

**BEULAH FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING No. 125
April 27, 2017**

MINUTES

The meeting of the Board was held at the District office in Beulah, CO.

Board members present were: Chair and President Steve Douglas, Vice President Stephen McLaughlin, Treasurer Joni Smith, Secretary Kim Toman, and Fundraising Coordinator Bob Thompson. Also attending was Chief Bryan Ware.

Chair and President Steve Douglas called the meeting to order at 6:25p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

There was one addition to the Agenda under New Business. The one item added was item 7.a, Developing Plans for a Prescribed Fire in Pueblo Mountain Park. Other than this one addition, there were no other additions or corrections to the Agenda.

Motion was made by Kim Toman to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Joni Smith. Motion carried with no objections.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of March 23, 2017 meeting.

Track changes submitted by Board Members were reviewed and approved by all attending Board Members and Bryan. There were no other additions or corrections to the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Bob Thompson to authorize Secretary Kim Toman to create the final minutes based on the track change corrections and discussed changes and to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Stephen McLaughlin. Motion carried with no objections.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

a. The District checking balance is \$52,874.34. The District savings balance is \$43,690.11. \$5,722 of the savings balance is designated for the New Station Enterprise Fund.

b. On the right hand side of the Financial Statement, there is an Account Receivable for Credit Card Fraud in the amount of \$412.42. Bryan's District credit card information was stolen and used for unapproved purchases. The District is waiting to hear from Pueblo Bank & Trust on the recovery of these funds.

c. Revenue Line Item 7700, Grant Income, current month activity is \$4,281 and is for Personal Protective Equipment from a FEMA grant award. The expense is shown on Expense Line Item 8180, Grant Equipment.

d. Expense Line Item 8250, Training and Certification, current month activity is \$2,032 and is for Bryan's registration and 2 scholarships issued for the Wildland Fire Conference, EMT class materials, and registration and hotel for Ross Marsh for the Back Burn Operation Class in Salida.

Motion was made by Kim Toman to accept the Financial Report, seconded by Bob Thompson. Motion carried with no objections.

5. CHIEF'S REPORT, reported by Bryan

a. So far this year there have been 59 total responses; 35 EMS and 24 Fire. Of the 35 medical calls, 27 have been transported.

b. Brush 71 back in service as of last night.

c. The Flood Incident Action Plan (IAP) is not quite ready. Bryan will have it finalized Monday or Tuesday of next week. When completed the Flood IAP will be a document approximately 70 pages in length. This document will be the action plan when there is a flood incident in Beulah. Every Pueblo County emergency service agency will respond as needed under mutual aid in the event of a flood. On May 9th there will be Chinook helicopters performing test landings at the designated landing zones (LZs). If a flood incident occurs, rescue operations (non-life threatening) will happen during daylight hours once heavy rain has subsided and conditions allow for rescue. Only true life threatening emergencies will be addressed during night hours. Bryan will email Board Members a copy of the Flood IAP when it is available. Board Members will receive a reverse-911 text message when a flood watch or warning has been issued. In the event of a flood incident, The District and Pueblo County will have joint jurisdiction which means that it will not be necessary for the District to declare Beulah a Disaster in the event of a flood. Pueblo County would be the first jurisdiction that would be required to declare a disaster.

d. There will be a community meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2016 (this will not be an official Board Meeting) to inform the community of the emergency and rescue operations planned before, during, and after a flood incident. CO-CO CUSP, a non-profit, has assigned fire recovery efforts to Jeff for the Beulah Hill Fire area and Jason to the North Creek Road section of the Junkins Fire area. Fire recovery efforts include reseeded of the North Creek burn scar and waddles on Beulah Hill for erosion control and to slow water flow. Seeding has been completed on 1.6 acres by girl scouts and on June 10th there will be 30 4-H folks coming to complete more seeding efforts. Bryan will post the community meeting details around the Beulah Valley and Board Members are asked to encourage the community to attend this important meeting.

d. Kevin Klein (Director, Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management) oversees the funding of projects in Pueblo, Custer and Fremont County for fire response and recovery from the Beulah Hill, Junkins and Hayden Pass Fires. Projects in Pueblo County and our District include sirens, protection of the San Isabel Electric substation, and a Recovery Coordinator. The term "fire recovery" is relatively new and so there are obstacles in defining what is included in the fire recovery from all three fires. In addition, the State is still waiting for final Federal figures for fire response cost. Kevin

needs these figures to begin releasing funds for fire recovery efforts. Fire suppression costs are supposed to be paid first. Hopefully funding will be received soon. The Recovery Coordinator will be requested by all 3 Counties together: Pueblo, Custer and Fremont.

e. The Twin Buttes fire water system is out of service. There is no power available at the fire pump. According to Ron Miller, he is not allowed to enter that side of the system. Joe O'Brien was going to re-read the Pueblo County Subdivision Approval Resolution about providing a working system for Twin Buttes. The Twin Buttes Homeowners Association was notified that their fire water system was out of service. If Joe O'Brien does not get the fire water system back in working order the District will place the burden on Pueblo County to enforce a working fire water system within the subdivision's conditions of approval.

