## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## FOR THE

## COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**JANUARY 8, 2019** 

STATION 41, 1850 RAILROAD AVENUE, RIFLE, CO

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lambert at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a moment of silence was given.

### ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

Alan Lambert, President/Chairperson Levy Burris, Director (via phone) Paige Haderlie, Treasurer (arrived at 6:46 pm) Addy Marantino, Secretary Matt Weisbrod, Vice President

#### Others Present:

Orrin Moon, Prevention Division Chief Mike Scott, EMS Division Chief Leif Sackett, Operations Division Chief Zach Pigati, Wildland Division Chief (via phone) John Gredig, IT Director Dino Ross, Legal Counsel PJ Tillman, Financial Manager

## ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Item 5h will be removed and replaced with Tradename Renewals.

## CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes of December 11, 2018 regular District Board meeting Prior month and Year Financial Reports Prior month Accounts Payable Reports

Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. The motion was seconded by Secretary Marantino. The motion passed unanimously.

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

## LEGAL COUNSEL:

Attorney Ross stated that he assisted in preparing a Temporary Employment Agreement for hiring an interim fire chief. His office also looked into a notice of tradename renewal received from the Secretary of State, which has been added as the new agenda item 5h.

Attorney Ross stated that his office assisted Chief Staff in preparing a number of agreements, which will be discussed separately later in the meeting when the Board is asked to consider them. Attorney Ross provided a brief summary of the status of legislation pending before the Colorado Legislature that may impact the District.

The issues surrounding the Gallagher Amendment continues to be an ongoing topic of discussion. There appears to be some interest in the Colorado Legislature to resubmit the interrogatories. There also is continuing talk on possible legislation to put the repeal of the Gallagher Amendment on the statewide ballot in November of 2019 or 2020.

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

### OPERATIONS DIVISION CHIEF SACKETT:

Division Chief Sackett thanked everyone who participated in the strategic planning process last Saturday. The collaboration efforts during that session were great and he is pleased to move forward. The District has a full set of bunker gear and would like to work out an agreement with Colorado Mountain College to enable them to utilize the gear for their academy. Vice President Weisbrod and President Lambert felt there would be no issue with that agreement as long as the bunker gear was for training purposes only. Division Chief Sackett stated that a doodle poll went out and that he needed to set a date for the next session. The next session was determined for January 16, 2019 at 5:30 pm. Division Chief Sackett explained that the District has been very busy and that he appreciates the communication between line staff, as well as from the Board. He assured the District is well underway in fixing the communication gaps. Division Chief Sackett stated Josh Dittebrand and Joseph Diedrich have resigned from their full-time positions and, as a result, the District is short a total of three people. He congratulated Pat Lucas and Whit Ward for their successful completion of the Critical Care Paramedic course. Lastly, Division Chief Sackett stated that Chief's Staff just received the preliminary report back on the wage survey. Chief's Staff will send the final report to the Board once it is received.

### PREVENTION DIVISION CHIEF MOON:

Division Chief Moon discussed the purchase order for the District's message board. Following discussion, Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to approve the purchase order in the amount of \$20,125.00. The motion was seconded by Secretary Marantino. The motion passed unanimously.

Division Chief Moon noted that later in the agenda the Board will be asked to consider a proposed contract with Schmueser Gordon Meyer, Inc. (SGM) to evaluate the foundation settling issue at Station 61.

#### EMS DIVISION CHIEF SCOTT:

Division Chief Scott thanked Landon Churchill and Secretary Marantino for teaching courses and ensuring all 15 District personnel passed their courses successfully. The CQI/EMS meeting with candidates for paramedic school sponsorships went very well. Division Chief Scott congratulated Crystal Peters for receiving the sponsorship. The IFT Committee manual is complete. The IFT Committee is working on education components for scheduling transports. As mentioned to the Board at the previous meeting, Valley View Hospital has not made payments to the District in 2018, and continues to assert that it does not understand the contract. In contrast, Grand River Hospital has not been late with payments despite there being no difference in the structure of their contract. Chief's Staff continues to recommend that the Board terminate its IFT contract with Valley View Hospital. Chairperson Lambert asked that the Board discuss this topic under new business. Division Chief Scott stated that he has submitted a grant for an extractor to wash gear.

