



Durango Fire Protection District

Administrative Offices - P: 970-382-6000 F: 970-382-6018
142 Sheppard Drive, Durango, Colorado 81303
durangofire.org

Minutes of the DFPD Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, February 27, 2024, 8:00 a.m. 142 Sheppard Dr

President Karen Barger called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:00 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Steve List via Zoom, Rob Farino, Tina McCallum, Samantha Gallagher, Lyle McKnight and John Dezendorf. Staff members included Fire Chief Randy Black, Deputy Chief Michael Krupa, Deputy Chief Jeff Harris, EMS Chief Scott Sholes, Finance Director Eric Baker, Fire Marshal Stephen Rinaldi, Human Resources Director Megan Kunch, Fleet and Facilities Director Howard Smith, Battalion Chief Seth Thomas, and Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds.

AGENDA: Additions, Deletions, Revisions: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. January 23, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve the January 23, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes, seconded by Samantha Gallagher. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

REPORTS:

Chief Report: Fire Chief Randy Black reported on the following:

- New fire trucks: One new engine has arrived and is working well. A 4x4 truck engine is currently being worked on to get it in service. The other 4x4 engine is coming in August or September 2024.
- 9-R School District: There is no updated response from 9-R.
- W. 12th Street: DFPD is supposed to get the full backfill from the City to help compensate for the discount in the amount the City budgeted when DFPD traded real estate with the City—former River City Hall and W. 12th Street property. This should cover work on the road, parking spaces, etc. near the Station 2 property. An IGA concerning the backfill has been signed by the City.
- **Station 2:**
 - The asbestos mitigation will get done today. Once finished, the demolition permit can be completed which takes 10-14 days to obtain. Some training will be done in the building over the next 10 days. Work with the trenches has already begun from the transformers to Veterans Way.
 - Trautner Geotech withdrew their support due to poor soil for building. A new design was drawn up to include micropiles which will support the foundation of Station 2. This has greatly added to the cost of the project.
 - Bid packets are out for demolition and excavation which should be pretty competitive.
 - **Station 2 solar:** President Karen Barger asked Chief Black to get the price of putting in solar panels. Chief Black reported the type of transformer needed to support solar are 32 months out from ordering which means station 2 would not be finished until 2027; Chief Black is looking into grants to help supplement the cost for the possibility of solar in the future as the

cost will be much more than anticipated. Since DFPD does not pay taxes, there is no tax break for solar as there is for homeowners. Station 2 is being built in a way to support solar in the future.

- Financing/RFP: Finance Director Eric Baker sent the RFP out. Interest rates, buy-ins and timelines came back a very broad span. The Finance Committee is meeting today to present a proposal.
- 103 Sheppard Dr: Furniture is here, the network is up and running; signage for the building is currently be worked on; as soon as the Prevention Division is completely moved out of 104 Sheppard Dr it will go up for sale; there is currently an interested party in purchasing 104 Sheppard Dr.
- New Deputy Chief of Support Services: Chief Black introduced Jeff Harris as the new Deputy Chief of Support Services.
- New Training Battalion Chief: Chief Black introduced Seth Thomas as the new Battalion Chief of Training.
- Strategic Plan: DFPD is set up for May 6-9 to begin strategic planning for the organization. Those days will be used by CBE (third-party planning company) to gather data and input. Chief Black stated CBE will provide a plan with relative culture of Durango as well as the culture of DFPD in order to better implement the plan. Deputy Chief Michael Krupa stated the company will not have a hierarchy of board members vs shift personnel vs administrative staff. President Karen Barger asked of 360 Evaluations will be included in the strategic plan. Chief Black stated the 360 Evaluations are separate but are currently being worked on.

President Karen Barger adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a.m.



Steve List, Vice President



Date

Attest:



Katie Pounds, Administrative Assistant