

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 3:00 p.m. on May 15, 2024.

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

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

Audience members: D/E Brad Aragon, Volunteer Steve Carter, Consultant Joe O'Donnell, Blue Ribbon Panel representatives Mastin Agee and Gloria Epps.

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the Board meeting minutes for April 17, 2024. 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

New and Miscellaneous Business:

Fire Chief Report –

- April Calls per District – due to several illnesses – this report will be late.
- Status reports
 - Chiefs' notes –
 - Chief provided plans of the station expansion to the Board of Directors for their viewing.
 - Apparatus - (responsibility assigned to – D/E Patalano)
 - Engine 414 is out of service due to repairs from the October 2023 accident and staff should have it back mid-week next week.
 - Brush Truck 441 – Tie rod ends, and steering box were replaced, along with a front alignment at the cost of \$3,011.15.
 - Chief's vehicle 452 – had to have a small radiator hose.
 - Training (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
 - Inspections (responsibility assigned to – Mark Stanwood)

- Recruiting (responsibility assigned to – Chief Bittle)
- Gear (responsibility assigned to – FF Jones)
- EMS (responsibility assigned to D/E Bosch)
 - B Shift (Ortiz/Rhodes) had a clinical save on a 34-year-old woman and staff is monitoring her recovery.
- Wildland (responsibility assigned to D/E Ortiz)

Administrative Chief Report

- Reminded the Board of Directors that the June meeting is a week earlier (Wednesday, June 12, 2024) due to the Juneteenth Holiday on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.
- Informed the Board that she has applied for the Safety and Loss Prevention Grant through Colorado Special District Association in the amount of \$1551.77 to help pay for the new APEX Radios purchased earlier this year.

Election of Board Officers

At this time, the Board needs to elect a President/Chairperson, Vice President/Chairperson, and Secretary / Treasurer of the Board of Directors. Vice President Pesicka made the motion to leave the Board Officers in their current positions as is; Robert Colgrove; President, James Pesicka; Vice-President and John Willcox; Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Director Dull and the motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Reserve Driver Job Description Update

Chief Bittle informed the Board that he has updated this Job Description and is requesting the update be approved on the first reading. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the Reserve Driver Job Description update on the first reading. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Rescind Resolution 2019-02 Jerame Bullard

Chief Bittle explained that in 2019 a Resolution was created to ban Jerame Bullard from being employed or volunteer with the Fire District. Chief Bittle stated he wants this Resolution rescinded due to Mr. Bullard's valuable experience and contributions to this department. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the rescinding of Resolution 2019-02 of Jerame Bullard.

Blue-Ribbon Panel Recommendation

Chief Bittle and the Blue-Ribbon Panel's representative (Mastin Agee and Gloria Epps) informed the Board of the Blue-Ribbon Panel's Recommendation regarding a Bond issue and/or Mill Levy increase. Mr. Agee explained that the Panel has agreed to having two (2) ballot issues on the November ballot, one (1) Bond issue and one (1) Mill Levy increase issue, however, the Panel has not come up with what amounts they want. There will be another meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, to discuss further and get some clarification on a few issues. The Panel will report back to the Board at the June Board meeting their final decision.

O'Donnell and O'Donnell LLP

Chief Bittle introduced John O'Donnell from O'Donnell and O'Donnell LLP to the Board of Directors and explained how his company can work with the District regarding the marketing and flyer distribution for the Mill Levy increase campaign. Mr. O'Donnell gave the Board a synopsis of his company and how he feels his company can help the District with the Bond and Mill Levy increase issue. The matter was tabled until the June meeting after the Blue-Ribbon Panel provides their final answer.

Resolution 2024-01 on Reducing Emissions on all District Vehicles

Chief Bittle explained to the Board that him, Steve Parker and Chief Barrett will be applying for a Grant through the State of Colorado for a Ford F-150 EV truck, and staff feels that having a resolution that shows the Board is willing to reduce the emissions for the district vehicles will help in the grant process. Director Willcox inquired about the charging station and Chief Bittle informed all that that is included in the grant. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve Resolution 2024-01 regarding the Fire District working to reduce Emissions on all District Vehicles. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

El Paso County Parks Agreement

Chief Bittle informed the Board that the El Paso County Parks Department is wanting to enter into an Adopt-A-Park/Trail program agreement with the Fire District for the Stratmoor Hills Park. This agreement came about due to August/September of 2023, Chief Bittle noticed that the playground and picnic tables were spray painted in graffiti with some content that was not appropriate for anyone to have to see. That morning and afternoon, Chief Bittle and crews on duty took the spray washer and cleaning equipment to both parks and cleaned off the graffiti. The agreement should be for Stratmoor Hills Park and Stratmoor Valley Park and all residents are invited to help with the cleaning and upkeep as well. It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the El Paso County Parks Agreement and have President Robert Colgrove sign. The motion passed unanimously with all Directors voting.

Financial Reports

The April 2024 check register report where the taxes and employee retirement (Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)) payments are highlighted was enclosed for the Directors' review. Chief Barrett informed the Board that El Paso County deposited the May tax check, however, due to a clerical error, the money was taken back, and their staff is working to fix the problem. ** The tax check was deposited on Thursday, May 16, 2024*** It was moved and seconded (Pesicka/Willcox) to approve the financial reports as presented for the District for the month of April 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

Adjournment

It was noted that the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting would be held at 3:00 p.m. on June 12, 2024, at 2160 B Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

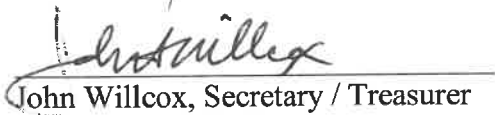
As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm. (Pesicka/Willcox)



Robert Colgrove, President



James Pesicka, Vice-President



John Willcox, Secretary / Treasurer



Cindy Dent, Board Director



Richard Dull, Board Director