



Record of Proceedings Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held: Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at the Cimarron Hills Fire Protection District Administrative Offices, 1835 Tuskegee Place, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Cimarron Hills Fire Protection District, Colorado Springs, Colorado, was called to order at 5:32 p.m. and held as shown above and in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado with the following directors present and acting:

Call to Order

Director E. Gass opened the meeting at 5:32 p.m. with 5 directors in attendance.

Roll Call

- Rene' Sintas - Present
- KaTarra Taylor - Present
- Mark Gass - Present
- Erika Gass - Present
- Paul Miller – Present by phone

Also present were:

Fire Chief Andrew York, Division Chief Thomas Joyce, Executive Assistant Virpi Mattson, and Administrative Assistant Dana Carneal taking minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda – Changes, Additions and Deletions

The Board discussed the June 19, 2024 Agenda.

Upon motion by Director M. Gass, seconded by Director Taylor, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

- None

Public Comment for Items Appearing on the Agenda

- None

Approval of Minutes

[May 8, 2024 Regular Meeting](#)

The Board reviewed the minutes from the May 8, 2024 regular meeting.

Upon motion by Director Sintas, seconded by Director M. Gass, the Board voted unanimously to approve the May 8, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

Financial Presentations

Treasurer's Report presentation and approval

Chief York presented the May 2024 Treasurer's Report and reviewed the May check report and credit card report with the Board.

Upon motion by Director Taylor, seconded by Director M. Gass, the Board voted unanimously to approve the May 2024 Treasurer's Report.

Reports

Chief's Report

Chief York presented the Chief's Report to the Board, reviewed monthly statistics for May and highlighted significant events. Crews, assisted by CSFD and Falcon FD, responded to two commercial structure fires, both in the middle of the night. Mikey's Auto Care and businesses in the Peterson Road strip mall sustained significant smoke damage.

Senate Bill SB-233 has passed and been signed by the Governor. The financial impacts, which are not clear as of now, will not take place until budget year 2026. SB-233 (the lessor impact) would be negated by Initiative 50 and/or Proposition 108 if they pass in the November election. The SDA will be providing a draft Resolution template for Boards who are in opposition of these ballot initiatives, to outline why the Board is against them and how they will be detrimental to the district.

A Notice for Annexation of property in the district was received from the City of Colorado Springs. As the specific property they desire to annex and their intent is not clear, a letter will be sent to the City advising opposition to the annexation. The next City Council meeting is July 9.

Chief York inquired if there was any interest from the Board in pursuing a sales tax for the district (allowed by the recent passing of Senate Bill SB24-194) for the November ballot. At this time, we are still seeking assistance from the County/State to determine estimated revenue from a sales tax. We are also trying to clarify whether SB-233 removed the voter approved exemption related to "all revenue" or just to property tax. The Board agreed it would be best to wait until we have further information and pursue at a later time if desired.

The Type 3 Wildland engine is on its first deployment in California. Year to date, not including the CA deployment, net revenue from wildland deployments is estimated at \$134,581.

Fire and Life Safety Report

Chief Joyce provided an overview of Life Safety and Fire Prevention activities for May. He commented having our operations personnel involved in drills with businesses and schools in the district has been very helpful in identifying issues on site and coming up with solutions.. As an example, alarm system issues were found in a business that employs primarily volunteers; from being able to locate the button to activate the alarm, to the alarm itself not sounding in some rooms throughout the building.

Chief York commented on the continued growth within the district, noting the department is tracking the new townhouse complex on the south end, as well as the new apartment

complexes with plans to double in size. With 10,000 more residents expected to move into the district, the population is expected to increase more than 30% to approximately 38,000 residents in Cimarron Hills, bringing with it staffing and budget implications.

Unfinished Business

Future CHFD Facility

Chief York advised the potential property deal on the north of the district is off the table. The owners are not responding to any communication from us or their own realtor.

The City of Colorado Springs responded to the request from the district to annex the land to the north of the station. They will not allow the annexation but would agree to a co-use parking lot in that area.

Chief York and the Board discussed the remodel to the existing station. While the architect advised a 2nd floor can be added to the south end of the station over the current dorm rooms, this addition would be extensive as the roof will need to be removed and supports will need to be added to the building. An addition can also be incorporated on the back side of the station. With these modifications, the number of needed dorm rooms can be met.

Chief York advised a second station may become necessary due to the continued growth and anticipated increase in call volume over the coming years. A 2nd station located somewhere on the south side of the district would provide the needed space for apparatus and would improve response times in that area.

The Board discussed options to meet facility needs, to include major renovations to the existing station vs minor renovations and construction of a second station. Director Taylor asked for plans/drawings for total renovations. Chief York advised that the cost for this, which includes soil sampling and a site survey, is in the ballpark of \$10,000.

Chief York requested direction from the board to move forward with getting better numbers from the bank regarding the loan that would be needed. The Board discussed sales tax and bond options, as well as temporary storage for apparatus. Director E Gass expressed support in looking for available property for a second station. Director Miller and Director Sintas agreed with the need for a second station, with a suggestion to look for a bigger property that could also accommodate headquarters.

New Business

- None

Public Comment

- None

Board Comment

- None

Next Regular Meeting

Director E. Gass acknowledged the next Regular Board of Directors meeting to be at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by Director Taylor, seconded by Director M. Gass, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

The foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the above-referenced meeting and was approved by the Board of Directors of the District on the 17TH day of July, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark Gass, Secretary