

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
March 22nd, 2023**

Board Directors Present: President Mark Pappas, Vice President Garth Hein, Treasurer Rachel Hoyhtya, Secretary Richard Kramer, Pension Chairman Brian Dolan, Newly Elected Pension Trustee Blaine Faulkner.

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

Director Garth Hein opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:02 p.m. There was a quorum of Directors present. There was no public. Todd added a brief visit with Scott Munn to the agenda.

The Board reviewed the February 22nd, 2023 minutes.

- ❖ Director Richard Kramer moved to approve the February 22nd, 2023 minutes as written. Director Rachel Hoyhtya seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Financials: Interest rates have plateaued. Impact Fees are starting to increase in alignment with the summer building season. Payments to South Station contractors have been steady.

- ❖ Director Richard Kramer moved to pay the bills. Director Rachel Hoyhtya seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Director Rachel Hoyhtya moved to recess the Board of Director's meeting at 18:07 p.m. Director Mark Pappas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Director's meeting was re-opened at 18:17 p.m.

Chief's Report: The CO Legislative Session is underway with a focus on the possibility of a 20-30% increase in property taxes due to large assessments. Different remedies for this are being examined such as changing the reassessment period to every four years and reevaluating the way properties are assessed under current guidelines. Due to our revenue stabilization measure, this will not be a concern to our taxpayers as we are only allowed to account for current growth and construction when calculating the annual Mill Levy. Todd then assured the Board that our monies tied up in COLOTrust will be unaffected by the recent bank failures including Silicon Valley Bank. We have selected Big Valley to build the South Station after three qualifying bids were received. The other bids submitted were from PG Arnold and Golden Construction. The price range was from just under seven million to just over ten million. Todd has met with the TOWP to complete their application process and is currently researching Lease Purchase options. Garth asked what the price per square foot was. This calculates to approximately \$548 sq. ft. under the current bid. The official ground-breaking is slated roughly for some time at the end of May. Todd is working with the ski area to figure out parking and them listing us as "other insured" on their policy during this transition. Garth asked if there were ways we might lower the cost of the project, for example, by taking a look at the quality and necessity of the station's fixtures. Mark asked for the figure given to us by Big Valley. The bid is currently \$6,368,518. This does not include other costly items such as sewer and water, or the completion of electric utilities for example. In the end, Todd is shooting for a total project cost of around eight million and is anticipating a lease purchase of at least four million in order to save some of our reserve funds. He noted that all Impact Fees collected to date can be used for this project as this is exactly the sort of thing they are earmarked for. Mark asked if the contract would have an "overage limit" for Big Valley. Todd confirmed that we intend to have a "guaranteed maximum price contract" in place. This can only be revised with something like a change order. At the current lease purchase estimate amount, Todd calculates that our annual payment will be approximately \$300K. Mark asked what the trade-off would be between the interest we would have to pay on the borrowed money and the interest lost in depleted laddered investments. Todd noted that we do not have enough money in our laddered investments for the project making a lease purchase necessary. We are 25 calls ahead of this time last year. Todd has scheduled a time to present the 2022 Annual Report with the BOCC and the TOWP. He is still trying to get on the TOF's calendar.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report: Dennis has been very busy with sprinkler inspections and some very large plan reviews for the school system. He has been working on the Lion's Rock Condos development review. Discussion ensued over the planned teardown and rebuild of the old Timberhouse Lodge. It is currently not habitable. It is our hope that it is a fresh rebuild and that all current safety hazards are addressed including egress and the surrounding roads. Our input is limited to access, water supply, and exterior construction materials. Dennis noted that since it will be new construction it will be required to be sprinklered and that an Engineer's involvement

is required regarding roads and water for new development. Dennis attended the WP Community Development and Building Department meeting where the WUIC was discussed. He noted that he received positive feedback although no regulations are currently being enforced. The plan was to give the building departments a year or so of education before they move forward with enforcement. It is the hopes that all government entities are on board by then.

Training Coordinator Report: Jed gave the report in Steve's absence. Recent District trainings focused on protecting your back while performing certain rescues, winter driving for Engineers, and tubing hill extrication. All families were invited to tubing afterwards. We have four volunteers attending this year's FDIC. Jed will also be taking some folks to Fire on the Plains. Station doors are still in the process of getting fixed. Garth asked if we will be re-addressing the security / functionality of the doors in the Residence quarters. Todd noted that he will arrange that. Garth requested that we complete a recorded walkthrough so that our records show the residence doors as operating properly. Garth noted that there had been a lot of MVAs this past month and asked if any of them stood out. Todd noted the gentleman who launched 150 feet over the side of Berthoud Pass as a "stand out." There was lengthy discussion over how we deal with staging areas for scenes with complicated geography and an abundance of agencies in attendance. Discussions have been opened between East Grand, GCSO, and SAR to address these issues.

Garth asked for public comment. There was no public as Scott Munn was not able to attend the meeting.

Board Business: Todd presented the 2022 Annual Report and noted the new information. There was discussion over the deficiencies in how NFIRS labels and organizes incidents. The new Resident guidelines were presented. Rachel noted that there was nothing in them regarding how to deal with a resident coming home intoxicated. This scenario is covered under our Conduct Policy. Garth requested that the Board and Staff look over the new Resident Policy and bring any input to the April meeting. Kristen gave an update on the May 2nd Board Election. She noted that the election is in full swing, and she is working through the responsibilities as dictated by the Election Code. She also has advertising lined out. Kristen noted that Sky Hi News will be conducting another Candidate Q&A and will be running the article the first or second week of April. Questions were emailed to Candidates earlier this afternoon.

- ❖ Director Richard Kramer moved to close the meeting. Director Rachel Hoyhtya seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ The regular meeting was adjourned at 19:09 p.m.

Mark S. Pappas

Garth Hein

Rachel Hoyhtya

Rick Kramer

Donald Maurais