

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RATTLESNAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
February 26, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Rattlesnake Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on February 26, 2024, at Rattlesnake Fire Training Center, 46220 Coal Creek Drive, Parker, Colorado. at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Directors in attendance were:

John Bonner
Levi Longmore
Linda Krausert
Rob Royal
Jim White

Absent:

none

Also in attendance:

Mary Pat O'Halloran – Finance Manager - telephonically
Robert Tibbals – Attorney
Cass Kilduff – Chief
Lloyd Standard – Assistant Chief
Aaron Craigie – Divisional Chief

At 7:00 p.m. the regular meeting of the Rattlesnake Fire Board was called to order by Mr. White.

Minutes

The minutes from the January 22, 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. After a brief discussion Mr. Royal made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Bonner seconded the motion and all approved.

Action between Meetings

Ms. O'Halloran submitted for approval two checks both written to Back Woods Landscaping one on 1/28/24 for \$9,743.20 and the other on 2/17/24 for \$14,354.50 for work performed installing the fuel tanks, water line, repairs to stone walls, recycled asphalt and fencing around training grounds. Both checks were signed by Mr. White and Mr. Bonner. After a brief discussion Mr. Royal approved the issuance of the two checks to Back Woods Landscaping. Mr. Bonner seconded the motion and all approved.

Bills

Ms. O'Halloran reviewed the invoices for approval and the financial activity since the last meeting with the Board. The check run totaled \$88,633.12 which included \$46,716.00 to ROI Fire & Ballistics for 6 SCBA units, \$19,499.32 to Signaram for a electronic sign for Station 251. After a brief discussion. Mr. Royal made a motion to approve and pay the invoices as presented. Ms. Krausert seconded the motion and all approved.

The financials for February 2024 were presented and reviewed. Upon consensus, the Board accepted the Financial Reports as presented.

Audit Engagement

Ms. O'Halloran presented the 2023 Audit Engagement Letter from Schilling & Company, Inc. for performing the 2023 audit with of \$8,700.00 plus an additional not to exceed \$2,000.00 for review of past pension plan calculations. Mr. Tibbals stated he has reviewed the agreement and is acceptable as to legal form. After a brief discussion Mr. Longmore made a motion to approve the engagement of Schilling & Company, Inc for performing the 2023 audit for the District. Ms. Krausert seconded the motion and all approved.

Fire Police & Pension Association Meeting (FPPA)

At 7:10 p.m. the regular meeting of the Rattlesnake Fire Protection District Board of Directors was recessed and the Regular Meeting of the Rattlesnake Fire Volunteer Pension Board meeting was called into session by Mr. White.

Attendance

FPPA Board Members in attendance were:

John Bonner
Jim White
Linda Krausert
Rob Royal
Levi Longmore
Cass Kilduff – Fire Chief
Aaron Craigie – Division Chief

Absent:

None

Also in attendance:

Mary Pat O'Halloran – Finance Manager
Robert Tibbals – Attorney
Lloyd Standard – Assistant Fire Chief

New Business

Division Chief Craigie reported that there were no new retirements and reviewed the December 31, 2023 financials for the fund. A brief explanation of how the fund works and what the volunteers receive was given.

Adjournment

Mr. Bonner made a motion to adjourn FPPA meeting. Mr. Royal seconded the motion and all approved.

At 7:15 p.m. the Rattlesnake Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting was reconvened by Mr. White.

Chief's Report

Chief Kilduff reported that there are 44 people on the roster. All equipment is in service and there are no issues on water availability. There have been 35 calls since the last meeting for a total of 64 calls for 2024.

There was a structure fire in Elkhorn that was fully involved with an explosion handled with minimal staff and there no injuries occurred.

Two new volunteers were added on 2/13/24.

Call volume is up 4% to date from this date last year.

Multiple station repairs have been done this month: new recycled asphalt at Station 251, Training center and Station 255/Fleet building, water line and hose bib was installed in Station 255, manufactured stone repair at Training Center and Station 253 and a privacy fence was added to the training ground.

EMT class going well with numerous opportunities for continuing education available to all personnel.

Site Reviews

No updates.

Fleet Services

Outside work was performed for Elizabeth Fire, Kiowa Fire and Elbert County Sheriff.

Operational Education

Postponed until the next meeting.

Attorney's Report

Mr. Tibbals has received a written response and has had a phone call with GMT Exploration, LLC in regards to the change in the acreage and the District's request for additional lease bonus funds for the additional acreage. The issue is still at an impasse with GMT holding to the original lease bonus payment as payment in full. All information has been forwarded to Debbie Trujillo for review. An Affidavit of Non-Payment of Lease Bonus has been signed by Mr. White and is ready to be filed.

Mr. Tibbals reported that there is some legislation that has been proposed by the Fire Chief Association to generate income from three different sources: imposing a sales tax, charging for auxiliary services and removing impact fees from control by the County. At this point the bill is seeking sponsorship. Will continue to monitor for any progression.

Mr. Tibbals reported that Chief Kilduff may be deposed on an insurance claim for a fire that occurred on Memorial Day three years ago. The fire was on a house undergoing a remodel and was contained to a small pile of debris that was extinguished by the home owner. We were called by the home owner directly at the station and sent a truck to verify that the fire was out and all present were unharmed. Home owner filed an insurance claim and insurance after investigation has denied the claim and thus the home owner has now filed suit. There are no claims against the District on this matter and the statutory time to file has since past.

ECCA Report

Mr. White reported that ECCA was awarded an 50/50 Energy Assistant Grant to assist in funding the microwave project. The AT&T phone outage that occurred several weeks ago had no direct impact in Elbert County. The El Paso PPRCM has developed new radio templates that will be implemented in our radios in the near future.

Public Comments

No public were present.

Old Business

a) GMT Affidavit – Mr. White suggested that a discussion be held on the Eldorado Mineral Right Offer before proceeding the GMT Affidavit. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Board to not consider the Eldorado Mineral Right Offer or an offer to sell the mineral rights to anyone else at this point. Mr. Bonner made a motion to authorize the filing of the GMT Affidavit. Mr. Longmore seconded the motion and all approved.

New Business

- a) Eldorado Mineral Right Offer – discussed in Old Business
- b) Acreage Offer – Chief Kilduff reported that the District may receive offer for the three acres at Country Road 17-21 in Spring Valley. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Board to continue holding onto the acres.
- c) BBC Impact Study – Chief Kilduff stated that the District is required to have an impact study every seven years and BBC has been contacted for scheduling, the anticipated cost is \$12,000.00.

Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be March 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Training Center.

Mr. White made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Krausert seconded the motion and all approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.