

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 3:53 p.m. on December 11, 2024.

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

District Personnel present: Fire Chief Shawn Bittle via telephone and Administrative Chief Dottie Barrett. Audience members: Steve Parker; Fire Corps. President.

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the Board meeting minutes for November 20, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Approval of Agenda

Chief Barrett informed the Board that staff needed to add F-4 – Purchase of Stair Mill for the department. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the amended agenda. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Public Comment

Unfinished Business

New and Miscellaneous Business:

Fire Chief Report

- Calls per District – October, November and December will be reported in January 2025.
- Status reports
 - Apparatus - (responsibility assigned to – D/E Patalano)
 - Engine 414 – is currently in the shop getting new rear brakes installed.
 - Training (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - Inspections (responsibility assigned to – Mark Stanwood)
 - Recruiting (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - Chief Barrett reported that last week twenty-two perspective recruits took the Volunteer written test, and all passed. They will be taking the Physical Agility Test on Saturday, December 14th at 09:00 hrs. Chief Bittle is only willing to take eighteen (18) students for the 2025 Fire Academy.
 - 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 the regular election of the eligible electors of the District will be held on **Tuesday, May 6, 2025**, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. in accordance with Uniform Election Code. At that time there will be two (2) Directors elected to serve a four-year (4) term. Vice-President James Pesicka is termed limited, and Director Cindy Dent can run again if she wishes.
- Chief Barrett informed the Board that the Final election results – 1514 for the Mill Levy Increase and 954 against the Mill Levy Increase.

2025 Budget

Chief Barrett informed the Board that a public notice has been posted and published stating that the 2025 budget has been submitted to the Board and is available for public inspection. This notice also provided notification that a public hearing to consider the budget will be held during this meeting. The enclosed budget has been updated with revenues and expenditures through 11-30-2024 and includes minor modifications to incorporate the updated numbers and the latest information. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the enclosed **RESOLUTION TO ADOPT BUDGET, SET MILL LEVY, AND APPROPRIATE SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE STRATMOOR HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025**. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Deputy Chief (DC) updated Job Description

Chief Bittle informed the Board at the November Board meeting that with the mill levy tax increase passing – one of the items on the Fire District's list was to hire a Deputy Chief. Chief Bittle has updated the Fire District's current DC job description, and several changes were made in November and now staff is requesting approval on the second and final reading. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the updated Deputy Chief Job Description on the second and final reading. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Class 4 Firefighter/EMT Job Description

Chief Bittle informed the Board at the November Board meeting that with the mill levy tax increase passing another item was to hire three (3) full-time FF/EMT employees. Chief Bittle has created the enclosed job description and is looking for approval on the second and final reading. It was moved and seconded by (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the Firefighter/EMT Job Description on the second and final reading. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Stair Climber purchase

Chief Bittle informed the Board that with the money left over from the Fire Academy he is requesting the purchase of a Stair Climber. He explained that currently, staff uses the stairs at the Phoenix Tower on S. Circle Dr. which is no longer in the Fire Districts boundaries and the last few times staff has gone over there to use the facility – the building has been locked up. To alleviate this problem, Chief Bittle is requesting to purchase the Stair Climber and then the whole Physical Agility test can be conducted at the Fire Station. A copy of the Stair Climber and associated information was passed to the Board for approval. It was moved and seconded by (Pesicka/Dull) too approve the purchase of a Stair Climber for the cost of \$5597.75. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Financial Reports

The November 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/Willcox) to approve the financial reports as presented for the District for the month of November 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

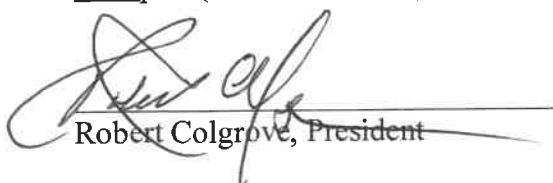
Other Business

Steve Parker, President of the Department Fire Corp. program presented a document to the Board regarding the purchase of new vehicles for the Fire District. The document details the passing of 6B Mill Levy increase, the purchase of the Tactical Tender and possible purchase of two (2) Command Vehicles. He explained that the storing of bunker gear, SCBA packs and other safety equipment in the back of the department's current SUV Command Vehicles is not safe for the gear and for the personnel driving the vehicle. Steve quoted several resources regarding this information, and he recommended that the District purchase two (2) new Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD Command Vehicles. Steve stated that new vehicle purchases verses used vehicle purchase would give the Fire District better maintenance cost as they would be under warranty. This is a informational item but will be explored at the January Board meeting.

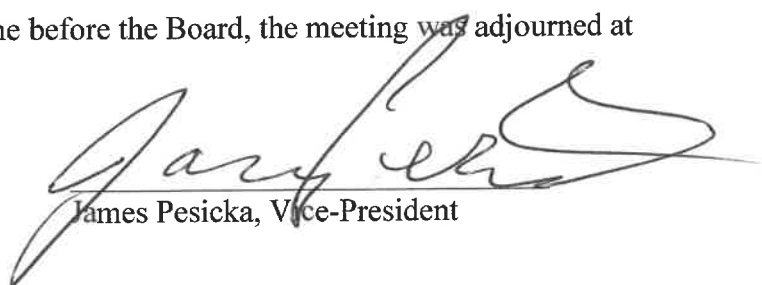
Adjournment

It was noted that the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting would be held at 3:00 p.m. on January 15, 2025, at 2160 B Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm. (Pesicka/Willcox)

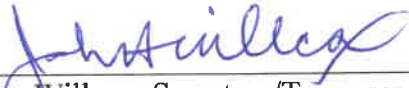


Robert Colgrove, President



James Pesicka, Vice-President

Cindy Dent, Board Director



John Willcox, Secretary/Treasurer



Richard Dull, Board Director