#### WILDLAND DIVISION CHIEF PIGATI:

There were no questions from the Board for Division Chief Pigati.

#### IT DIRECTOR GREDIG:

IT Director Gredig presented a Colorado River Fire Rescue Technology Plan to the Board. He proposed that the District upgrade its internet connection service. Cedar Networks has fiber service within the District area and has been working great for other municipalities. He asked for approval to go forward with scoping and negotiating a contract with Cedars Networks for further consideration by the Board. President Lambert asked if this request was included in the 2019 budget. IT Director Gredig said yes. Treasurer Haderlie stated she has used Cedar Networks recently and felt it was a very small organization and had issues with their conversion and billing. She further stated that the speed and reliability were very good; however, the District would have to monitor everything. Vice President Weisbrod added that the reliability of having the fiber will pay for the cost in downtime related to cable service. The consensus of the Board was to authorize IT Director Gredig to move forward with developing this proposal.

### FINANCIAL MANAGER TILLMAN:

As requested by Vice President Weisbrod, Financial Manager Tillman went over the 2018 categories that were over budget. Financial Manager Tillman asked if the Board approved the draft budget message to DOLA that was included in the Board packet. Chairperson Lambert said it was great and thanked her for all of her work on the 2019 budget. Financial Manager Tillman thanked all of the division chiefs and staff for their assistance.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Consider and possible approval of Agreement with McGrath Human Resources Group for Executive Recruitment of Fire Chief:

Attorney Ross reviewed with the Board the proposed agreement with McGrath Human Resources Group ("McGrath"), noting that it was a two-part proposal. The District can select one part or all parts of their services for their total price listed. The assessment center is a very common service with higher end officer level positions. McGrath limits it to 4 candidates. Typically 2 or 3 additional

candidates would be identified as alternates incase a primary candidate was unable to participate in the assessment center. McGrath would give the Board the ability to pick the scenarios for the exercises from McGrath's pre-established list. Chief Callahan gave an overview of the services McGrath provided to Boulder Rural Fire Protection District while he was interim fire chief. President Lambert asked if Chief Callahan felt it was a good process to implement. Chief Callahan felt it was. Secretary Marantino asked if any of the assessments included a meet and greet or any community involvement. Chief Callahan stated they did not, but noted that during the initial assessment, it was not uncommon. During the second part of the assessment, Boulder Rural FPD attempted to incorporate a meet and greet, but there was not much participation from the community. Vice President Weisbrod felt the contract was costly but was also comfortable with the agreement being proposed. Secretary Marantino asked about the process the District Board used in hiring the last fire chief. Attorney Ross explained the prior fire chief selection process the Board used was with the assistance of an outside consultant, Martin Goughnour. Attorney Ross stated that his memory is that the process did not generate a large number of applicants and that, based on the process McGrath just administered for Boulder Rural FPD, it appears McGrath could provide a larger pool of more qualified candidates. Director Burris stated that he has no issues with the proposal. Secretary Marantino made a motion to approve the agreement with McGrath Human Resources Group for executive recruitment of a fire chief. Treasurer Haderlie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## Consider and possible approval of Resolution Establishing Fire Chief Selection Process:

Attorney Ross stated that there are a number of formal actions the Board must take in open session to establish the fire chief selection process. In his experience, it has been helpful to bring all of those actions together in a single Resolution. Attorney Ross worked through the proposed Resolution with the Board. The Board, Attorney Ross and Chief Callahan then spent a significant amount of time revising and updating the fire chief job description that is attached to the Resolution. The Board, Chief Callahan and Attorney Ross then reviewed the proposed timeline for the selection process that also is attached to the Resolution. Once the Board was satisfied with the attachments to the Resolution, Secretary Marantino made a motion to adopt the Resolution number 2019-0101 establishing the fire chief selection process. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Haderlie. The motion passed unanimously.

## RECESS:

Chairman Lambert recessed the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Chairman Lambert reconvened the meeting at 8:52 pm.

## NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED):

Consider and possible approval of Notice of Termination and Demand for Payment to Valley View Hospital:

President Lambert asked if there was another approach to take instead of terminating the IFT contract with Valley View Hospital. Division Chief Scott felt that Valley View Hospital has been avoiding negotiations and was not taking the District seriously. Division Chief Scott stated that

terminating the contract with Valley View Hospital would not affect the District's 911 services. President Lambert felt the District cannot continue to provide services without proper compensation. Treasurer Haderlie asked if Valley View Hospital were contracted with other fire districts to provide IFT services. Division Chief Scott said no, but Valley View Hospital is searching. Vice President Weisbrod asked Attorney Ross to explain the difference between termination and a demand for payment. Attorney Ross stated that, fundamentally, the Board needs to determine whether the District should continue in a contractual relationship with Valley View Hospital. Historically, Valley View Hospital has been a poor business partner under the IFT contract. Chief's Staff believes that terminating the IFT relationship will not affect the relationship with the hospital for emergent transportation. The question of demanding payment of outstanding amounts is really a separate matter and must be dealt with regardless whether the District terminates the contract. Division Chief Sackett reiterated that Chief's Staff recommends termination. Division Chief Scott further added that Valley View Hospital will not talk to the billing company directly. Even though Division Chief Scott and Division Chief Sackett met with Valley View Hospital in October of 2018, Valley View Hospital has not paid their bills and they continue to assert that they do not understand the contract. Director Burris wanted to keep the notice discreet so as to not create a spectacle in the paper or affect the District's chance of recouping any monies due. He also recommended going to the CEO of Valley View Hospital and by-passing the Chief Nursing Officer that the District has been dealing with. Following further Board discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Marantino to approve the Notice of Termination and Demand for Payment. The motion was seconded by Vice President Weisbrod. The motion passed unanimously.

## Consider and possible approval of Medical Director Agreement:

Division Chief Scott explained the purpose of the Medical Director Agreement and Attorney Ross covered the legal aspect of the agreement. Secretary Marantino asked if the current medical director is satisfactorily performing all the services outlined in the agreement. Chief staff indicated that the quarterly reviews were not being done but that the current medical director understands that they must be performed under the new agreement. Following Board discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Weisbrod to approve the Medical Director Agreement. The motion was second by Director Burris. The motion passed unanimously.

## Consider and possible approval of Educational Institution Affiliation Agreement:

Division Chief Scott gave an overview of the purpose of the agreement that outlines the ability of District staff to attend classes and trainings. The redline version has not been approved by SCL, but Attorney Ross suggested that the Board approve the agreement as long as SCL does not request any substantial changes. Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to allow legal and staff to proceed with finalizing and executing the agreement, provided that SCL had no material changes. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Haderlie. The motion passed unanimously.

## Consider and possible approval of Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Inter-facility Transfers:

Division Chief Scott gave an overview on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which allows the District to initiate a call within their boundaries without obtaining prior permission. The MOU was at the suggestion of the County Chiefs. Attorney Ross explained that the MOU did not obligate anyone to perform inter-facility transports; it just gives permission to do so. Division Chief Scott explained that the need for the MOU arose when District personnel were transporting from Grand River Hospital to Parachute, and there was some confusion among the jurisdictions. The incident was referred to the Fire Chief for Grand Valley FPD, who then brought it to the County Chiefs. The MOU regarding inter-facility transfers will remove the obligation to call the other jurisdiction's on-call officer for permission. Treasurer Haderlie asked if the MOU would affect the District's ability to bill for inter-facility transfer services. Division Chief Scott said no, the MOU was only to gain permission to transport into another jurisdiction. Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding regarding inter-facility transfers. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Haderlie. The motion passed unanimously.

## Consider and possible approval of Facility Use Agreement with Colorado Mountain Local College District:

Division Chief Sackett provided an overview of the Facility Use Agreement with Colorado Mountain Local College District. Battalion Chief Van Slyke worked on the agreement and legal finalized it. Attorney Ross further reviewed the definitions and use provisions of the agreement with the Board. Following Board discussion, Secretary Marantino made a motion to approve the Facility Use Agreement with Colorado Mountain Local College District. The motion was seconded by Vice President Weisbrod. The motion passed unanimously.

