

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: August 26th, 2024

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

Roll Call: RFPD Board members Maria Casanova (remote), Sarah Eckles, Tyler Lapp, and Paul Ruud. Gregg Anderson was absent due to travel.

Guests Present: RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz.

Approval of Agenda: Sarah Eckles moved to approve the agenda; Paul Ruud seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Paul Ruud moved to approve the corrected minutes for the June 24th meeting; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous. Paul Ruud moved to approve the minutes as presented for the July 15th meeting; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable: Sarah Eckles moved to approve payment for the bills as presented and to accept the financial report; Paul Ruud seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report: Kunz reported that most of his time this month had been spent on the TSFA event, and that other items would be covered on the regular agenda.

Grants (awarded):

Rico Center 2024: (4) requests: \$2,980.00 for food and other expenses for the 2024 Fourth of July (awarded \$1490); \$21,785.75 for Operations (full award): kitchen remodel funds, equipment, fire hose and fittings, EMS training dummies, training funds; \$19,982.75 for TSFA expenses (awarded \$12,356.25); \$50,000 for Light Rescue (full award). Grant agreement has been received. Fulfillment has started. Reimbursement will occur upon request. Closeout September 30, 2024/ (December 31, with extension).

El Pomar: \$11,973.00 requested from the El Pomar Fire fund to pay for hand tools for the new tanker and wildland fire boots for RVFD personnel. Funding for \$12,000 has been received. All members have picked up boots, all tools and fittings have been ordered. Closeout: January 31, 2025.

SMPA Community Focus Grant: Request for \$20,000 for the light rescue truck; awarded \$2,000; an additional \$2,000 was received from Basin Electric. Kunz has notified SMPA contact MartyJo Davis that the Light Rescue may not be fulfilled until 2025.

Colorado Fire Safety and Disease Prevention Grant (CFSDPG) 2024: Request for \$13,088 for (4) new sets of structural fire bunkers. Firefighters Kunz, Hackett, and Juarez have been sized for bunkers. Closeout: October 31, 2024.

CFSDPG Direct Distribution Grant: Kunz applied for (4) wildland fire packs and (4) fire shelters. This is a 100% funded grant, no match.

Fire Chief Report (Fire Chief Todd Jones):

Runs: RVFD responded to (13) calls for service. There was a multi-day SAR call (mutual aid to San Miguel County) that got written up in the New York Times.

Training: Training officer Sarah Eckles is trying to schedule a Wilderness First Responder class. Firefighter Academy will be held in Ignacio at the end of September. Rico Center funding can pay for the tuition costs for either class.

Equipment: Tanker 928 still has electrical issues, although they are gradually getting sorted out. Snow mobiles will go to Dolores for off-season maintenance. The lock-out kit has not yet been ordered.

Old Business:

Review of Alley Standards for Emergency Access:

Gregg Anderson was not present, therefore this item will be continued.

Review Ballot Issue Language for the November, 2024 election: Kunz has the IGA from the Dolores County Clerk for RFPD to participate in the election. Tyler Lapp moved to approve signing the IGA; Paul Ruud seconded. Approval was unanimous. Paul Ruud moved to appoint Kunz as the Designated Election Officer for the election; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous. Kunz discussed the ballot issue language used in the Dolores Fire ballot issue, and that the Town of Dolores had passed a resolution to place the question regarding the disposition of the Dolores Fire property on the Town ballot.

New Business:

Debrief/Financials: 2024 Tri State Firemen's Association (TSFA): Kunz stated that he thought he had most of the bills payable for TSFA. Currently, the event netted RFPD approximately \$5,600. Kunz stated that this number did not include the grant funding from the Rico Center (\$12,356.25), and that without the \$3k of funding from Dolores County and the \$3k from the Town of Rico, the event would have lost money. In general, feedback from event attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with Will Nolan's food being very popular. Town residents enjoyed the competition, but local businesses did not see increased revenues.

The next regular RFPD meeting is scheduled for September 16th, 2024.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sarah Eckles at 8:48; seconded by Tyler Lapp. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary