

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
October 27th, 2021**

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

Staff Present: Chief Todd Holzwarth, Training Coordinator Steve Waldorf, Assistant Fire Marshal Ryan Mowrey, Captain Jed Henry, Office Manager Kristen Rybij.

Legal Counsel Present: Linda Glesne (remotely). Public Present: Alexis Kimbrough.

Director Mark Pappas opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:04 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present. Mark added a presentation from Alexis Kimbrough to the agenda intended to take place during the public comments.

Public Comments: Alexis (Owner of Spaces, Inc.) presented her case regarding a dispute the District has with the final billing for a technology upgrade we hired them to install in our training room.

- ❖ Director Steve Loo moved to approve the September 22nd, 2021 minutes as written. Director Donald Maurais seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: Kristen gave the financial report. We have received most of our revenues for 2021 from the Treasurer's Dept. Kristen noted that there was a higher than normal (negative) Delinquent Tax amount this year. Todd explained that this could be from a protest, error, or other reasons. Kristen explained that the "Payroll Benefits" line item is expected to come in within budgeting parameters, which differed from previous calculations.

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

Chief's Report: As of today, the new gas line should be flowing, and Todd noted the intricacies of its installation. They are done for the year but will be back next year to relocate the regulator station and it will be much more elaborate. The Gas Moratorium is officially over and there will be no tankers or compressors to concern ourselves with as previously thought, although there may still be some in Tabernash for other reasons / services. We assisted Summit Fire with crews and an engine for 3 days at the Ptarmigan Fire. Todd is working with Core Engineering with the goal of completing the soils testing for the South Station before winter so that we can figure out the foundation plans before spring. Linda is currently reviewing the contract. Todd noted the larger-than-normal line item for Capital Expense on the 2022 budget and asked Jed to present the desired purchase of new air packs for the District. This is a half a million-dollar purchase and Jed has been tirelessly working over the last several months with multiple vendors to do what he can to obtain the absolute best price for us. Jed did a cost analysis of ordering them early vs. waiting until they are closer to expiration and found that ordering them this year will save us from an 8% increase taking place in November. On top of dodging the increase, Jed was also able to save ~ \$200K on the purchase which comes in at not much more (16%) than our neighboring Districts paid for theirs in 2017. They will be the MSA G1 model, which is considered to be the "Cadillac" of air packs and is so technologically solid, that the company does not have any current plans to explore any new designs anytime soon. The District believes the time, product, and cost is right and the Board agreed. This will be included in the 2022 budget. There is no down payment required for 2021, just an agreement. Mark asked what we will do with the old air packs. It was suggested by Jed that we donate them to other Districts in the State that are struggling. Jed saw first-hand while teaching in Sterling that there were Districts that were sharing just a handful of old air packs between them all. This will be helpful to others and will save us money on disposal in the future. Todd moved on with the rest of his report. He noted that the asphalt at the Tabernash Station is done and the sign was refreshed and relocated to the building. Lighting is in the works. The County is still working on STR regulations and Todd explained that the crew responded to a call at a STR where they subsequently found a turkey fryer ready to go sitting in the yard on the dry grass....they were told to put it away. Todd and Jed both helped the DFPC last week by teaching, Todd instructed a water tender class in Ignacio and Jed a forcible entry class in Sterling at Fire on the Plains. Todd informed the Board that the Rainbow gathering was slated to come to Grand County this summer for their 50th anniversary. The USFS, County, and multiple agencies are trying to pre-plan for this event. Todd, Ryan, and Dennis attended the CO State Fire Chief / Leadership Conference last week.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report: Ryan gave the report in Dennis's absence. Construction is increasing. Ryan has taken over a few inspections while Dennis is away. Ryan noted his gratitude for the scholarship he received for registration and boarding for the Fire Marshal

Symposium at the Leadership Conference. He also noted the recent Community Mitigation Assistance Team Meeting (CMAT). They are an incident management team, but for wildfire mitigation. They did a SWOT analysis of our County. The Commissioners are on board with hiring a full-time Executive Director for the Grand County Wildfire Council, which will be a tremendous asset to our County.

Training Coordinator Report: There will be flu shots next week. Everyone is welcome, bring insurance cards if you have them.

There was no public comment.

Board Business: The Board reviewed the 2022 Preliminary Budget. Mark asked to get the big picture of what may have changed since the draft was sent to the Board on October 15th. Kristen noted that the only change was an increase in “Salaries,” “Payroll Taxes,” and “Payroll Benefits,” to accommodate two new Duty Officer positions for next year. It was noted that “Capital Equipment” will be decreased to accommodate the savings on the SCBAs, and that “Capital Truck” includes the rehab for 492 and the possible replacement of a new tender, although this is not likely. 463 and 465 are on the schedule for 2022, but with the current vehicle purchase landscape, the South Station, and the great operational condition they are in, it is not a District priority. The Board set the November Meeting and Budget Hearing for November 15th and the December Meeting and Budget Adoption for December 8th. Kristen will publish this change notice.

- ❖ Director Mark Pappas moved to recess the meeting and go into Executive Session for “Advice of Legal Counsel pertaining to a potential claim or claims and related to a contract issue under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f).” Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was recessed at 19:41 p.m.

Executive Session was opened at 19:43 p.m.

Executive Session was adjourned at 21:39 p.m.

- ❖ Director Richard Kramer moved to close the regular meeting. Director Steve Loo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 21:41 p.m.

Mark S. Pappas

Garth Hein

Steve Loo

Rick Kramer

Donald Maurais