## Tradename Renewals:

Attorney Ross explained that in the past there were efforts by a private company to use similar names to Colorado River Fire Rescue. The former Fire Chief filed tradename protection with the Colorado Secretary of State, but combined all names under one tradename. Attorney Ross recommends that, if the Board wants to continue registering the tradenames, it should refile them separately for each tradename. Treasurer Haderlie asked if the State enforced the use of tradenames. Attorney Ross stated that the State did not enforce tradenames, but it protects the District and gives it the ability to take legal action if someone were to try to use one of the names. Treasurer Haderlie asked if other prior names, such as Burning Mountains Fire, should be included. Following Board discussion, Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to pursue separate tradename renewals for the following: CRFR, Colorado River Fire Rescue, Colorado River Fire Rescue Authority and CRFRA. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Haderlie. The motion passed unanimously.

# Consider and possible approval of Agreement for Professional Services with Schmeuser, Gordon and Meyer regarding structural investigation of floor slab at Station 61:

Division Chief Moon gave an overview of the Agreement for Professional Services with Schmeuser, Gordon and Meyer (SGM) regarding structural investigation of the floor slab at Station 61. Attorney Ross stated that his office had to significantly revise a lot of the agreement and SGM accepted the changes without any conflict. Attorney Ross reiterated that it is not an agreement for construction, just an evaluation. Vice President Weisbrod had a concern with the scope of work and asked what the District will get out of the agreement. Division Chief Moon stated it was for direction on what to do. Vice President Weisbrod said the scope of work was worded too vaguely, and this could just be step one of many and that this agreement will not necessarily give the District the solution, possibly

just a string of recommendations for additional investigations. Treasurer Haderlie suggested that staff determine whether or not SGM originally engineered the foundation before the Board can act on this issue. Director Burris concurred. The consensus of the Board was that if SGM was the original engineer on the construction of the fire station, then Chief's Staff must find another firm to assess the structural issue. If SGM was not the original engineer, then Chief's Staff needs to better define the scope of work to be performed by SGM, and also find out what the cost of mud jacking the floor would be. Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to table this issue until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Burris. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Burris made a motion to extend the Board of Directors meeting beyond the time of 10:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Vice President Weisbrod. The motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

## Burning Mountains and Rifle Fire Pension Plans:

IT Director Gredig gave a presentation on the history of the Burning Mountains Fire Protection District and Rifle Fire Protection District volunteer firefighter pension plans. A discussion of the history and how the pension plans evolved ensued. Director Burris asked if the District will have to pay for the actuarial every two years. Legal Ross advised that it was required by state law.

Review and consideration of November Pension Board recommendation to increase the Burning Mountains Pension & Rifle Fire Pension amounts:

Secretary Marantino asked if the November Pension Board recommendation to increase the Burning Mountains pension and Rifle Fire pension amounts could be tabled until after the 2019 actuarial was released. Attorney Ross stated that the Board certainly could postpone action until it receives the new actuarial report. Secretary Marantino made a motion to table the review and consideration to increase the Burning Mountains pension and Rifle Fire pension amounts until after the next actuarial was released. The motion was seconded by Vice President Weisbrod. The motion passed unanimously.

## Strategic Planning Process:

The next strategic planning session was scheduled for January 16, 2019 at 5:30 pm at Station 41.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Chairperson Lambert thanked everyone and was very proud of how the District has stepped up.

Director Burris wanted everyone to stay safe and keep up the good work.

Treasurer Haderlie thanked everyone for a productive meeting with great dialogue.

Secretary Marantino thanked everyone and wished all a happy new year.

Vice President Weisbrod agreed with the comments made by Treasurer Haderlie and Secretary Marantino. He extended his thanks to Chief Callahan for stepping in and helping the District.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Secretary Marantino.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm.

## APPROVAL

The foregoing Minutes, which have been approved by the affirmative majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Fire Protection District, is a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the date stated above.

Date: 2 /12 /2019

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