

The Rye Fire Protection District

**MINUTES OF THE RYE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Regular Meeting December 21, 2020**

Present Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger, Mr. Rich Simpson, Mr. George McGoff, Mr. Wally Rice, Mr. Graber

Absent Directors – None

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Mr. John Schaiberger, who chaired the meeting. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, meeting was held via Zoom.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and present members were introduced.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schaiberger for any additions or changes to the meeting agenda. None noted.

Aye:	Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Abstain:	None
Nay:	None

Receive of Act on Board Correspondence

None.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Approval of Minutes

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Mr. Schaiberger asked for approval of minutes for the Regular Meeting for November 2020.

Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 2020 as presented.

Motion: Mr. McGoff
Second: Mr. Simpson

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Abstain: None
Nay: None

Treasurer's Report

Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable November 2020. The expense in the Operations-Fleet is the payoff of Engine 23. The Interest and Other category on the pie-chart are reversed. Under the Cash Accounts Summary, the CNB Interagency will see more activity this month due to billings and revenues being generated. The budget is now at 92% complete for the year. The SUTA was inquired about due to the low expense. Chief Bennett noted it is accurate. The Admin Expense Other was also asked and Chief Bennett noted that the overage is due to employee Christmas bonuses. The Treasurer's Fee is over budget, but is a direct reflection of Property Tax revenue being over budget. In the Journals by Reference, the City of Pueblo Fleet R&M amount for \$1,903.83 is due to 283's accident with a deer and we will be receiving an insurance check for reimbursement. The Public Sector Health Care Group checks are for full-time benefits. On page 8 of the Journals by Reference, the cash receipts for interagency fire fighting deposit does not match the cash accounts summary deposit. Chief Bennett will verify. Chief Bennett was asked if the move of the gym to Rye will impact staff utilizing the facility. He replied negative.

Motion to approve Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable for November 2020.

Motion: Mr. Graber
Second: Mr. Simpson

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Abstain: None
Nay: None

For the EMS Billings, Captain Beach noted that the charges are about 4% under budget. Call volumes are up, but transports are down. Revenue is only generated when a patient is transported. Due to the pandemic, area hospitals are encouraging people to stay home if their symptoms are not severe due to the risk of contracting the virus. Transports are being done when the patient's condition warrants medical attention.

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Capital Projects. Exhaust System. The fans are fully operational at Station #2 and appear to be working effectively. The fans at Station #1 are installed and running when the breaker is activated. The electronics wiring will be completed this week. This will complete this project.

Fire Chief Report

November 2020

Statistics. In the Month of November 2020, Rye Fire responded to 74 calls for service of which 66 were EMS related and 12 were fire related. In comparison with the previous year this is a 33% decrease from 2019 and a decrease of 13% from the 5-year average.

Administration/ Operations. New truck and chassis was ordered in April, the truck was delivered to City of Pueblo Fleet Maintenance to have the retrofitting of pump and tank along with emergency lighting. I do not have a timeline of the completion of that yet.

COVID-19 is beginning to spread and cause issues. No outside visitors are allowed in fire stations at this time. Policy and procedures have been updated in regards to mask wearing, clothing, cleaning and sanitizing. Temp's are constantly monitored with personnel.

Prevention. Property mitigation flyers have been passed out to residents in Colorado City and Rye, these were left in newspaper boxes for the resident. Flyers were also placed at Load n Jug and will be ongoing.

Fire prevention activities book for the pre-k and kindergarten students was completed. The program will continue when the students are back in school. We will be doing a reading program with the kids. Rye Firefighters will be reading to the kids every Tuesday with activities to follow.

Completed a home safety program for the community. A copy is available to anyone that would like to look at it.

Continuing facebook monthly safety tips.

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

We continue to be a hosting site for Bountiful Baskets when they have deliveries.

We provided medical standby for the high school home games that were played.

Training. Training has been ongoing with misc fire training, pump operations, extrication techniques. EMS training to maintain continuing education requirements.

Task List.

- Exhaust System. Discussed earlier.

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- Colorado City Hydrants. Have not done any additional testing due to the current drought issues with water restrictions in place. It is not anticipated that anymore work will be completed this year.
- Town of Rye Hydrants. Completed.
- List of water storage throughout district. Chief Bennett noted that the 33,000 gallon tank is full. All others are full and regularly checked.

Sick time leave for part-time personnel. At last months meeting, this was discussed. This months meeting discussed the need and prefer that this is used only as needed to limit abuse. Other departments will be research. Mr. Schaiberger asked the board to consider other options.

Old Business

Upcoming Year Projects

- Fires in Region. Chief Bennett noted no fires in the region.
- Staff Updates. Chief Bennett noted no new updates.

Truck Purchase (Cab/Chassis) Status

- Discussed earlier.

2021 Budget – Proposed Budget

The proposed 2021 Budget was reviewed. Chief Bennett noted that the projected property tax revenue came directly from the various counties accessors and this amount cannot be adjusted. DOLA verifies these dollar amounts. The increase in Interagency Fire Fighting was done in anticipation to area drought conditions. The increase in EMS Billing Fee is a direct correlation to the percentage of EMS billings. The salaries budgets reflect a 6% wage increase across the board. A substantial decrease in Worker’s Compensation is due to a drop in the experience factor to where it should normally be. The drop-in phone service is due to removing the cell phone expense. Chief Bennett noted that he has been using is personal cell for Department business. Previous years it was in the budget but not utilized.

Motion to pay for Chief Bennett’s personal cell phone monthly charge.

Motion: Mr. Graber
Second: Mr. Rice

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Abstain: None
Nay: None

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Motion to approve the 2021 Budget as presented.

Motion: Mr. Simpson
Second: Mr. Graber

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Abstain: None
Nay: None

New Business

Resolution 21-001 – Designated Posting Places

This resolution is to designate Board meeting notice posting places for the year 2021 within the District and Pueblo County.

Resolution 21-002 – Resolution Adopting Regular Meeting Dates for 2021

This resolution is to designate meeting dates, times and locations for the year 2021 for the Board of Directors. Meetings will be held the third Monday of each month at 5:00 pm.

Resolution 21-003 – Resolution to Set Mill Levies.

This resolution is to set mill levies per the 2021 Budget. Mill Levy will be 15.536 mills upon each dollar of total valuation. The total 2020 valuation for the Rye Fire Protection District of \$51,940,537 and to balance the budget for general operating purposes from property tax revenue of \$811,078.

Resolution 21-004 – Resolution to Adopt 2020 Budget

This resolution is to adopt the 2021 Budget which was approved on December 21, 2020.

Resolution 21-005 – Resolution to Appropriate Sums of Money

This resolution is to appropriate \$1,666,978 for the General Fund to establish a limitation on expenditures for operations.

Motion to adopt Resolutions 21-001, 21-002, 21-003, 21-004, 20-005.

Motion: Mr. McGoff
Second: Mr. Schaiberger

Further Discussion: Resolution 21-002, the August 17, 2021 date should be August 16, 2021.

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Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Nay: None

Greenhorn Valley News Advertising

Chief Bennett noted that he was approached by the editor to inquire if Rye Fire was interested in changing our small add to a larger add for the sports calendars. Recently the business which was using the larger space went out of business. The add was discussed by all members. No vote was taken as this is allowed under Chief Bennett's expense authority.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 P.M.

Dated this 21st day of December 2020.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beach".

Submitted by Jim Beach, Captain