

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
August 25th, 2021**

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

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

Director Mark Pappas opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:04 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present. There was no public present. Mark added discussion of a District "Thank You" letter to the folks behind the production of Wildfire.

The Board reviewed the July 28th, 2021, minutes.

- ❖ Director Steve Loo moved to approve the July 28th, 2021, minutes as written. Director Richard Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: Kristen explained that she reviewed and revised the monthly 2021 Cash Flow sheets upon finding a few errors in the Impact Fee tracking, investment interest amounts, and grammar. She handed out replacement copies to the Board. Taxes are almost all in. We are still waiting for reimbursement monies for the underwater ROV.

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

Chief's Report: Companies are moving into town to do three different gas line projects, the main one being a 6" line coming down from Rendezvous into Roam. They are also working on a few relocates that will not improve current service per say but will act as a hook-in for the 6" pipe which will be helpful overall. The District is working through the logistics of roadway disruptions with the senior engineer on the project (who just happens to also be a firefighter!). Mark asked for a timeline. Todd said the relocates should take approximately 3 weeks and the rest of the project is slated to be finished before permanent snow is in place. The project includes a mile of bored pipeline. Boring saves them from having to refill and revegetate. The County will be going to Stage One Fire Restrictions tomorrow – Thursday the 26th. Discussion ensued over what that entails and what exactly "an approved" fire ring is. It is noted that the rules can be ambiguous and there is no possible way to inspect everyone's fire rings, but if a real effort is made to ensure the safety and permanency of the ring (i.e., solid metal ring on concrete or surrounded by rocks / pavers -not just a rock-ringed hole in the ground), Todd thinks it will be OK if it happens to be called in by an angry neighbor for inspection. Garth feels that this is an opportunity to educate the public on what a proper fire ring is. Infographics regarding this are currently being pushed out by multiple entities on Social Media. The preliminary Certification of Valuations are in. Todd created a chart to compare assessed values (increases or decreases) and construction values between Grand County's Fire Districts, Towns, School Districts, the County and No-Man's Land. Todd explained that the rules of our Gallagher question will kick in for the revenue calculation for the 2022 budget. In short, we will be able to recoup the same revenues as we did in 2021 in addition to capturing local growth and inflation. We anticipate a small increase in revenues but a drop in our mill levy. We had a 23% increase in assessed valuation, but we will not be able to capture that with the new rules for revenue calculation. This is not ideal, but with the current system in place we have at least protected ourselves from large financial losses in the future. This is impossible to calculate but history has showed us the revenues losses for Special Districts are happening and trends in legislation show that this is not going to stop. We feel that we have made the right decision to protect what we have at the expense of increases in assessed valuations. We also have a better opportunity to ask voters for an increase in our mill levy in the future as our current levy will drop by default. County COVID cases and hospitalizations are rising. There is no public information on whether effected folks are vaccinated or not. Todd noted that we are still having issues with roadways being torn up, mainly at Kings Crossing and Ski Idlewild. Everyone has taken the Sexual Harassment training and the training room will be finished soon.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report: Development Reviews have slowed a bit as did Plan Reviews. There was discussion over what the Jane Creek Development is. Dennis and Ryan had a great meeting with the Executive Board of the Arlberg Club. They have agreed to sprinkler the clubhouse, thin trees, and widen the drive entrance with an added turn-around. Make asked how Wildfire Hazard Reviews are going. We are still busy with them. There was discussion regarding the District's membership with the Grand County Builders Association and how that has helped with Fire Code adoptions in the past. Dennis can get on the agenda annually to explain why the Towns and County are making the right decision with current code adoptions.

Training Coordinator Report: Jed gave the report as Steve is out recovering after back surgery. Steve is working from home on various projects such as the Lexipol policies, Knox Box coding, and the extension of the VFA Grant while the radios it will cover are on back order. Training this month included draft hydrants, preplanning Cooper Creek with the Officers, ropes, knots, and repelling as well as a very successful high angle rescue. Jed explained how proud he was of the crew who were able to perform this rescue in under 37 minutes! The accident was staged at the bottom of Turnpike at the Resort. The crew parked at the top, repelled down, extricated the victim, stabilized them, and had them back up to safety in 37 minutes and many of the crew had little to no experience doing this. There will be no County wide training on the 5th Tuesday of this month, but members must use this day to finish their Sexual Harassment training (if they have not already) or face losing their incentive checks. There are currently 2 residents at HQ and two at Tabernash. All new recruits are clear to drive the utilities. Jed is working on figuring out the most economical way to purchase our next generation of SCBAs while working through supply and demand obstacles and expiration timelines of the current equipment. Jed explained that he had been invited to teach Forcible Entry at Fire on the Plains in Sterling. He would like to take Ryan with him. Jed is working on the completion of the training room with Linx. They would like to finish by this year, but it will depend on product availability. Mark asked how we were doing regarding the Truck Replacement schedule. The outfitting of 492 will be the project of 2022. With the current health of our fleet and the South Station starting to come to fruition, we are currently holding back a bit on a major vehicle purchase.

There was no public comment.

Board Business: The Site Access Agreement has been reviewed by Linda and the Town, and their legal counsel. It is deemed proper and ready. Todd will sign it when the times comes. This agreement will give us access to dig holes and conduct soil studies. The next step in this process will be to execute an IGA between us and the Town that will create a structure and timeline for use of the land. It had been mentioned that they were going to put a time limit of 2024 to complete construction. That will be almost impossible in our current landscape so this and other details are being worked through by our legal counsels. There was no further business.

- \
- ❖ Director Garth Hein moved to close the meeting. Director Steve Loo seconded. The Board meeting was adjourned at 19:07 p.m.

Mark S. Pappas

Garth Hein

Steve Loo

Rick Kramer

Donald Maurais