

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OCTOBER 10, 2023  
STATION 64, 775 CASTLE VALLEY BLVD., NEW CASTLE, CO 81647**

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lambert at 6:33 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Board Members Present:**

Alan Lambert, President  
Addy Marantino, Vice President (Via Conference Call)  
Dick Miller, Secretary  
Adria Milton-Baker, Treasurer  
Paige Haderlie, Director (Via Conference Call)

**Others Present:**

Leif Sackett, Fire Chief  
Scott Van Slyke, EMS/Training Division Chief  
Orrin Moon, Prevention Division Chief  
John Gredig, IT Director  
PJ Tillman, Administrative Director  
Dino Ross, Legal Counsel for the District (Via Conference Call)  
Bill Smith, Lieutenant (Via Conference Call)  
Eric Davis (Via Conference Call)

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Motion:** Secretary Miller made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vice President Marantino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE:**

Attorney Ross stated it was a quiet month for legal matters. He reviewed the proposed Resolution opposing Proposition HH.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:**

- Discussed new and old business items on the agenda.
- Gave a brief about attending the annual SDA conference.
- Mentioned the impact of Artificial Intelligence.
- Discussed ongoing fire dangers and recent fire incidents.
- Briefed the Board on the annual budgeting process.
- Congratulated Emily Bosman, Chelsea Johnson, and Chris McGregor on their certifications.

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider Resolution in Opposition to the Statewide Referred Measure, Proposition HH (Resolution No. CRFPD-2023-10-01)**

- Fire Chief Sackett reviewed the Resolution opposing Proposition HH.
- Vice President Marantino expressed concern about the effectiveness of the resolution. -- so much work for very little impact.
- Discussion regarding education to the general public that will result from the broadcast of this meeting.

**Motion:** Director Haderlie made a motion to approve Resolution No. CRFPD-2023-10-01. Seconded by Secretary Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

**b. Fire Chief/Administration/Training: Review and Consider the Job Description for the new Training Captain Position**

- EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke Presented the background of merging the EMS and Training Divisions and the need for a more robust Training Division.
- Emphasized the Training Captain's responsibility for daily and monthly training activities, including the 12-week academy which is an important part of the job.
- Requested Board approval for the job description and discussed salary.
- Director Haderlie asked for clarification on the salary, and EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke confirmed it would be around \$116,000 annually including benefits.
- Vice President Marantino inquired about the Training Captain's availability for callbacks and other roles. She suggested more clarity in the expectation for the role, especially concerning practical experience.
- Director Haderlie asked about the timeline for hiring and whether the funds will be allocated in the 2024 budget.
- Vice President Marantino proposed to delay the approval of the job description to consider revisions and additional input.
- EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke suggested contacting him or Chief Sackett for specific changes that are recommended to the job description.
- Vice President Marantino committed to offering further input based on consultation with a colleague who has a similar position.

The consensus of the Board was to have further consideration of the Job Description for Training Captain at the November 14, 2023, Board meeting.

**c. Fire Chief/Operations/Facilities & Fleet: Review and Consider the Purchases of Two (2) Replacement Utility Vehicles**

- Fire Chief Sackett explained how the 2023 budgeted ambulance replacements have been delayed, despite grants in 2022 and 2023. The United Auto Workers (UAW) strike is delaying the construction of the ambulances.
- Two new chassis will be received in 2024 for both ambulances.
- Prevention Division Chief Moon discussed the proposal to purchase two half-ton utility vehicles from Johnson Auto Plaza.
- The proposal is to use the amounts that were budgeted for ambulances to fund the purchase of the utility vehicles.
- The prices for different vehicle options were presented.
- Vice President Marantino was in support of reallocating the funds from the ambulances to the utility vehicles.
- Director Haderlie wanted clarification on the fate of the existing Chevy Tahoe utility vehicles that are being replaced.

**Motion:** Vice President Marantino made a motion to approve the purchase of two RAM 1500 pickup trucks for \$45,577 each. Director Haderlie requested an amendment to the motion to include timely disposal of the outgoing vehicles. Vice President Marantino amended the motion to include Director Haderlie's addition. Motion seconded by Secretary Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS/FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:**

None

**DIVISIONAL INFORMATION UPDATES – REFER TO BOARD MEETING PACKET FOR FULL REPORTS:**

**OPERATIONS/WILDLAND UPDATES:**

- Chief Sackett stated that Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati is currently on a wildland deployment.
- Fire Chief Sackett stated that the crews have been responding to multiple fires in the area.
- The Wildland Division applied for a BLM grant, and while the equipment request was denied, they were awarded funding for additional full-time wildland personnel as fuel technicians.

### **EMS/TRAINING UPDATES:**

- Purchased the new cot and PowerLoad system for the ambulance remount project.
- Successful execution of a 2½ day Auto-X West Extrication Class involving 18 participants from across the state.
- Recognition of FF/EMT Paul Crouse for completing his firefighter task book.
- Both the ambulance remount and new build projects are moving forward. Ambulance 64 will be sent to Ohio for the remount in the near future. The box is being ordered for the new build. Both projects are projected to be completed by the middle of 2024.

### **PREVENTION/FLEET/FACILITIES UPDATES:**

- Prevention Division Chief Moon provided information regarding potential development plans for Alkali Creek with 150-200 homes. Another potential 100-120 homes may be constructed in the New Castle area.
- Concerns over the ISO rating of the area and need for new infrastructure.
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- Consideration of new and existing projects and their impacts.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/DATA UPDATES:**

- Working on new software for protocols in smartphones.

### **ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE UPDATES:**

- Administrative Director Tillman stated that she filed the application for firefighter cardiac benefit annual grant on the state grants portal.
- Submission of volunteer pension contribution grant.
- Over \$2.5 million generated from billing for wildland deployments.

### **DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS:**

Fire Chief Sackett reviewed thank you cards received that included recognition of community engagement activities, including presentations at Walmsley Elementary, as well as a thank you note received regarding assistance with a fire in West Glenwood Springs.

Treasurer Milton-Baker shared her personal experience of observing a CRFR fire truck in action and expressed admiration for the crew's expertise.

Fire Chief Sackett reminded the Board of the upcoming Strategic Planning Session on Friday, October 13, 2023, at Station 41. Administrative Director Tillman advised that the Work Session Notice had been posted appropriately.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Treasurer Milton-Baker thanked all the firefighters.

Vice President Marantino thanked everyone for their hard work. She is hearing a lot of good comments from other organizations about the work being done.

Secretary Miller stated he continues to learn a lot.

Director Haderlie thanked everyone.

President Lambert thanked the staff for their work on the budget and expressed his thanks to the Board for asking questions and for their time.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no other business to come before the Board, Chairperson Lambert adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

**APPROVAL:**

The foregoing Minutes, which have been approved by the affirmative majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Fire Protection District, are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the date stated above.

Date: 11/14/2023



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