



Durango Fire Protection District

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Minutes of the DFPD Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, July 25, 2023, 8:10 a.m. 142 Sheppard Dr

President Karen Barger called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:10 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Steve List, Rob Farino, Tina McCallum, Samantha Gallagher, John Dezendorf and Lyle McKnight. Staff members included Deputy Chief Mike Krupa, Deputy Chief Randy Black, Finance Director Eric Baker, Fire Marshal Karola Hanks, Battalion Chief Don Woodmansee, Human Resources Director Megan Kunch and Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds. Legal Counsel Bud Smith and Pension Board Member Bill Luthy were also in attendance.

AGENDA: Additions, Deletions, Revisions: President Karen Barger requested to move "Presentation of the New Downtown Station Design" (4.a.) to be part of "Downtown Station" under Old Business (7.b.). Barger also requested to add an update on the Fire Chief Search under Old Business (7.c.) *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve the amended July 25, 2023 agenda, seconded by Steve List. Motion carried unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- June 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- July 11, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes – Deputy Chief Randy Black pointed out that the July 11, 2023 Special Meeting minutes need a correction. Deputy Chief Mike Krupa was not in attendance and Board Member Samantha Gallagher was not at roll call but joined in time for the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Samantha Gallagher to approve the June 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and the July 11, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes as adjusted, seconded by Tina McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: No announcements/presentations

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

REPORTS:

Legal Counsel: Legal Counsel Bud Smith stated DFPD received final commitments on two parcels the City owns that are involved in the exchange between The Powerhouse and River City Hall. Bud spoke with the surveyor on July 24 who has begun working on the boundary adjustment. Bud mentioned notice of a conservation easement on The Powerhouse property. In order to make the boundary adjustment, DFPD needs approval from the LaPlata County Historical Society as it is the holder of the conservation easement. The closing of the property will depend on the boundary adjustment and subdivision which should be finished by October.

Chief Report: Deputy Chief Randy Black reported that a fire truck purchased in January of 2022 arrived and a new ambulance (funded by the County's ARPA funds) will arrive on July 26. Chief Black reported that LaPlata County is currently under Fire 1 Restrictions. DFPD has many resources available should a fire start. There was brief discussion concerning a small fire started in the prior week. Chief Black updated the Board on DFPD's Service Plan. Chief Black stated the plan is currently being held with the County Attorney's office

but DFPD does not legally have to wait for the County in order to make the changes. Chief Black stated he would have the updated plan sent to the Board in time for the August 2023 regular meeting.

Human Resources Director Megan Kunch gave a brief update on Fire Chief Doughty's recovery.

Chief Black reported that DFPD approached the County about using a vacant building owned by the County in order to store some equipment that is used specifically for mitigation for the County. The County Commission will meet August 1 to decide whether or not DFPD can use the building. Lastly, Chief Black reported he has yet to receive a counter offer from 9-R in response to the Board's counter offer. Initially, educational courses were included as part of the offer but are now being looked at separately. Battalion Chief Woodmansee, Deputy Chief Mike Krupa and Deputy Chief Randy Black will meet with a representative from 9-R concerning the implementation of fire and EMT educational courses within the 9-R School District. At this point, DFPD is simply waiting to hear back from 9-R with a counter offer.

Finance Report: Finance Director Eric Baker presented the June 2023 financial report. *A motion was made by Samantha Gallagher to approve the June 2023 financial report as presented, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.*

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration and Possible Action on Reinvestment of Matured Investments: Finance Director Eric Baker reported he met with the Finance Committee—Board members Tina McCallum and Samantha Gallagher—to decide whether or not to reinvest money from matured CDs. The consensus is there is no rush at this time to reinvest but rather to wait as the financing for the new Station 2 unfolds. The committee also had discussion on setting up dates for internal audits.

Downtown Station: Deputy Chief Randy Black stated there are three processes that need to take place in order to close on the property for the downtown station: Design Review Board, site plan and subdivision of land. The subdivision should be complete by approximately November 25. 9-R should be out of the Administration Building by July 31. DFPD is asking the Board to approve a license agreement with the City that states the City can move into the Big Picture School as long as they pay for the remodeling, fire alarm system and utilities. However, Chief Black reported 9-R did not separate the Administration Building from the Big Picture School so the City has to wait for that before making the Big Picture School conducive for safety and work needs. The City wants the license agreement in place by August 8 which would allow them to move into the Big Picture School about the first week of November. *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve a license agreement with the City to move into the Big Picture School with the City responsible for paying utilities and remodeling, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.* Chief Black gave a presentation of the current Station 2 design plans. Chief Black stated he and the Construction Committee will be interviewing contractors for the station after the Board meeting. Chief Black stated the chosen contractor may contract directly with Reynolds Ash & Associates so the timeline of the new station and the Big Picture School would flow smoothly. Legal Counsel Bud Smith showed concern as DFPD's RFP would be directly with the contractor, not the contractor to the architect. Bud Smith stated he could see the contractor working with the architect on the construction management but have the actual construction go through DFPD.

Chief Search Update: Human Resources Director Megan Kunch reported she's received nine applications so far for the position of Fire Chief. The posting closes Friday, August 18. Megan also reported the response she's received of individuals wanting to sit in on the DFPD membership panel for interviews is greater than the number of seats available for the interview panel. She stated we can have the others interested can serve in a different way during the search process.

NEW BUSINESS

WWPF Advisory Board Member: Deputy Chief Randy Black stated that previously Board member Kathy Morris's position on the WWPF Advisory Board needs to be filled. He stated this position does not need to be

filled a current Board member but the Board does need to appoint an individual for the position. Chief Black's recommendation is Battalion Chief Scott Nielsen. *A motion was made by Steve List to appoint Battalion Chief Scott Nielsen in place of Kathy Morris to the WWPB Advisory Board, seconded by Tina McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.*

Consideration of Resolution 2023-5—LaPlata County, Colorado 2015 International Fire Code: *A motion was made by Steve List to approve Resolution 2023-5—LaPlata County, Colorado 2015 International Fire Code, seconded by Rob Farino. Motion carried unanimously.* Fire Marshal Karola Hanks reported San Juan County's willingness to look over the 2015 International Fire Code for possible adoption as well.

President Karen Barger adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.


Karen Barger, President

8/22/2023
Date

Attest:

Katie Pounds, Administrative Assistant