

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF STRATMOOR HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors for the Stratmoor Hills Fire Protection District was held pursuant to notice at 4:07 p.m. on April 20, 2022

Board Members present: President Robert Colgrove, Vice-President James Pesicka, Secretary/Treasurer John Willcox, Director Dianne Cooper, and Director Joseph Novak. District Personnel present: Fire Chief Shawn Bittle and Administrative Chief Dottie Barrett. Audience members: Cindy Dent.

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the Board meeting minutes for March 16, 2022. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the agenda as published. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Public Comment

Unfinished Business

Fire Chief Report –

- March Calls per District – Chief reported the call volume continues to increase. The Fire District had three (3) fires in the month of April
 - The first fire was a deck fire at 4310 Loomis Ave D/E's Frazier and Medford, along with recruit Ruszecki were the first crew on-scene and they did a fantastic job knocking down the fire during the initial attack while looking for possible trapped people. D/E Frazier was able to get approximately fifteen (15) people out of the building.
 - The second fire was on Fort Carson at one of the training grounds – the crew on duty went out until the SOCO Wildland team organized and released the crews to come back to the station.
 - The third fire was in Fountain at I-25 mm 128 along the frontage road – a vehicle fire started a large grass fire.
- Status reports
 - Chiefs' notes –
 - Apparatus - (responsibility assigned to – D/E __)
 - Engine 410 is in the shop getting approximately \$9300.00 worth of repairs done. The Engine should be back in service by the end of this week.
 - Brush truck 441 – went to the fire at Fort Carson and blew a tire – it was replaced the next day.

- Engine 414 – blew a tire at some point on a call – the tire was replaced the next day as well.
- Training (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - May training will be dedicated to Driving and pumping – there is a new Driving platform that the District will be using Certified Emergency Vehicle Operator (CEVO) – the student will take a six (6) hour class, take a test and send it into CEVO in Parker Colorado. If the student passes, they will receive a certificate and be certified.
- Inspections (responsibility assigned to – Mark Stanwood)
- Recruiting (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - The Charlie M. Brown Memorial Fire Academy- Recruits are continuing to do a great job.
 - The recruits finished HazMat last Saturday, April 16, 2022. Their state Hazmat test is scheduled for Thursday, April 21st. Praying for a 100% pass rate.
 - The recruits started Wildland Firefighting training on Monday, April 18th.
 - Dates are being put together for the next testing process to bring on new volunteers.
- Gear (responsibility assigned to – D/E Frazier)
- EMS (responsibility assigned to D/E Bosch)
 - On May 3rd at 1:30 pm an 8-year-old girl will be recognized by E911 for her bravery after she called 9-1-1 twice on January 17, 2022, to report her mom was having a medical problem in two (2) separate events. D/E Mike Frazier, D/E Austin Tyler, along with volunteer Kyle Porto responded to both calls. Staff will try to attend the recognition ceremony.
- Wildland (responsibility assigned to D/E)

Administrative Chief Report – Informational Item (Barrett)

- Reminded the Board that the three (3) newly elected Board members (Pesicka, Dent and Dull) will be sworn in on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, (at various times) here at the Fire Station. Directors Cooper and Novak were requested to return their Board book at this meeting so Chief Barrett can ensure the books are ready for the new Board members.
- Informed the Board that due to a credit on the District's Workman's Compensation (WC) payroll from 2021 – the Fire District received a refund of \$3844.00 on (March 26, 2022; check 24893). A copy of the check was enclosed.
- Informed the Board that she applied for the yearly grant through the Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool. This year our Safety Grant Funds available were \$1,343.98 and staff requested the funds to help offset the new SCBA Air Packs that were purchased earlier in the year.

2022 Employee Health Plan Renewal

Chief Barrett informed the Board that the Employee Health Insurance is due for renewal on May 1, 2022. A spreadsheet with the cost for the Insurance policies that are offered to the paid staff was included for the Board's review. Chief Barrett explained that this year's budget increase of 10.0% was based off of the eight (8) full-time employees that were working in 2021 and the hope is to hire the eighth employee soon. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the District's Health Insurance Plan renewal effective May 1, 2022. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

VI. Financial Reports

The March check register report where the taxes, employee retirement and paycheck (Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)) payments are highlighted and was enclosed for the Directors' review. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the financial reports as presented for the District for the month of March 2022, subject to audit. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting. Copies of the financial reports are attached to these minutes and made a part hereof.

VII. Executive Session

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to enter into executive session at (4:32) to discuss personnel matters pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f)."

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to exit from executive session at (4:50) to discuss personnel matters pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f)."

VIII. Other Business

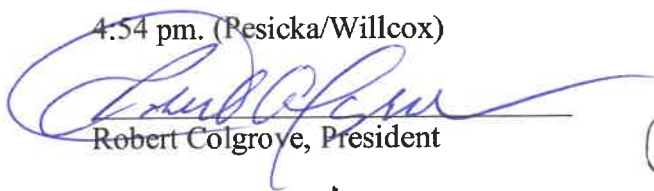
- President Colgrove presented Directors Joseph Novack and Dianne Cooper with recognition plaques for their time on the Board of Directors. Chief Bittle thanked them both for their time, commitment and help since he has become the Fire Chief.

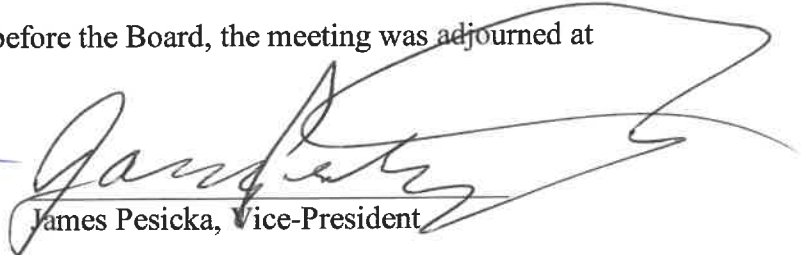
Adjournment

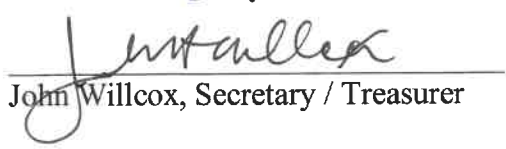
It was noted that the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting would be held at 3:00 p.m. on May 18, 2022, at 2160 B Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at

4:54 pm. (Pesicka/Willcox)


Robert Colgrove, President


James Pesicka, Vice-President


John Willcox, Secretary / Treasurer