

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: September 16th, 2024

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

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

Guests Present: RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz. Allyn Svoboda was present remotely.

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

Approval of Minutes: Gregg Anderson moved to approve the minutes for the August 26th meeting; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable, Pension Checks: Gregg Anderson inquired about the relatively high balances in the Hose Company and Debit Card DSB accounts, and also if the DSB TSFA account could be closed out. Kunz stated that Venmo and Paypal receipts go into the Hose account, and now that the Fourth and Tri State events have concluded, there is no need to maintain the high cash balances. Kunz added that there is still payment of the TSFA dues (\$45 per member organization, remitted to RFPD) that will need to be issued out of the TSFA account. Anderson moved to approve payment for the bills as presented, accept the financial report, sign pension checks as well as authorize fund transfers of \$7,000.00 from DSB Hose Co. to the CSAFE Capital Improvement and \$4,000.00 from DSB Debit Card to the CSAFE Capital Improvement account. Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report: Kunz stated that he will close out the (4) 2024 Rico Center grants by September 30 even though the grant agreement closeout date is October 31. All items were fulfilled except for a part of the training budget. The 2024 pension grant application was submitted to DOLA. The 2023 audit was approved by the State Auditor. The 2025 budget draft will go out on 10/15 to the RFPD and will be on the agenda of the October meeting.

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. One pair of bunkers will be a standard size. 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: (7) pageouts: (3) motor vehicle crashes; (2) SAR responses; (1) EMS call (cardiac); (1) Sheriff's office assist. RVFD has historically run (50) responses per year; thus far in 2024 RVFD has logged (61) responses.

Training: Firefighters Casanova, Crowe, Hackett, and Roberts will take a Wilderness First Responder class; Firefighter Guertin will attend Firefighter Academy in Ignacio at the end of September. Rico Center funding can pay for the tuition costs.

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 presented a revised alternative access proposal to Appendix D of the 2008 International Fire Code. The intent is to provide a standardized access alternative for developers of properties that have only alley access and lie 150' or more from a street intersection. Note three will be amended to read "...submitted **and** approved by the Rico Fire Protection District".

Review Ballot Issue Language for the November, 2024 election:

As submitted to the Dolores County clerk, the language reads: "Do the voters of the Rico Fire Protection District ("RFPD") approve of the Town of Rico's transfer of ownership of Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12 in Block 2 (the land which underlies the Rico Fire Station building constructed in 1996) from the Town of Rico to RFPD, for the purpose of ensuring continued Fire and Life Safety operations by the District, as well as enabling the District to utilize said property as collateral for future Fire Station expansion, if the District agrees to bear all costs for the transfer of said property?"

Debrief/Financials: 2024 Tri State Firemen's Association (TSFA): No change from last month. Kunz will close out the remaining bill and file all paperwork with the TSFA organization before November.

New Business:

Resolution 2024-7: Appointment of Designated Election Officer (DEO) for the November, 2024 ballot question

Kunz stated that he had not been able to find a Resolution template for a DEO that did not involve a board member election. Tyler Lapp motioned to appoint Kunz as DEO; Maria Casanova seconded. Approval was unanimous.

The next regular RFPD meeting is scheduled for October 21st, 2024.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sarah Eckles at 8:51; seconded by Tyler Lapp. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary