

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 4:00 p.m. on September 18, 2024.

Board Members present: President Robert Colgrove, Vice-President James Pesicka, Director Cindy Dent and Director Richard Dull. Secretary/Treasurer John Willcox was excused from absence.

District Personnel present: Fire Chief Shawn Bittle and Administrative Chief Dottie Barrett.

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dent) to approve the Board meeting minutes for August 21, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dent) to approve the Special Board meeting minutes for September 4, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comment

Unfinished Business

New and Miscellaneous Business:

Fire Chief Report

- July Calls per District –
- Status reports
 - Chiefs' notes –
 - Chief informed the Board of the new Troubled Youth Outreach program he has started.
 - Apparatus - (responsibility assigned to – D/E Patalano)
 - Engine 418 is deployed to the Pearl Fire in Northern Colorado.
 - Engine 410 is in Teller County at the mechanics for an oil change.
 - Once Engine 410 returns – Engine 414 will go for an oil change and pump test.
 - Training (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)

- This week SOCO is holding a S212 Wildland Chainsaws class for the Recruit Academy.
- Inspections (responsibility assigned to – Mark Stanwood)
- Recruiting (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - Recruits are working on FFII Certification
 - Graduation is set for Saturday, October 19, 2024, at 3:00 pm at the Church for all Nations.
- Gear (responsibility assigned to – FF Jones)
- EMS (responsibility assigned to D/E Bosch)
- Wildland (responsibility assigned to D/E Ortiz)

Administrative Chief Report

- Chief Barrett informed the Board that staff is beginning to prepare the 2025 budget and State law requires staff to submit the proposed budget to the Board no later than October 15th, but it does not require that it be submitted at a meeting. Staff will deliver the proposed budget to each Board member by Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at the Budget Workshop.

Executive Session

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dull) to enter into executive session at (4:30 pm) to discuss personnel matters pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f), involving the performance evaluation of the Fire Chief. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Members of the public not participating in the executive session will leave the room.)

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dull) to exit from executive session at (4:48) to discuss personnel matters pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f), involving the performance evaluation of the Fire Chief. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Performance Evaluation of Chief Shawn Bittle

The Fire Chief's performance of his duties as District Fire Chief has been evaluated utilizing a form that is mutually approved by both parties. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dent) to approve the delivery of the Performance Evaluation to Fire Chief Shawn Bittle by Board President, Robert Colgrove. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

A motion was made and seconded (Pesicka/Dull) to give Fire Chief Bittle an eight (8%) raise for 2025, however, Chief Bittle has requested that money be added to the FDIC budget line for 2025. Fire Chief Bittle did state that if the Mill-Levy Increase initiative passes, he will take that raise. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Financial Reports

The August 2024 check register report where the taxes and employee retirement (Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)) payments are highlighted was enclosed for the Directors' review. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Dent) to approve the financial reports as presented for the District for the month of August 2024, 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

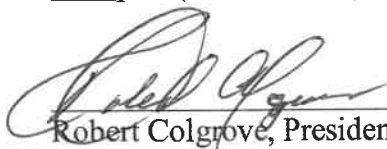
Other Business

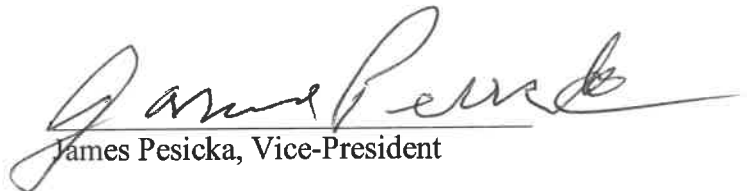
Director Dent inquired about the Agreement with John O'Donnell and Chief Bittle informed the Board that the Fire District Attorney is still reviewing the changes and will get it to him for approval.

Adjournment

It was noted that the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting would be held at 3:00 p.m. on October 16, 2024, at 2160 B Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm. (Pesicka/Dent)


Robert Colgrove, President


James Pesicka, Vice-President


Cindy Dent, Board Director

Richard Dull, Board Director