

**BEULAH FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING No. 80
February 27, 2014**

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 Pat Stanifer; Secretary Anne Moulton; Fundraising Coordinator Bob Thompson. Absent, excused was Travis Allee, Treasurer. Also attending were Captain Tricia Anderson standing in for Chief Ware, excused, responders Austin McCullah and Nathan Anderson and community member Kim Toman.

1.Chair and President Steve Douglas called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

2.THE AGENDA: *Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Pat Stanifer, seconded by Bob Thompson. Motion carried with no objections.*

3.MINUTES of the January 23, 2014 meeting:

Motion was made by Bob Thompson and seconded by Pat Stanifer to authorize Secretary Anne Moulton to create the final minutes based on the track change corrections provided and to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried with no objections.

4.TREASURER TRAVIS ALLEE PROVIDED, in absentia, a statement through January 31, 2014.

- We have uncommitted reserves at this time of \$52,473. Tax income for 2014 has not started to come in yet, so we are using reserves to cover expenses at this time.

Motion was made by Pat Stanifer and seconded by Bob Thompson to approve the financial report. Motion carried with no objections.

5.FIRE CHIEF BRYAN WARE REPORTED:

- We have had 14 EMS and 6 fire responses thus far this year.
- Austin McCullah completed the hazmat technician course and is part of the Pueblo County Hazmat team. We also received, from Pueblo County, 11 Level C splash suits.
- The live fire training at 5747 North Creek was postponed, due to wind, until March 8th. Extensive training has already been performed at that site including: a search and rescue scenario (with blackout masks); a Pueblo County SWAT team training; Ventilation training; ladder training; ICS training, and firefighter down evolutions. The live fire will include protection with foam of a building and tree nearby. In preparation of this training, which will follow the NFPA 1403 standards, the structure had to be cleared of its windows, asbestos, and shingles, while ventilation openings were prepared ahead of the burn.
- Brush 73, a 1973 ¾ ton Chevy pickup, was taken out of service due to safety concerns. The estimated cost of repairs is more than the truck is worth. Austin

described various issues; body mounts, rusted pump, impellers gone, shock side mounts. They would recommend searching for a used replacement truck and selling the existing truck for scrap. Bob suggested we table the issue while looking for another truck, warehouse this one out of service. We are currently researching obtaining a Type 4 engine from the Colorado State Forest Service; this unit will be a retired military 6x6. Rescue 81, although setup for wildland firefighting, is not meant to be utilized far from the pavement. If we are given a Type 4 Engine from the State we will be responsible for outfitting the unit and normal wear repairs.

- Thank you to Steve Douglas who donated \$3600 for a 12 foot enclosed trailer. It will be stored at Station 2. Portatanks, pumps, and other firefighting supplies will be loaded on it to take primarily to structure fires, allowing a continuous water supply on scene.
- We received a donation from Lamar Trant with a note we might consider. “What if everyone donated the difference in their property tax assessment that went down this year? Here’s mine”.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Twin Buttes Fire Water Update. Bryan has been speaking with Joe O’Brien, from Red Creek Developers. At this time the float valves and the fire pump are not operational. After consulting with Kevin Fern, Bryan returned to Joe who said he would ask and pay Austin and Kyle to get these repaired. The pump had worked after it was fixed but since then the motor has seized. The float valve remains in need of repair or replacement. Bryan has advised Joe that these repairs must be completed ASAP due to the growing fire danger in our area. We agree to give one more month to allow Joe O’Brien to accomplish repairs. The District has no responsibility for the condition of this system; the HOA has that responsibility. If not resolved by next month, Bryan needs to be in touch with the HOA and then if necessary with Pueblo County Planning Department regarding non-compliance with the subdivision’s approval requirements.

b. 2014 Wildland Fire Mitigation Grant - update, and path forward. We received 22 letters of interest for the grant; we set a goal of 50 applicants, so we are not pursuing this grant. Bryan has sent a letter to all the applicants which was also forwarded to the Board. The letter of support received from US Forest Service, Paul Crespin’s office, promised a Good Neighbor program. They were willing to work with property owners adjacent to the national forest. If property owners do their own mitigation, the USFS will work on their side of the property line. We will continue to look for grant opportunities and to encourage folks to continue the work on their own properties. About 8 properties which were inspected show significant work. We can remain open to fielding a possible District mitigation team for a fee, but if there is not enough call, it is hard for us to gear up for it and pay for the necessary insurance. It would be good to have a solution for those who have neither the strength nor the resources to mitigate. Per House Bill 13-1012, there is up to a \$2500 tax deduction available on state taxes for 50% of out of pocket mitigation costs. Anne will write a final Buzz article including this if it can be placed on time for this coming month’s edition.

c. 2014 Board Election update. All our continuing board members' self-nomination forms, plus Kim Toman's, will be in Atty. Mullans' office by tomorrow as required. There is a write-in opportunity through March 3. Then, as of March 4th, if there are only four self-nominations, we will officially cancel the May 6th election. If we have more than we need, we are required to do the election. If not, we will save at least \$2000. Steve will check with Mr. Mullans and let us know.

d. 2014 audit. This audit report is tabled until next month. We are waiting as Mr. Brown, the accountant, receives the information he needs, before he can give us an estimate of our cost.

e. Non-profit formation and fund raising update. Kim reported. Last Saturday we formally incorporated with the Secretary of State. We are looking at getting our federal ID #. We will have our first true board meeting on Monday March 3 at 7 pm, in this office, at which time we will have board elections for officers. We are looking at 9 members at this time but can have 3 to 9. We made phone calls to find interested individuals, both those related to our responders and some from outlying areas. We will start off with a fund-raising and a "grub" committee. We are still looking for a chair for the latter. Notices will be posted about the meeting in the Crawl and around the community for other interested folks. The tax exempt form requires bylaws and other narratives which will be delegated to board members to complete. The bylaws are pretty well nailed down, using models from Westcilffe and La Veta. Kim asked permission to give them to Tom Mullans to review. Steve will need to call to authorize that. They have set up an E-mail address piggybacked onto the District account. The name of the new group will be Beulah Fire Protection and Ambulance District Auxiliary, dba Beulah (we suggest adding FPA) Auxiliary. They would like to be included on the District web page; we agree.

Kim and Bob attended a meeting with Pueblo Governmental Financial Professionals, agency representatives who gathered to discuss funding and other mutual concerns. Included were Chris Brogan from the Library District, others from city finance, Pueblo West Metro, with Colorado City Metro interested. Kim has scheduled the next meeting for May at the MPEC lodge. Insurance was also a big topic. An individual will come to another meeting who will tell us how to invest public funds.

7. NEW BUSINESS: none.

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN: *was made by Pat Stanifer, seconded by Bob Thompson. Motion carried with no objections. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.*

Anne E Moulton
Secretary, Board of Directors,
Beulah Fire Protection and Ambulance District
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