff and Nick Wall have joined the GC Headwaters IMT in various capacities which is working closely with the Great Basin Type 1 IMT to manage the fire. Todd is working with Chief White from Grand Fire to create a proposal for the purchase of a Recovery / Rescue ROV System due to the two recent drownings in our County. It is a struggle to keep a local certified rescue dive team in service but important we have rescue and recovery resources due to our many water-specific recreation opportunities in the County and Valley. Todd and Brad are hopeful to collaborate this purchase with the GC Sheriff's Office, CO Parks and Wildlife, and the USFS. We will be looking into possible grants as well. Todd noted that Nick is working on a quote for an upgrade to our training room's AV system.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report: Dennis and Ryan have completed the finals on all the schools upgraded sprinkler and alarm systems. Dennis has joined the GC Headwaters IMT in the role of Safety Officer for evacuation and structure protection. Mark asked that Dennis and Ryan work on ideas for a community fire prevention project. Todd noted that we aim to publish news of the upgraded fire prevention systems in the schools.

Training Coordinator Report: Old 481 is out of the shop; obtaining the parts caused the long delay. Steve Loo suggested it to be used as a resource to aid in the CA fires. Steve Waldorf does not think this would be feasible mechanically or with staffing. The new Type 6 engine is here and is in service as 471. The volunteers are trained on its operations. Ryan noted the two small fires that were started and extinguished at WP Resort. Steve Waldorf is now the liaison between our County's resources and the Great Basin Type 1 IMT working the Williams Fork Fire, as well as in charge of assembling a task force to assess vulnerable structures for the Structure Protection unit of their team. He meets with them daily for planning and preparations. Todd, Steve, and Dennis explained the work they are doing to plan for any possible evacuations and the detailed parameters that will go into deciding when to call an evacuation or warning. The Sheriff will be the one to put the order in place, Public Works and the Sheriff's Office would take charge of traffic control and our crew would be a part of structure protection. The Great Basin Type 1 IMT is working to protect historical structures in the Experimental Forest and currently building a containment line from CR 73 to CR 50. Steve Loo asked if we still needed to hire another full or part-time member to help Dennis in the Fire Prevention Bureau. Todd does not think this is necessary at this time and hopes that the current Strategic Plan will address future staffing needs. Steve Waldorf noted that projects are moving along and the more detailed separation between Operations and Fire Prevention is proving successful. Todd will be looking more seriously into hiring supervisory type operations positions such as Shift / Duty Officers to help keep trucks on the road and calls covered.

Board Business: Todd noted that the Strategic Plan is in its final stages and asked that the Board look closer at the proposed goals and come forth with any input before the final draft is proposed. There was discussion over the Pay Equity Act and the Board and Staff agree that we move forward with an audit; of what depth and type is unclear at this moment. We are lucky to have a small staff with a clear separation of duties and job descriptions as well as a steady and even pay raise schedule over the years. We will ask for direction from Colins, Cockrel, and Cole. Kristen presented the most recent details of the dissolution of the Western Slope Health Care Group and the merger into the Public Sector Health Care Group. There are many details to be worked out, but the advantages outweigh the initial buy-in costs and at this time the Staff and Board agree with the merger and are excited.

Mark asked for public comment. There was no public.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:40 p.m.

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Mark S. Pappas

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Garth Hein

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Steve Loo

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Rick Kramer

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Donald Maurais