

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: November 18th, 2024

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

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

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

Approval of Agenda: Maria Casanova moved to approve the agenda; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Maria Casanova moved to approve the minutes for the October 21st meeting; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable: Kunz presented 2 more checks for payment: \$587.00 to Pinnacol Assurance for Worker's Comp Insurance, and \$129.75 to Cortez Fire for books for the firefighter Academy. Maria Casanova moved to approve the financial report and bills plus the (2) additional checks. Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report: All (4) 2024 Rico Center grants were closed out. All items were fulfilled except for a part of the training budget, which will be closed out under extension at the end of 2024.

The 2025 Rico Center grant was submitted. Kunz requested \$80k in funding from the Rico Center for the Light Rescue project.

The District will need to find a CPA who can perform the 2024 application for exemption from audit in 2025. Kunz contacted John Bennett of Telluride Fire, they use Dalby Wen who are apparently quite pricey. Kunz will contact Majors Haley of Cortez. Casanova will contact a CPA in Durango.

All documentation was submitted to the Tri-State board in order to close out the record keeping. The Dolores State TSFA account can be closed and its funds moved to the DSB General account.

Grants (awarded):

Rico Center 2024: All (4) components closed out. Operations component has money remaining in the training budget (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, invoiced, received and paid. 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. One pair of bunkers will be a standard size. No match, reimbursement required. Closed out on October 31, 2024, reimbursement is pending.

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

Fire Chief Report (Fire Chief Todd Jones):

Runs: (6) calls: (3) motor vehicle crashes, one with injury; (1) EMS call; (2) fire calls: an alarm and a brush fire in the West Fork.

Training: In-house. RVFD will host the firefighter academy in April.

Equipment: 928 is functional and will need decals. All AFFF foam will need to be removed from engine 921. The State has a grant program to reimburse by the gallon for foam taken out of service. RFPD has drums of class B foam that will need a barrel pump to distribute.

The RVFD Christmas party will be held December 14th.

Old Business:

2025 Budget: Board members reviewed the proposed budget numbers. Income is stronger due to the mill levy increase. Board members discussed how much money to allocate under capital improvements for the Light Rescue project. Kunz will correct an error in the spreadsheet, revise numbers as per Board direction, and send out the revised budget for the Board to consider prior to the December approval.

New Business:

2025 Work Plan: Light Rescue project and the transfer of property from the Town to the Fire District. The ballot issue measuring support for the transfer passed by a wide margin.

The next regular RFPD meeting will be to approve the 2025 budget documents. It is scheduled for December 9th; 2024.

A motion to adjourn was made by Maria Casanova at 8:15; seconded by Gregg Anderson. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary