



Durango Fire Protection District

Administration | 103 Sheppard Dr, Durango, Colorado 81303 | Phone: (970) 382-6000

Minutes of the DFPD Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 8:10 a.m. | 142 Sheppard Dr, Durango, CO 81303

Call to Order

President Karen Barger called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:06 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Steve List via Zoom, Rob Farino, John Dezendorf, Lyle McKnight, Samantha Gallagher, and Tina McCallum. Staff members included Fire Chief Randy Black, EMS Chief Scott Sholes, Fire Marshal Stephen Rinaldi, Finance Director Eric Baker, Human Resources Director Megan Kunch, Fleet and Facilities Director Howard Smith, Captain Jim Anderson, and Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds. Also in attendance were Legal Counsel Bud Smith and Pension Board Member Bill Luthy.

Agenda

President Karen Barger added a quick update to “Fire Chief Randy Black’s 360 Evaluation” under New Business. *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Lyle McKnight. Motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of Minutes

- **September 24, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes:** *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve the September 24, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.*

Announcements/Presentations

Fire Chief Randy Black presented the proposed 2025 Budget to the Board of Directors. There was specific discussion concerning compensation, ambulance revenue, oil and gas decreases affecting revenue, Colorado State looking into funding options for fire departments, and expenses left to build Station 2.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Reports

Legal Counsel Report:

Legal Counsel Bud Smith reported on the following:

- **Land north of Station 7:** has a lot to the north that is part of the Mesa Heights Subdivision. The Homeowners Association's vote to exclude this piece of land from the subdivision has gone through.

Chief Report:

Fire Chief Randy Black reported on the following:

- **Station 2:** Concrete and decking for the second floor is finished. Framing will begin within the next week. The goal is to have the station dry and closed by Christmas of 2025.
- **360 Evaluations:** All evaluations are finished.
- **Important Upcoming Dates:** The Durango 100 Club Dinner is November 21; DFPD's Christmas Party is December 6; the final Board Meeting for 2024 has been rescheduled for December 3, instead of December 24.

Finance Report:

Finance Director Eric Baker presented the September 2024 financial report.

Old Business

- **Board Vote of DFPD Strategic Plan:** *A motion was made by Steve List to adopt and implement DFPD's Strategic Plan, seconded by Tina McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.*
- **Station 2 Solar Panels:** Vice President Steve List posed the question of availability in the 2025 budget for solar panels at the newly built Station 2. Fire Chief Randy Black stated solar panels are on hold based on lack of return financially. Chief Black reported, if solar panels will be put down, they would most likely start at Station 3. However, Station 2 is solar ready should the time come for solar panels at Station 2.

New Business

- **Fire Code Board of Appeals New Member Appointments:** Fire Marshal Stephen Rinaldi wrote a letter to Board requesting the following individuals to serve on the Fire Code Board of Appeals: Bill Frownfelter as Chair; Lauren Davis for a second

three-year term and as Vice Chair; Paul Henderson for a second three-year term; and Bob Smith as a full member from the position as an alternate. *A motion was made by Samantha Gallagher to approve the appointments of the individuals listed above to serve on the Fire Code Board of Appeals, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.*

- **Recap on 360 Evaluations:** Chief Black reported the evaluations were not built specifically for the fire service. All supervisors received the feedback of the evaluations. Chief Black's evaluation was based on a CEO position which was different from all other evaluations. Chief Black went through his evaluation with President Karen Barger. The Board asked Chief Black to get an executive summary — instead of raw data—before Thanksgiving to look over and then converse over in an Executive Session during the December 3 Board Meeting.

Adjournment

President Karen Barger adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

By: /s/ Karen Barger
President

Attest: /s/ Katie Pounds
Administrative Assistant