

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
February 24th, 2021**

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

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

Public Present: None.

Director Mark Pappas opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:06 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present.

Todd added Grand County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution.

There was no public present. The Board reviewed the January 27th, 2021 minutes.

- ❖ Director Garth Hein moved to approve the January 27th, 2021 minutes as written. Director Donald Maurais seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: Kristen presented the financial report. COLOTrust is at .1056%. We are moving \$500K from COLOTrust into a more lucrative laddered investment plan with LPL Financial. Impact Fees remain steady. The District received the 4th payment for 473 leaving a \$5000 balance to be paid in March. Kristen has received the State's reimbursement for Nick Wall's work on the East Troublesome Fire. Steve is still waiting on his. Mark asked what the payouts titled "EMT Conference" were. We are reimbursing volunteers who attended the virtual MSAC conference to help with training holes caused by COVID.

- ❖ Director Richard Kramer moved to pay the bills. Director Garth Hein seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief's Report: Chief reported on his experience attending Joe Neguse's First Annual Wildfire Summit. Folks from varied backgrounds gathered to discuss how the State can be better prepared for the growing severity of our wildfires and their extended seasons. Todd noted that the largest wildfires in the State's history have occurred in the last 5 years with 2020 bringing in the record breakers with the East Troublesome and Cameron Peak fires. Wildfire season is year-round now and we need a better more dedicated response to them. The State is working on getting a Blackhawk type series, dedicated public safety helicopter with many capabilities geared towards search and rescue and wildfire support. Currently, the State only has 2 MMAs and medical helicopters are not equipped to do winching or aid in firefighting, although they can help with search and rescue. Currently, the USFS is just not set up for year-round firefighting and the State aims to fill those holes with better preparation and resources. Garth asked if there were any major takeaways from the summit that may be applicable for Grand County. Todd noted that the biggest takeaway was the acknowledgment that seasonal Federal resources are not adequate for our year-round season. Federal resources are not even adequate in season and are scarce late season. Don asked for Todd's opinion as to the amount of education and awareness brought to our State's politicians. Todd thought it was successful. The Town of Winter Park has set up a workshop on March 16th dedicated to a discussion by the respective Boards of the South Station and the land earmarked for it. Garth noted that a historical timeline of the South Station and land would be very important amongst the talking points discussed. Mark suggested the invitation of a ski area representative to the workshop. Todd gave a quick update on the progress of the District's vaccination program. The District entered into an agreement with First Net by AT&T and was given some loaner devices for trial. Although there is an agreement, there are no charges for this trial period. Preparations for the communications upgrade for 492 are underway and the system will include a dual SIM card router for Verizon and First Net.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report: New inspections in February have slowed and Dennis is caught up on plan reviews. He has a few development reviews in process. He has been busy with education to keep his certifications current.

Training Coordinator Report: Steve renewed his DTR programming in Gypsum this month. Jed's working hard on bunker gear research. There is lots of interest in the Spring Academy and it is slated for May. An all-volunteer fire department from Illinois will be purchasing our old 481 and a plan is being worked out for the delivery / pick-up of the truck. Trainings are back to full due to successful vaccination events. Folks are keeping to small groups and wearing masks. Steve and Jed are focusing on "graduating" Probies and working on deficiencies.

Mark asked for public comment. There was none.

Board Business: Todd presented the Grand County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Board. Every County in CO must submit one to the State and FEMA for approval. All County entities need to adopt the plan. Todd will provide a link to the plan as it was too large to copy and pass out to the Board. This is not a new thing for the county and is important for funding.

- ❖ Director Gath Hein moved to approve Resolution 2021-02-24-1; Approval of Grand County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The District is no longer exempt from FLSA exemptions and has made the appropriate changes to hour tracking and overtime policies to affected staff members. The District is still working on what Duty Officer position will look like. There was a short discussion with how we will deal with time while off duty but on call. Todd is working on the District's Annual Report for 2020.

- ❖ Director Mark Pappas moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Garth Hein seconded. The meeting was closed at 19:33 p.m.

Mark S. Pappas

Garth Hein

Steve Loo

Richard Kramer

Donald Maurais