

The Rye Fire Protection District

MINUTES OF THE RYE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Regular Meeting October 19, 2020

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

Absent Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Mr. Rich Simpson, 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. Simpson asked for any additions or changes to the meeting agenda. None noted.

Motion to approve the agenda as posted.

Motion: Mr. Rice
Second: Mr. McGoff

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: 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

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None.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Simpson asked for approval of minutes for the Regular Meeting for August 2020. There was no September meeting due to lack of quorum.

Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting on August 2020 as presented.

Motion: Mr. McGoff
Second: Mr. Graber

Further Discussion: None.

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

Treasurer's Report

Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable August 2020 and September 2020. It was suggested to review the September 2020 report as it will be the most up-to-date information. Cash Accounts Summary shows a balance in the Interagency, which will be reduced to \$1.00 by the end of the month. The COLOTrust accounts now have the correct balances in the correct accounts. The budget is now at 75% complete for the year. Most accounts are within budget. It was noted that the capital lease payment for 272 shows that this item has been paid off. Another large expenditure was the two (2) new LifePack 15 Cardiac Monitors.

Motion to approve Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable for August 2020 and September 2020.

Motion: Mr. McGoff
Second: Mr. Graber

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: 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% over budget, which reflects the recent busy months. The payments are just about five (5) percent under budget, which may increase in the next couple of months due to past busy months. The collection rate is running at 25.46%.

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Capital Projects. Exhaust System. DS Masonry has completed all but one (1) opening. The last hole in Rye was postponed due to having to adjust the opening location and existing utilities that had to be moved. All other fans have been installed. The electrical is in design. An account with Blazer Electric has been established. It is anticipated that the fans will be completed by the end of the month.

It was noted that the Board exceeded the capital expense obligation this year. A list of expenditures was distributed with the meeting minutes. The Board is looking at options to disseminate the information to the Public as this obligation was a key point in the last bond election.

Fire Chief Report

August/September 2020

Statistics. In the Month of August 2020, Rye Fire responded to 104 calls for service of which 91 were EMS related and 13 were fire related (9 of the fires were wild land fires). In comparison with the previous year this is a 12% increase from 2019 and an increase of 10% from the 5-year average of 94.

In the Month of September 2020, Rye Fire responded to 79 calls for service of which 65 were EMS related and 14 were fire related (9 of the fires were wild land fires). In comparison with the previous year this is a 4% increase from 2019 and a decrease of 4% from the 5-year average of 82.

Administration/ Operations. New truck and chassis was ordered in April, I do not have a finished timeline for the truck yet. A request has been sent to National Auto Fleet group and they are checking with Ford Factory on the status of the production of the truck and to provide a completion and delivery date. Update: as of late Friday the truck should be at City Shops in 3-4 weeks.

E231 is now in service, this is the truck the City of Pueblo had donated to Rye. This is a 1992 Pierce Pumper, all ladders were included as they fit the hydraulic rack. Truck communication has been installed and new decals.

Both Tahoe's are in service that were purchased from Pueblo West Fire.

Cardiac Monitors were ordered, they should be here anytime. Update: Cardiac Monitors have been received and are in service.

Prevention. 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.

Training. Training has been ongoing with misc fire training, new fire engine orientation. EMS training to maintain continuing education requirements. Pueblo Rural Fire has completed construction of a burn building and this has been made available to us in certifications and training. Pueblo West Fire, City of Pueblo Fire and Rural fire will begin sharing training calendars so we can jointly participate with training when available.

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Task List.

- Exhaust System. Discussed earlier.
- 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.
- Old National Lease Balance. Obtained a payoff quote and check is in the group of checks to sign.
- Cardiac Monitors. Discussed earlier.
- Compile list of water storage throughout district. List of water sources included in packet.
- Pictures of Staff. Included in the packet is pictures for most staff as requested. The newer staff are awaiting their Id's and not included.

Old Business

Upcoming Year Projects

- Fires in Region. Chief Bennett discussed the quick actions of the Rye Fire Protection District and the Forest Service to quickly extinguish the Davenport Fire up near the San Isabel Boys Scout Ranch. Greenhorn Valley View to do an article on the fire.
- Staff Updates. Chief Bennett noted that he is hiring personnel as they come available. The goal is to have four (4) personnel plus command staff for coverage for each shift. Chief Bennett noted that he is looking for ALS personnel to assist in the roster. Currently staffing is at 15 personnel with an ideal count of 19/20.
- Truck Purchase (Cab/Chassis) Status. Discussed earlier.

New Business

Life Pack 15 (Cardiac Monitors) Annual Service Plan

Chief Bennett presented a proposal from Stryker Medical for annual service plan for the new Life Pack 15 monitors. The monitors come with a one (1) year warranty and this is for an additional four (4) years of service. The service includes annually calibrating the units on-site, replacement of any batteries, any on-site unexpected repairs and a 15% discount on all disposables/accessories. With the service plan, it ensures that there will be no out-of-pocket expenses for five (5) years other than the service plan. The old Life Pack 10's had a similar service plan, but due to age, parts were not available any longer. The last service plan was considerably higher but was due to the age and serviceability of the older unit.

Motion to accept the \$12,240.00 service agreement for the Life Pack 15's, which will be paid yearly in four (4) installments of \$3,060 beginning roughly September 2021.

Motion: Mr. McGoff
Second: Mr. Graber

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Further Discussion: This will be billed on an annual basis, \$3,060.00 per year, with the first installment due in one (1) year after the warranty period expires.

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

Burnt Mill Road Ambulance Contract Services

Chief Bennett received several calls from residents along Burnt Mill Road who recently called 911 for EMS response and it took a long time to get EMS from Pueblo. This is the same area that recently wanted to be included in the District, but did not get enough signatures to put the issue on the ballot. The residents want to contract with Rye Fire Protection District on an individual basis for EMS Services. The Board discussed possible liability issues with random contracts with residents in the area. The Board will do further discussions, but the settlement was that the residents need to complete the annexation as previously planned.

2021 – Preliminary Budget Worksheet

Chief Bennett presented a first draft of the 2021 budget for review. By Statute, the first reading will be next month. Chief Bennett walked the Board through his worksheet. The Property Tax revenues are preliminary. Due to COVID-19, counties have until October 15 to release the final projections, which will be updated with next month's draft budget. Account 5200, Interest, was noted as a large increase from 2020 due to the money management with COLOTrust. Chief noted under staffing adding one (1) additional full-time person in 2021. The staff benefits (taxes and insurances) were adjusted to coincide with the payroll wages. Overall, the wages reflect a 4% increase next year. The Board asked Chief Bennett to look at how to increase wages more to help retain existing staff. The fleet R&M was reduced as Chief Bennett does not anticipate further major vehicle repairs. The Old National Lease payment for 272 was not included as it is paid off and the money reallocated to other line items. The Board will revisit the updated worksheet next month.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:02 P.M.

Motion: Mr. Rice

Dated this 19th day of October 2020.



Submitted by Jim Beach, Captain