

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MARCH 9, 2021

STATION 41, 1850 RAILROAD AVENUE, RIFLE, CO 81650

The regular scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lambert at 6:30 pm. 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 (electronically)
Addy Marantino, Secretary
Levy Burris, Director

Others Present:

Leif Sackett, Fire Chief
Scott Van Slyke, EMS/Training Division Chief
Orrin Moon, Prevention Division Chief
John Gredig, IT Director
Dino Ross, Legal Counsel for the District (electronically)

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Fire Chief Sackett requested an amendment to the agenda to add an Executive Session to receive advice of legal counsel regarding a workers' compensation matter pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b).

Attorney Ross requested another amendment to the agenda to add "possible action on matter discussed in Executive Session".

Director Burris made a motion to approve the agenda with the requested amendments. Secretary Marantino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE:

Attorney Ross stated that Attorney Michelle Ferguson has been helping Chief Staff with several personnel projects. Attorney Ross stated later in the meeting the Board will be asked to approve a new contract with CPS HR. He stated that he reviewed the proposed contract and it is substantively identical to the previous contract.

Attorney Ross stated that he provided the Board with his firm's Legislative Tracker for the current Colorado Legislative Session. Attorney Ross reviewed a couple of the bills that his firm is following that could impact fire districts, including the Healthy Forest legislation that would authorize creation of new Special Improvement Districts. Attorney Ross discussed another bill that he is trying to amend to add language that would enable a Board to conduct fire chief interviews in Executive Session. Attorney Ross discussed a bill that he drafted for the Colorado Fire Commission, which would establish a state-wide mutual aid system and would clean up some existing statutory language.

Treasurer Haderlie and Attorney Ross discussed Senate Bill 166. Attorney Ross stated that the State Fire Chiefs are actively supporting the bill.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Fire Chief Sackett stated that in this month's Board packet there is a review and possible consideration of a CPS-HR 2021 contract renewal. Fire Chief Sackett stated that there is also a Strategic Plan quarterly time frame discussion.

Fire Chief Sackett stated that the District has experienced mixed emotions and heavy blows due to the loss of two personnel, Mike Kelly, followed by Kent Coker two weeks later.

Fire Chief Sackett stated that Mike Kelly had incredible passion and a contagious positive attitude for life, even with the news of having cancer. Fire Chief Sackett stated that Mike Kelly's smile was bright, and he charged forward looking for something positive in each day.

Fire Chief Sackett stated that Kent Coker's drive and compassion to serve others was one of his greatest assets. Fire Chief Sackett stated that he worked with Kent Coker for approximately 13 years. Fire Chief Sackett stated that Kent Coker has provided great support to the entire membership.

Fire Chief Sackett stated that the District has endured great grief and loss. Fire Chief Sackett stated that District personnel have united and worked hard over the last couple of

weeks to ensure the funerals for Mike Kelly and Kent Coker were conducted with honor, professionalism, dignity, and respect.

President Lambert stated that the District provided funeral services that were amazingly professional and well planned.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM REQUESTS:

a. **Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consideration of CPS HR Services On-Demand Contract Renewal**

Fire Chief Sackett stated that over the last two years, the District has been in an on-demand HR contract with CPS HR. Fire Chief Sackett stated that CPS HR has helped the District with job analysis for all positions, updated job descriptions for all positions, multiple hiring processes from entry-level to battalion chief promotions, the District's organizational chart, and adopted compensation policy.

Fire Chief Sackett stated that Chief Staff has a great relationship with CPS HR and would like to continue the on-demand contract for 2021.

Secretary Marantino made a motion to approve the CPS HR on-demand services renewal contract for 2021. Director Burris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM REQUESTS:

a. **Fire Chief/Administration: Board discussion on timeline preference for Strategic Plan review and updates**

Fire Chief Sackett stated that the District is coming up on its quarterly review of the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. Fire Chief Sackett asked the Board if they would prefer a Doodle poll or an email to determine the dates for a Strategic Plan review session.

The Board had no specific preference and stated that they were okay with any method that was easiest for Fire Chief Sackett.

DIVISION INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM:

Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati:

Fire Chief Sackett stated that Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati will not be present for the meeting. Fire Chief Sackett reviewed Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati's report.

Fire Chief Sackett stated that Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati has been working on hiring a person for the Engine Boss/Lieutenant position. Fire Chief Sackett stated that Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati has also been working on the best route for selling District apparatus. Fire Chief Sackett stated that the District is working with a fire department in Idaho on a percentage for the sale of a type 5 engine. Fire Chief Sackett stated that Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati is in the process of hiring personnel for the Wildland Seasonal Firefighter position. Fire Chief Sackett stated that there are multiple wildfires in Mesa County. He stated that Garfield County is still under extreme or exceptional drought and is hoping for more moisture in the upcoming weeks.

EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke:

EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke stated that both Mike Kelly and Kent Coker will be missed dearly. He stated that they were both true leaders and left too soon. He stated that the District will not know the impact of their loss for a while.

EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke stated that Lieutenant Mollenkamp and Lieutenant Carroll have completed a Difficult Airway Training with all the shifts. EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke congratulated Chief Messner for obtaining his Fire Officer II certification and Engineer Cahalan for obtaining his Fire Officer I certification.

EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke stated that earlier this year, the Delaware National Guard utilized the District's confined space facility. He stated that the Delaware National Guard will also be providing a radiation training for the District.

EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke stated the District is requesting quotes to have the burn tower inspected for compliance with NFPA standards. The standard requires the District's burn tower to be inspected by a competent professional every five years, and it has been eight years since its last inspection.

Prevention Division Chief Moon:

Prevention Division Chief Moon stated that he has reviewed plans on fire sprinklers and a fire alarm at Blue Vase. He stated that he has received plans for a new building going in at Remington Square in Rifle. Prevention Division Chief Moon informed the Board that Rosie's building in New Castle is now being looked at by a private school from Glenwood Springs. He stated that he and the New Castle Building Department have been working on the building's requirements prior to obtaining a building permit for the school.

Prevention Division Chief Moon stated that the District has registered for the GlenX Virtual Career Expo. He stated that he is unsure of how the virtual expo will be conducted; however, it is a good way to engage with high school students and get them enthused in emergency services throughout the District.

IT Director Gredig:

IT Director Gredig stated that he has been working on the Communications Plans with Fire Chief Sackett and Operations/Wildland Division Chief Pigati to help with the Continuity of Operations Plan.

IT Director Gredig stated that he has also been working with EMS/Training Division Chief Van Slyke on the District's Quality Management/Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI).

Administrative Director Tillman:

Fire Chief Sackett stated that Administrative Director Tillman is in training and will not be at the meeting.

He stated that the District originally budgeted a dividend refund from CEBT at \$20,000 and had received a dividend refund of \$27,495. Fire Chief Sackett stated that he and Administrative Director Tillman have been working with CPS HR on interview questions for the EMS/Training Division Chief Assessment Center.

GOOD NEWS & DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Fire Chief Sackett stated that the District received a county-wide radio grant and was able to disperse 2500 dollars between all fire departments.

Fire Chief Sackett reviewed a Facebook post of the District's, ROI Fire and Ballistics', and MSA Safety's donation of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) to fire districts in need throughout Colorado.

Fire Chief Sackett reviewed a thank you card from members of the community.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Secretary Marantino thanked the District for all the work done in supporting the families of Kent Coker and Mike Kelly. Secretary Marantino stated that it is a huge loss to the District, and she really appreciates how the District has handled everything.

Treasurer Haderlie agreed with the comments made by Secretary Marantino. Treasurer Haderlie stated that she can only imagine what everyone is going through and is praying for the best possible outcome from all that has happened.

Vice President Weisbrod agreed with the comments made by the Board. He encouraged all to not be afraid to reach out, ask questions, and seek the help needed during this difficult time.

Director Burriss stated that his sentiments are the same as everyone on this Board. He stated that there is a loss of two individuals who contributed so much to the District and Rifle Fire Protection District. Director Burriss stated that he gives prayers and condolences to the families of those lost.

President Lambert stated that after everything the District has gone through, with the loss of two brothers, he could not be prouder of the dedication and response of the organization. President Lambert stated that there is going to be a five minute break before entering Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to enter Executive Session to receive legal advice on a worker compensation issue pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b). Secretary Marantino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Attorney Ross certified for the record that the Executive Session will constitute an attorney-client communication and will not be recorded.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:20 pm.

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 7:28 pm.

Vice President Weisbrod made a motion to have Chief Sackett execute what was discussed in Executive Session. Secretary Marantino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to come before the Board, Chairperson Lambert adjourned the meeting at 7:29 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: April 13, 2021



Date: 4/13/21



I hereby attest that the Executive Session, which was not recorded, constituted a privileged attorney-client communication.


Dino A. Ross, Attorney

I hereby attest that the Executive Session, which was not recorded, was confined to a topic authorized for discussion in Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(b).


Alan Lambert, President