

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: June 24th, 2024

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

Roll Call: RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Sarah Eckles, Tyler Lapp, and Paul Ruud.

Guests Present: RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz, prospective Board Member Maria Casanova.

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

Appointment and Oath of Office: Kunz stated that Maria Casanova had submitted the only letter of interest for the open Board seat vacated by Raegan Ellease in March. Casanova explained that she had a background in finance, accounting and book keeping that would be helpful towards the financial management of the District. Gregg Anderson moved to appoint Casanova to the open board seat, with a term that would run through May of 2025; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous. Casanova read the oath of office. The oath, along with proof of the Director bond, will be filed with DOLA.

Approval of Minutes: Comment was made that the 5/20 minutes still included Raegan Ellease as present. Sarah Eckles moved to approve the corrected minutes for the May 20th meeting; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous, with Casanova abstaining.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable, Pension Checks:

Kunz added (1) additional bill for payment: Todd Jones (reimbursement for \$87.88: parts for fire truck) Paul Ruud moved to approve payment for the bills as presented (plus additional), to accept the financial report, and pay the pension checks; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report: Kunz discussed the upcoming Colorado accessibility requirements for public records and how the Streamline website platform contains tools to aid compliance. Kunz has been culling files and financial records older than 7 years as per DOLA guidelines.

RFPD will need to draft a letter of intent to participate in the combined November, 2024 election with the County to be approved at the July meeting. The question to the voters would concern the disposition of the lots under the 1996 firehouse and approval of their conveyance from the Town to the Fire District. The ballot issue would be simpler than the 2023 ballot question as it would not involve a tax increase and is therefore not a TABOR issue.

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 October 31, 2024/ (December 31, with extension).

CDPHE EMTS grant: Request of \$60,000 towards the light rescue truck. Awarded \$44,618.75. The purchase order has been received and RFPD can spend funds from this grant. The first and second quarterly reports have been filed. Kunz informed the grant manager that the funding would be de-obligated due to the increased cost and lead time for the vehicle. Closeout: June 30, 2024.

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 except a chainsaw. 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. Kunz has been in touch with LN Curtis with the names of the firefighters who will need to be fitted. Closeout: October 31, 2024

Grants (potential):

USDA RD Community Facilities grant: Kunz may apply for funds for the Light Rescue. USDA would like to see a letter from a bank stating that they will not loan to the District, which seems unlikely. USDA also will require an attorney's opinion the the District is a valid entity and able to legally spend the requested funds. Due date: rolling.

Fire Chief Report (Fire Chief Todd Jones):

Runs: RVFD responded to (9) calls for service: an unresponsive 1 year old; several stuck or lost travelers; one river call for an abandoned boat; several highway calls with no transports.

Training: In-house and prep for the Fourth and TSFA. EMS training with Scottie Larsen is scheduled for 6/25.

Equipment: Jones would like to purchase a lock-out kit due to the number of people requesting assistance. Board members were supportive but raised concerns about liability to the District or individual members if the lockout did not involve danger to life (e.g: child or pet in locked car) and the locked vehicle was damaged during attempted entry.

Brush truck/928 is functioning and the electrical system is mostly functional. Jones would like to letter the vehicle.

Building: The kitchen remodel has been largely completed.

Jones also requested funds to pay for a load of roadbase to finish off over the septic field. He will provide the labor to spread the material. Gregg Anderson moved to approve the purchase of one load of roadbase; Sarah Eckles seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Old Business:

RFPD Host planning for 2024 Tri State Firemans' Association (TSFA): The event will be held August 1-3 of 2024. Will Nolan is working out the majority of the meal planning, while RFPD will provide the prep labor. Pat Fallon and Dylan Robertson are fabricating the trophies, which are labor-intensive but look awesome. Despite looking for another sanitary provider, RFPD will be using Le Pew's expensive services. Waste Management will donate the trash service. Viking will provide the tent, chairs and tables. Southwest Memorial will be asked to provide medical support. The lodging situation appears to be under control; some instructors may be put up in campers. The Town of Rico agreed to put \$3000 towards the event.

Review of Alley Standards for Emergency Access:

Gregg Anderson did not have time to prepare his exhibit showing an alternative access proposal to IFC 2006. Anderson moved to continue the item until the regular July meeting; Paul Ruud seconded. Approval was unanimous. Kunz will send Casanova the IFC 2006 appendix that describes access and turnarounds.

Rico Fourth of July: Fireworks have been delivered. The bill was \$7500.78 to Flying Phoenix. Sarah Eckles moved to approve payment for the bill; Paul Ruud seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Carter Alley Improvement Plan, revisited: This item had been continued due to a lack of quorum at the May meeting (Ellese had resigned, Anderson recused). Paul Ruud moved to approve the revised access plan letter; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous, with Anderson recusing.

New Business:

Appointment of Committee Chairpersons: Gregg Anderson volunteered to chair the Fiscal Affairs and Pension committees. Sarah Eckles moved to appoint Anderson as chair of said committees; Paul Ruud seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

RFPD Pension Committee (Quarterly Meeting):

Chair Gregg Anderson called to order the quarterly pension meeting. Present were RFPD Board members Gregg

Anderson, Maria Casanova, Tyler Lapp, and Paul Ruud, as well as firefighters Sarah Eckles and Todd Jones. Anderson moved to approve Resolution 2024-6, amending RFPD's pension payments; Paul Ruud seconded. Approval was unanimous. There were no other items of business. The regular RFPD meeting reconvened.

The next regular RFPD meeting is scheduled for July 15th 2024.

A motion to adjourn the regular RFPD meeting and the Pension meeting was made by Sarah Eckles at 8:22; seconded by Tyler Lapp. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary