

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
NOVEMBER 12, 2019  
STATION 41, 1850 RAILROAD AVENUE, RIFLE, CO 81650**

The regular scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lambert at 6:40 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a moment of silence was given.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Board Members Present:**

Alan Lambert, President/Chairperson  
Matt Weisbrod, Vice President  
Paige Haderlie, Treasurer  
Addy Marantino, Secretary  
Levy Burris, Director

**Others Present:**

Randy Callahan, Fire Chief  
Leif Sackett, Operation Division Chief  
Zach Pigati, Wildland/Training Division Chief  
Mike Scott, EMS Division Chief  
Orrin Moon, Prevention Division Chief  
John Gredig, IT Director  
P.J. Tillman, Administrative Director  
Dino Ross, Legal Counsel for the District

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

None

**CONTINUED PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING:**

Chairperson Lambert called to order the continued Public Hearing on the proposed 2020 Budget at 6:45 p.m.

**1. Review of latest version of proposed 2020 Budget:**

Fire Chief Callahan stated that at the previous Public Hearing on the proposed 2020 Budget, the Board directed Chief Staff to work on and fine tune option two, the "status quo" budget. Fire Chief Callahan explained that Chief Staff has presented that budget with two optional add-ons.

Fire Chief Callahan stated that there was a balanced budget gap of \$1,986,147, which would be made up with reserve funds. He stated that the gap may be less as the District is trying to be conservative with its revenues. In addition, the budget is built to support base-line pay raises and some other funding components of the compensation policy.

Administrative Director Tillman stated that some increases occurred under option B of the proposed 2020 Budget. Chief Staff added a lieutenant assessment, additional training costs for certifications and tuition assistance. There was also an update on EMS write-offs. She stated that the capital grants were moved from the operations budget to the capital fund budget.

Fire Chief Callahan stated that Chief Staff recommends approval of both the proposed 2020 general fund and capital fund budgets as presented, with consideration of adding option 1 in the general fund budget for full implementation of the wage survey effective January 1, 2020, to help with retention of current staffing. Alternatively, adding option 2 for full implementation of the wage survey effective June 1, 2020 would reduce the wage survey impact until stable funding mechanisms are determined, if the Board decides to seek voter approval of a mill levy increase in May 2020.

Discussion ensued regarding the beginning and general fund balances of the current budget as well as concerns for the proposed 2020 budget.

Director Burris made a motion to direct Chief Staff to prepare a 2020 budget based on column one of the proposed 2020 budget with no budget add-ons. Vice President Weisbrod seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**2. Public Comments:**

None

**3. Fire Chiefs/Operations/Administration: Q & A and discussion of any changes or revisions:**

None

Chairperson Lambert closed the Public Hearing at 7:33 pm.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Minutes of October 8, 2019 Regular District Board meeting  
Prior Month Financial Reports  
Prior Month Accounts Payable Reports

Secretary Marantino made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Director Burris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE:**

Attorney Ross stated that he had no updates on legal matters.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:**

Fire Chief Callahan gave an overview of his report. He stated that Chief Staff is closely monitoring the 2019 budget and staffing levels. He advised the Board that a type 5 engine was being advertised for sale. In addition, due to critical staffing levels, Fire Chief Callahan stated that Chief Staff is looking to hire three temporary positions.

Vice President Weisbrod asked if Chief Staff has looked at non-traditional EMS staffing models to help offset the critical staffing levels. Fire Chief Callahan stated that Staff would look into that further.

Fire Chief Callahan commended the crews who handled the commercial building fire recently. He stated that the crews handled it professionally and he was very pleased that everyone went home safely.

President Lambert thanked the District for how they responded to that incident and how they communicated with the public as well.

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM REQUESTS:**

- a. **Fire Chief/Operations: Resolution Entering into an Agreement to execute GCFMLD Radio Replacement Joint Grant 19-I-02 (Resolution No. 2019-11-01):**

Fire Chief Callahan and Operations Division Chief Sackett explained that the proposed Resolution was to authorize the District's portion of the joint application for the grant.

Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-11-01. Director Burris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM REQUESTS:**

- a. **Fire Chief/Operations/Administration: Continued Mill Levy Research and Public Task Force meeting update:**

Fire Chief Callahan stated that there have been two task force meetings conducted. Now there is a letter and brochure that will be sent to the residents to engage a public survey.

Operation Division Chief Sackett stated that the contents of the letters have been revised from several members of the District as well as the task force committees. He stated that the last two task force meetings have been very productive.

Treasurer Haderlie commended Chief Staff for their consistent communication during the task force meetings.

Fire Chief Callahan stated that there were some task force members who recommended that the Board members sign the letter as well. However, Chief Staff believes Board members should not sign the letter in order to avoid any appearance of bias.

Treasurer Haderlie asked that when the letters were placed into the envelopes, that the District's logo or brochure are presented first.

The Board gave further suggestions on how to present the printed materials to the public.

Attorney Ross recommended ensuring that any educational presentations to community groups are not presented as support for a potential mill levy increase election. Secretary Marantino asked if the Board members could share the current brochure on social media. Attorney Ross stated that, because the materials are solely for educational purposes and to receive community input, they can be distributed however the District chooses.

**b. Fire Chief/Operations/Administration: Wage Study and Pay Policy update:**

Fire Chief Callahan stated that the proposed pay policy has been reviewed and approved by the majority of the District's membership and has been reviewed by legal counsel. He stated that if the pay policy were approved by the Board, Chief Staff would begin phasing-in the policy in January 2020 and also would present the Board with proposed amendments to the District's Personnel Manual in December 2019 to conform to the pay policy019. He commended Chief Staff and the membership for their contributions of the proposed pay policy.

Secretary Marantino made a motion to approve the pay policy. Vice President Weisbrod seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **DIVISION INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM:**

### **Operation Division Chief Sackett:**

Operation Division Chief Sackett gave an update on the new service truck. He stated Fleet Mechanic Farineau would fly out on December 2, 2019 to do the final inspection and drive the new service truck back to the District.

### **Wildland/Training Division Chief Pigati:**

Vice President Weisbrod asked if there were any updates on enrollments on the west area of the country.

Wildland/Training Division Chief Pigati stated that at the first opening, the District tended the Mamm Creek Fire. However, the District is currently available through the resource ordering and status system (ROSS). As the wildland season is winding down, he stated that the District has an engine available.

### **EMS Division Chief Scott:**

EMS Division Chief Scott stated that there were many cases of overdoses lately and that the partnership with law enforcement has helped tremendously.

Vice President Weisbrod was pleased that the IFT revenue streams have been positive.

President Lambert stated that the Board sent a letter to the Board President of Valley View Hospital on the outstanding amounts Valley View Hospital owes the District, but the Board has received no response from Valley View Hospital.

Vice President Weisbrod asked what would be the next step if Valley View Hospital does not respond or cooperate. President Lambert stated that further discussion of the matter would be taken at a later date.

### **Prevention Division Chief Moon:**

Prevention Division Chief Moon briefly updated the Board on the new construction projects within the District.

Vice President Weisbrod asked if Chief Staff has given further consideration to charging fees for project/plan reviews.

Prevention Division Chief Moon stated that the Board has asked that the rate and number of projects be tracked. From there, Chief Staff was to let the Board know whether charging fees was a feasible option.

**IT Director Gredig:**

IT Director Gredig discussed the recent issues with the 800 MHz radio system and the possible solutions proposed.

He briefly reviewed components of the October Summary Report. He asked if the Board wanted to see any other information.

Treasurer Haderlie discussed some ideas on transferring some of the data from the summary reports into informational social media announcements.

**Administrative Director Tillman:**

The Board commended Administrative Director Tillman for her work, especially on the proposed 2020 Budget.

**GOOD NEWS & DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

Fire Chief Callahan commended Amanda Fields who represented the District and won the chili cook-off at the Chamber of Commerce.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

President Lambert acknowledged that there were many challenges the District faced. He wanted the membership to know that the Board and the District would do everything in their power to solve the challenges.

Vice President Weisbrod stated that with all the challenges that occur on a daily basis, he is very appreciative of the District members for their contributions.

Treasurer Haderlie agreed with the comments made by the Board. She liked the District members' engagement at the Fall Family Festival and the Fair Grounds.

Secretary Marantino thanked the District for acknowledging the positive events and progress.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no other business to come before the Board, Chairperson Lambert adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.

**APPROVAL:**

The foregoing Minutes, which has 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 state above.

Date:  10/Dec/2019

Date: 10 Dec 2019 