

The Rye Fire Protection District

**MINUTES OF THE RYE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING
Regular Meeting May 20, 2019**

Present Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger, Mr. Rich Simpson, Mr. George McGoff, Mr. Wally Rice

Absent Directors – Mr. Mike Graber

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mr. Schaiberger, who chaired the meeting.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken, and present members were introduced.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schaiberger asked for any additions or changes to the meeting agenda.

Motion to approve Meeting Agenda for May 20, 2019 as posted.

Motion: Mr. Schaiberger
Second: Mr. Simpson

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice
Abstain: None
Nay: None

Receive or Act on Board Correspondence

None.

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Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Schaiberger asked for approval of the minutes of March 2019.

Motion to approval of the meeting minutes for March 2019 as presented.

Motion: Mr. McGoff
Second: Mr. Simpson

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Mr. McGoff, Mr. Rice
Abstain: None
Nay: None

Treasurer's Report

Accounts Receivable/Payable. The Treasurer's Report was just beginning when a report of a structure fire came in and Chief Bennett needed to respond. At 5:14 pm, the meeting was adjourned to allow Chief Bennett to leave the meeting. The meeting will be rescheduled.

Reconvene

On May 29, 2019 at 5:00 p.m., the Board Meeting was reconvened.

Present Directors – Mr. John Schaiberger, Mr. Rich Simpson, Mr. Wally Rice, Mr. Mike Graber

Absent Directors – Mr. George McGoff

Others - Chief Steve Bennett, Captain Jim Beach

Treasurer's Report

Accounts Receivable/Payable. Mr. Rice reviewed the reports with the Board. He noted that the budget is approximately 33% through the year. It was noted that the propane account may go over budget. It was noted that about 50% of the tax revenue has been received. The bills that were signed at the May 20th meeting were reviewed.

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Emergency Medical Services. Captain Beach reviewed the April 2019 EMS Graph noting that 2019 is off to a good start with billings over budget by about 13%, and receipts about 58% over budget. Captain Beach asked the Board to consider some EMS expenditures towards the end of the year if revenue continues to exceed budget projections.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable for March and April 2019.

Motion: Mr. Simpson
Second: Mr. Graber

Further Discussion: None.

Aye: Mr. Schaiberger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Rice, Mr. Graber
Abstain: None
Nay: None

Capital Projects. Exhaust System. AirPro from Denver provided a quotes, with details, for both stations, totaling about \$89,000. Information was provided for a grant opportunity through USDA with a 90/10 match. There is a possibility it will be 95/5, but those are mainly limited to volunteer organizations. Getting a grant from USDA has the greatest chance of approval, but is slower than other types of grants. This system attaches hoses to vehicles with magnets and releases once the vehicle exits the building. This system greatly reduces the carbons released in the structure and allows vehicles to be ran inside during inclement weather. Chief Bennett will continue to monitor and work on this grant with AirPro assistance.

Capital Outlay Account Balance. Mr. Schaiberger commended the Board for their diligence in setting aside funds for the Capital Outlay Fund as Rye Fire Protection District noted in the last mill levy election. Now that the fund is growing, Mr. Schaiberger recommended that a certain amount be moved to another account which will earn more interest. Chief Bennett noted that the higher the amount and longer term of investment will equate to a higher return. The downside is the longer terms limits the availability for accessing funds, if necessary. Chief Bennett was asked to explore options and advise.

Fire Chief Report

March / April 2019

Statistics. In the Month March 2019, Rye Fire responded to 74 calls for service of which 61 were EMS related and 13 were fire related. In comparison with previous year this is an increase of 23% from 2018 and an increase of 15% from the 5-year average of 64.

In the Month April 2019, Rye Fire responded to 69 calls for service of which 55 were EMS related and 14 were fire related. In comparison with previous year this is the same with a 0% from 2018 and

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an decrease of 6% from the 5-year average of 74.

Administration/ Operations. Significant incident within the District – We had a larger wildfire just off Greenhorn Road and Apache Road. This fire was caused by a downed power line. Multiple agencies assisted Rye Fire on containment and extinguishment. By the time the fire was contained, the acres were at 13 acres.

A grant to the Colorado Department of Public Safety is being submitted for the purchase of additional structure gear. 4 people are in need of proper fitting gear. Total of 7 sets are needed. We have budget funds to purchase 6 sets but will utilize the grant to offset the cost. We will only need to purchase 3 sets ourselves if the grant is approved. The cost to outfit each firefighter is approximately \$2,600, this is a full turnout set. Should have an answer in the month of April. This grant was awarded, but the funds were just over \$800.00 instead of the \$9,000.00. Apparently, the grant focused on gloves and hoods as a priority. Other funding options will be researched.