f. The State DOT (CDOT) is in the final edits of updating the safety and operation plan, post fire. The final report is not yet available but will include revised operations during high wind and/or red flag days as a result of lessons learned from the Beulah Hill Fire.

g. Board Members are reminded that on May 13 there is a community blood drive; May 17th at 6pm at school is the National Weather Service's Spotter Weather Class. This Spotter Weather Class is open to the community, will be about 1 hour in length, and is geared to more severe summer weather due to the flood potential in the Beulah Valley. Pre-Registration is not required for this class.

h. Bryan will keep the Gallagher Amendment on his schedule to monitor. This amendment involves a reduction in tax rate from 7.96% to 7.2% for the 2018 calendar year. Draft property tax revenue figures will be provided by Pueblo County in August with final revenue figures being provided in early December.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. District Auxiliary - update

i. The Auxiliary voted in a new President, Linda Overlin. Carol Kyte was given a huge thank you for her role as President and leader for the past 3 years.

ii. The Barn Dance and Garage Sale are being organized. The Liquor License for the Barn Dance has been submitted to the County this week. There will be a \$10 fee for entrance into the dance and \$5 fee for food (taco bar).

iii. \$2,500 has been received so far for sponsorships for the Cowboy Poetry event which will be held on September 16. 5 or 6 silent auction items have also been secured for this event.

b. Potential Fire Station Site and Plans – update

i. Permitting and Surveys

There is no new news on the status of pinning of site. The state CDOT permit for driveway access has been filed.

ii. Site Plans and Concept Design

There is nothing to report. Nothing has changed in regards to the site plans or concept design.

iii. DOLA Grant Application – update

The District should hear a final result of the \$200,000 grant application next week.

iv. Fire Station Construction Loan

Kiowa County Bank and Bank of the San Juans were approached by Todd Ficken on behalf of the District to provide loan details with the provisions outlined in the voter approved ballot language (loan rate less than or equal to 3.25%) and without USDA guarantee. Bank of the San Juans met the District requirements, Kiowa County Bank did not. The Bank of the San Juans would charge a \$20,000 loan origination fee, which the District would likely pay from revenues separate from the loan itself. Otherwise, the loan and its cost would likely exceed what was authorized by our voters. Once the loan details are finalized there will be a Special Board Meeting to approve the loan.

v. USDA Loan

If a USDA Loan is sought, there will be \$25,000 in expense for an archeological survey. This expense alone discourages the District from seeking a loan with the USDA or any loan that would be re-paid with USDA funds.

vi. Water Line – update – Beulah Water Works District (BWWD)

This past Tuesday was the last BWWD Board Meeting. The 45-day letter is still being developed by the BWWD attorney. Bill Wheeler will set up an appointment with the attorney to make sure the 45-day letter will be sent out soon.

c. Public Education on Flood Potential - update

This was covered in the Chief's Report.

d. Colorado Wildland Fire Conference– update

The conference was well attended, including representatives from within Pueblo County, and it was nice to have it hosted in Pueblo. The State of Colorado is seeing a lot of new technology coming in regards to fire fighting. Cody Schied of Emergency Services Bureau has been assigned the task of County wide fire-wise education/urban interface. The next Wildland Fire Conference is tentatively set for the Fall of 2018 on the Western Slope. Steve will recommend that the date be set for the Spring of 2018, to avoid potential staffing conflicts during the summer/fall fire season.

e. 2016 Audit Exemption

The 2016 Audit Exemption has been filed with the State. The District is waiting for State approval of the audit.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. The concept of using prescribed fire (controlled burn) has been discussed in the Pueblo Mountain Park area for a quite some time. It has also been discussed with the City of Pueblo for 2 years now. With changes in regulations there are more details that are involved in the planning and implementation phases of a prescribed fire. As these details are finalized hopefully a prescribed fire will help reduce wildland fuels in the park. Parker Titus of The Nature Conservancy recently toured the park with Jonathan Pilarski, Dave Van Manen and Steve Douglas, and feels that with the past mitigation efforts and reviewing the areas defined for prescribed fire he believes this project is well designed and fits their project goals as a nature conservancy. Harper has sent a draft 5-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the City of Pueblo to aid in City Council approval of the use of prescribed fire. The Nature Conservancy would have grant funds

available to support the prescribed fire activities, as well burn management educated personnel available during the prescribed fire. Their personnel would also provide burn management training opportunities to local authorities.

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN: *Motion to adjourn was made by Joni Smith, seconded by Kim Toman. Motion carried with no objections.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

Kim Toman
Secretary, Board of Directors
Beulah Fire Protection and Ambulance District
Final

Attachments

-Agenda

-Beulah Fire Protection and Ambulance District - Statement of Actual to Budget, Jan 1 to March 31, 2016