

The Rye Fire Protection District

**MINUTES OF THE RYE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING
Regular Meeting April 21, 2014**

Present: Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger, Mr. Jim Elliott, Mr. Mike Davis, Mr. Steve McDowell

Absent Directors – Mr. Wade Wills

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach, Firefighter Mike Christian

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. John Schaiberger.

Mr. Schaiberger introduced the present board members.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda for April 21, 2014 Regular Meeting.

Motion: Mr. Davis
Second: Mr. McDowell

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Davis, Mr. McDowell
Nay: None

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Receive or Act on Board Correspondence

None.

Minutes of March 17, 2014 Regular Meeting

The following changes were noted.

The Rye Fire Protection District

- Page 1. Mr. Schaiberger asked that the statement “Mr. Schaiberger introduced the present board members and noted that Mr. Steve McDowell was still absent” should be deleted.
- Page 4. Change the statement “Continue to asset the State....” To read “Continue to assist the state....”

Motion to have approve the Minutes of the March 17, 2014 with the above changes.

Motion: Mr. Davis
Second: Mr. McDowell

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Davis, Mr. McDowell
Nay: None

Treasurer's Report

Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable discussion. It was noted that there was additional pending income from Property Taxes that is not reflected in the board packet.

Mr. Schaiberger noted that Pinnacle Insurance did not accept a settlement proposal for \$11,000 to settle an invoice and instead an amount of \$12,000 was accepted.

Motion to pay Pinnacle Insurance a total of \$12,000 to settle the insurance invoice.

Motion: Mr. McDowell
Second: Mr. Elliott

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Davis, Mr. McDowell
Nay: None

Account 7315 was added to track Hatchet Ranch expenses. It was noted that the Interagency Items in the budget were pulled out and now in a separate budget package labeled “Interagency Firefighting.” Mr. Schaiberger questioned the Unemployment Tax amount and asked Chief Bennett to review for accuracy.

Motion to accept the Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable pending verification of the Unemployment Taxes and noting the earlier approval to pay Pinnacle Insurance.

Motion: Mr. Davis
Second: Mr. Elliott

Further Discussion: None

The Rye Fire Protection District

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Davis, Mr. McDowell
Nay: None

Chief Bennett noted that a draft of the 2013 Audit will be available in the next couple days. Once received, it will be E-Mailed to all members for review. Plan is to finalize and submit the audit to the State of Colorado next month.

Chief Bennett review the final 2013 Budget which had the Interagency Items and previous years items removed. The last column should read “% of Budget”. It was noted that there was an Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures. A footnote will be added that those funds were used to pay expenses from 2011 and 2012.

EMA Report was reviewed which shows revenues ahead of budget. The report was modified to combine two previously submitted reports into one.

Fire Chief Report

Statistics. In the month March 2014, Rye Fire responded to 46 calls for service of which 33 were EMS related and 13 were fire related. In comparison with previous year this is a decrease of 6% from 2013 and a 13% decrease from the 5 year average of 53.

Administration/Operations. Auditor has completed field work. A copy of the audit work is expected for May and is anticipated that the audit will be submitted to the State in June.

New grant request for Bunker gear was submitted to FEMA.

Grant request was submitted to Custer County for wildland PPE. Custer County Commissioners rather than provide funds for gear will be constructing a cache building in San Isabel Work Center to store additional equipment for the area.

Continue to assist the State with inspections regarding the construction projects with the local schools.

Prevention. Provided tours for the public at both fire stations throughout the month.

Assisted schools with their fire drills and evacuations.

Attended Dare graduations at the Elementary School in conjunction with the Sheriff Department.

We continue to provide Mitigation assessments for various homeowners throughout the District.

Training. Training has been ongoing throughout the month. Fire training low angle rope rescue, command system, SCBA uses, pump training and hydrant training. EMS training is ongoing with a new topic every 6 days concerning procedure changes, protocol changes and continuing education.

The Task List was reviewed. Board asked that Les Coy go ahead with the work on the furnace to adjust the over firing and install new thermostat. Will monitor the furnace so see how it responds. It

The Rye Fire Protection District

is estimated that the furnace is around 30 years old and there maybe an asbestos issue.

Old Business

Election Updates

It was noted that the mail-in ballots have been sent out to electors. It was noted that the Colorado City Metro District will have a box to collect ballots starting May 2nd. Hand-carried ballots are being accepted in Pueblo starting today. It was noted that if any candidates receive or spend any funds, including their own, for the election, the candidate must submit an itemized listing of expenses.

Hatchet Ranch Updates

Mr. Elliott noted that about 50% of the tar has been installed. Captain Beach has prepared initial plans for the installations and will finalize them this month, which will allow installations to occur. Mr. Schaiberger noted that he has not received any updates for the installation of the 30,000 gallon tank.

Drafts of Personnel Policies

Various drafts of policies were received and some modifications discussed. Final drafts will be reviewed at next month's meeting. Those documents will be sent to MSEC for their review.

New Business

Health Insurance

Chief Bennett presented information from our current insurance provider that part-time employees who work at least 22 hours per pay period are eligible to purchase medical insurance. Employees would pay 100% of the premium. Chief noted that several employees have approached him regarding this and interested in participating. Further information will be obtained for the next board meeting by Chief Bennett. It was noted that this could be beneficial for employees.

Slash/Branches Drop Off/Mitigation

Chief Bennett noted that several individuals have approached the Fire Department to restart the slash operation. Previous operations were sponsored by a group of individuals and Rye Fire was involved to provide security at the gravel pit during collection times and burning the piles. Chief Bennett is awaiting word from the Metro District whether they will allow this operation to start up again in the gravel pit.

Firefighter Mike Christian presented information to the Board regarding the Mitigation Service that LaVeta Fire is running. A copy of the overview of the program will be sent out to Board Members

The Rye Fire Protection District

and Mr. Paul Branson will present further information to the Board at the next board meeting. This mitigation service is run by the Fire Department and staffed by firemen. It appears that this could be a positive addition to the Department.

Valley Fitness

Mr. Schaiberger was approached by Valley Fitness to inquire if Rye Fire was interested in paying for firefighters to use the facility. Further information will be provided for Board review.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:48 P.M.

Motion: Mr. McDowell
Second: Mr. Elliott

Further Discussion: None

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Davis, Mr. McDowell
Nay: None

Dated this 21st day of April 2014.



Submitted by Jim Beach, Captain