

The Rye Fire Protection District

MINUTES OF THE RYE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Workshop Meeting October 19, 2015

Present Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger, Mr. Wade Wills, Mr. Mike Davis, Mr. Garry Melchi

Absent Directors – None

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 P.M. by Mr. Wills who chaired the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Workshop Session

In opening comments, it was noted that the meeting with Pueblo County Assessor resulted in good information. A graph previously completed by Captain Beach and presented by Mr. Davis included a key punch error, but precipitated good research. A new graph was distributed. It was noted that the residential mil levy is 7.96 and commercial is 29. Mr. Schaiberger received Pueblo County tax based revenue from 2005 to 2012. Further verifications will be done by Mr. Schaiberger for the next meeting.

It was discussed that the tax revenues from Pueblo County in the past 10 years have been continually increasing, but the growth has not been sufficient to keep up with the rising costs for doing business and inflation.

The Mr. Schaiberger noted that for the public presentations, detailed goals must be established and communicated to the public.

Chief Bennett passed on a Payscale and Mil Levies for various entities. Rye Fire current mil levy is 10.036 and was raised from approximately 6.0 in 2001. Bullet points were noted, which will be included in public presentations. The wages noted showed Rye Fire starting full-time salary. Currently Rye Fire only pays for employee only insurance for full-time personnel. Part-time can opt in where they are required to pay 100% of the insurance. Wage information for AMR and Pueblo Rural Fire were reviewed. Chief Bennett is waiting on Pueblo West information. The Board noted that this information was very good, but asked that it be expanded and charted to allow for

The Rye Fire Protection District

comparisons. It was noted that based upon a hourly rate, some people at McDonalds are paid more than firefighters who put their lives on the line.

Mr. Davis shared a staff budget for Command Staff, Career Firefighters, and Part-Time Firefighters with all taxes and benefits (retirement and health) using existing wages. The health insurance was for seven (7) full-time firefighters carrying family health insurance. The total cost was compared to the current income from Pueblo County. A second column included a potential raise. The resulting total cost (current plus raise) showed a projected cost as compared to current Pueblo County revenue. Final salaries to be determined later. Mr. Davis to refine this chart for the next meeting.

Mr. Davis handed out a comparison for residential value and mil levy tax rate. He utilized his home as a start with the current mil levy and then the projected cost increase for a 3.5 mil levy increase. The Board noted that this was very good information that would allow the public to understand the financial implication for their residence. Mr. Davis did the same for a \$100,000, \$150,000 and \$200,000 residence with the current and proposed 3.5 mil increase. The monthly and yearly cost impact was noted. Excellent information. Mr. Davis will revise this with the range from \$25,000 to \$250,000 in \$25,000 increments using 5.5 mil. The Board noted that 3.5 mil will cover the projected salary requirement and considering a 2.0 mil add to be added as a Capital Reserve.

Several assignments were issued for the next workshop session.

- Mr. Schaiberger will obtain and verify Pueblo County Tax Revenues from 2004 to as current as possible.
- Mr. Davis will expand the residential mil levy chart to include more detailed home values.
- Chief Bennett will provide more details for wages and comparisons to various fire departments.
- Chief Bennett will provide more details for various fire department mil levies.

Next workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 7:00 PM to continue finalizing the mil levy amount that will be placed on the ballot. Chief Bennett left the meeting to post the meeting notice.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:49 P.M.

Motion: Mr. Schaiberger
Second: Mr. Davis

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Wills, Mr. Davis, Mr. Melchi
Nay: None

Dated this 19th day of October 2015.

The Rye Fire Protection District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beach". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping underline.

Submitted by Jim Beach, Captain