Still awaiting a grant cycle to open for the cardiac monitors. No options for grants are available at this time.

Obtained information from Beulah on the grant and obtaining information from USDA for grant specifically for exhaust removal systems. Steve from AirPro is also sending information containing other outlets that are possible to obtain grant through. Grant request will either be 95/5 or 90/10.

We did not receive 100 percent of the Burnt Mill petitions back for the inclusion. Refer to the Task List for more information.

Put together information regarding educational funding for Paramedic and Intermediate programs. Refer to the Task Assignment List for more information.

Working on helping 1, maybe 2, employees with a create grant to offset current schooling costs. The create grant, through the State of Colorado, would reimburse the employee approximately 50% of the cost.

Prevention. We continue to provide Mitigation assessments for homeowners throughout the District.

Provided assistance to the schools with their monthly fire drills.

Had 2 Fire Chiefs for the day. Two (2) third grade students were selected after essay review by staff.

Hosted Bountiful Basket pickup at Fire Station in Colorado City.

Training. Training has been ongoing. Fire training covered wild land fires, refresher training for Basic wild land firefighter and basic fire weather, for the sawyers and power saw operator there was a safety refresher. Three people are attending Hazardous Materials training and another employee is nearing completion of his EMT and EMT IV training. One staff member completed his S130/190 for basic wildland training. EMS training is ongoing with a new topic every 6 days providing continuing education for annual requirements. Dr. Weber (physician advisor) conducted a training at the station

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in Colorado City for the staff, he tries to do this on a monthly basis.

Task List.

- Fire Hydrants. Testing on hold. When testing resumes, hydrants will be painted as testing progresses. It is anticipated that the testing will resume in June.
- Exhaust System. Refer to Capital Projects under Treasurer's Report and Fire Chief's Report.
- Rescue Truck. Refer to Old Business.
- Inclusion Information. Received 9 letters back of the 51 mailed out. Some residents have expressed interest in obtaining emergency services from Rye Fire. Mr. Schaiberger will discuss with Legal Council the option of providing property owners with contracts if they desire to obtain services from Rye Fire.
- Hatchett 33,000 Gallon Tank. Straight Line Construction drilled 14 holes and leveled the tank. The tank is back in service.
- Pueblo Regional (Pine Cone Road). All addresses are now off Highway 165 except for one property owner, which Pueblo Regional is working with to make the change.
- Educational Agreement. Chief Bennett is working on an agreement. Refer to Old Business.

Old Business

Upcoming Year Projects

- Burnt Mill Properties – Refer to Task List for information.
- Rescue Truck – The truck has been received and is being prepped for service. Chief Bennett noted that about \$1,100 will be spent for new decals. Old Rescue 3 (pickup) was sold and funds used to offset the purchase cost of the new rig. Old Rescue 2 has been stripped of lights, etc. and ready for sale. Very few inquiries have been received for this vehicle.
- Extrication Tools – Chief Bennett noted that tools have been received and training is on-going with staff on their use. They were used on a mock accident drill at Rye High School. The reimbursement has been received and the bill paid. The out-of-pocket expense was minimal.
- Educational Fund. Chief Bennett noted that he included a copy of a draft agreement in the board packet for review. Chief Bennett will continue to work on wording and verify the interest rate percent, which maybe around 5%. Chief Bennett noted that Captain Christian is working with people to obtain create grants.
- Fires in Region and Staff Updates. Chief Bennett that there were no fires in the region.

New Business

EMA and Wakefield & Associates

Chief Bennett noted that when reviewing bills, he discovered a bill from the former EMS Billing Agency, EMA Consultants, for \$32.26 for funds collected by Wakefield & Associates. Wakefield & Associates was the collection agency for EMA Consultants for accounts that were over 90 days past due and when turned over to Wakefield, were pulled from EMA's books. The agreement with EMA

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was that they were to be paid 8% of what was paid to Rye Fire. Wakefield collected a total of \$403.19 with a check to Rye Fire was made in the amount of \$221.77 and \$181.42 was Wakefield's collection amount. The invoice will be changed to reflect payment to EMA for 8% of the \$221.77 paid to Rye Fire. Chief Bennett has asked Wakefield for a list of outstanding accounts and also request that Wakefield address all communication with Rye Fire.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:40 P.M.

Motion: Mr. Simpson

Dated this 29th day of May 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beach". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Submitted by Jim Beach, Captain