



Oak Creek Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes Nov 14 2023

Call to order 6:35 pm

A meeting of Oak Creek Fire Protection District was held at 131 E Main Street Oak Creek CO on Nov 14, 2023

Attendees

Attendees included David Park, President; Mike Roach, Secretary; Eric Kimsey, Member; Dwayne Osadchuk, Member.

Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Dana Christensen, Member- is out on leave and the Board excused her from this meeting.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the following meetings were reviewed and approved as edited:

Oct 24, 2023

Financial Review

Karrie Littman presented the Board with the current Financial Statements and reported that the Fire Billing Revenues have been arriving, but it was reiterated that money will be tight around Jan/Feb of next year before the tax revenues begin for 2024. The estimated cash flow was presented and many different scenarios were discussed and the possibility of acquiring a short term loan in Feb was put on the table as an option for the expected short fall before the tax revenues begin in March. The audit and auditors letter to the Board was presented and discussed. The Board approved the financials.

Chief reported that Prop HH did not pass but the legislators are still working on SB23B-001 that would affect the tax revenue for the District. The budget deadline of December 15th may be pushed back if this passes the State Congress. More will be reported in December.

Grant Update- David asked about the Polmar grant and Karrie said she would look into that.

Medical Insurance Discussion- Karrie reported the Kickoff meeting for the new medical insurance is set for Wed so information will be disseminated to all the crew and interested Board Members after that.

Fire Camp Update

Jim Scrafford reported that the housing units will be moved tomorrow. Reviewed details of the coordination with Whitmyer, Discovery, RC Planning Dept., & Martin Craighead and assigned tasks left to be completed. Discussed the next stage steps with Morrison Creek Water District and Chief stated he would be at the next meeting of their Board. Reclamation of Craighead property will need to be done now if the weather holds or in the Spring if necessary.

Housing Crew in Oak Creek- Solution in Sight!

The apartments above the laundry in Oak Creek are being remodeled with the intent of renting them to the District for the purpose of housing the on-duty crews in Oak Creek. This will provide a much better response time for the residents of Oak Creek and the residences north of the town. This a very exciting development and a solution to a long enduring problem for the District. The remodel is expected to be completed by Jan 2024.

The District will be looking to establish a Resident Program in the Stagecoach station. With the Chief and Captain there along with a resident it will provide coverage for that end of the District and training for upcoming firefighters.

Chief's Report

- **Crew & Calls:** The Chief reported that the call volume has been low. Stated also that the fire danger is high again and no burning is allowed at this time. There was a fire dispatch for the Soroco Elementary School in Yampa earlier this week, but Oak Creek Fire was not dispatched and could not respond.
- **The Mitigation Crew** has pretty much buttoned up the mitigation work until the snow flies and slash piles can be burned. They will be looking to deploy to the Dakotas in the Spring.
- **Deployments:** The crews are in Pagosa Springs for a 2 week roll and it is expected to be extended for another 2 weeks. The District is on the Board because the southeast of the country- KY area is high fire danger and California is drying out as well.
- **Survey for Impact Fees:** The firm developing the survey for the Impact Fee discussion reported they are very happy with the amount of good information from the Assessors Office of Routt County and was also amazed at the amount of revenue created from the Mitigation Program of the District. The survey should be complete in a couple of months. The Chief reiterated that this is only for new developments in the District.

- EMS Supplemental Funding: The Chief is currently working on this years submittal for this gap funding for Ambulance Services. The District was awarded \$94,000 last year.
- Apparatus update- CalFire is auctioning off engines this year and the Chief went and inspected a few while on the west coast for his recent roll. He found 5 that he thought would be a good fit for the District- 3 would be used on deployments next year, alternately with Red Metal engines and two would be place at the northern & southern ends of the District with plans to train volunteers to defend those sections. The purchase price would be \$7,500 each and another \$8,000 to equip. Funding is being discussed. Engine 811 has a broken water pump seal and the estimated repair cost is \$15-20K. Discussion commenced and it was approved to move forward with this repair.
- The new scheduling software is being implemented by Oak Creek Fire and will integrate with the new Routt County First Due software. This is replacing the lam Responding for all the County's Districts for dispatching and tracking. Everyone is very excited about this robust software.

Community Input

- David Park reported that the Steamboat Springs Fire Chief Cerasoli relayed to his City Council how happy he was regarding the partnership with Oak Creek Fire.

2024 Budget Discussion

The Board discussed the timelines and possible pushback of deadlines due to the State legislators. The Board will review the presented budget for questions and comments and will email the Chief and he will disseminate his response to all the Board members. This will allow for a short budget discussion and possible approval at the December meeting.

Adjournment

8:10 pm

President- David Park

Date of approval