

SNOWMASS-WILDCAT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes of the Board Meeting Held

October 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District was held on Tuesday October 19, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. Noting that a quorum was present Chair William Boineau called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present William Boineau, Donna Aiken, Elizabeth Striegler, Dave Heivly, and Drew Detrick. Also, present were Chief Scott Thompson, Deputy Chiefs Richard Cornelius, and John Mele, Finance Director Jennifer Thompson, Human Resources Director Renee Thomas, IT Director Erik Johnson, and Administrative Assistant Susan Herwick.

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes – September 21, 2021

The minutes of the September 21, 2021 Regular Board meeting were reviewed. Director Detrick made a motion to accept the minutes as read, it was seconded by Director Aiken and the motion carried 5 – 0.

Public Comments

None

Chief's Report

Chief Thompson stated that the \$900,000 in pledged donations from Sopris Mountain Ranch had been transferred into our account for Station 46. We received \$975,000 in grant money from the State. We had a shortfall of approximately \$300,000. Pitkin County gave us \$150,000 from their employee housing fund. Chief Thompson stated that we will probably have to put \$250,000 into this project in 2022. We have one two-bedroom and two one-bedroom employee housing units included in this fire station. The excavation and dirt removal has been done. Forty-four caissons were put in to bedrock because of the poor soil conditions. They are starting to work on the foundation.

Chief Thompson passed out badges, ID cards and wallets to the Board members.

Deputy Chief's Report

DC Cornelius stated that COVID vaccine is still remarkably effective against severe illness and hospitalization.

COVID-19 Update

The Delta variant continues to be of concern locally, regionally and throughout the State of Colorado and nation.

As of October 13, 2021 77% of patients who are hospitalized for confirmed COVID-19 in Colorado are unvaccinated. Local hospitals are stable but still seeing patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

We continue to respond to incidents with patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 as well as those who previously had COVID-19 with lingering symptoms or complications.

Guidance from the CDC still recommends if you are fully vaccinated, to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public, if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission.

Currently, the CDC identifies Eagle, Garfield and Pitkin County as high transmission areas. Pitkin County still has an indoor mask mandate.

The Current COVID-19 Organizational Restrictions address the mask mandate. We are considering applying for the Fully Vaccinated Facilities Program after October 31, 2021 when our mandated vaccination policy becomes effective.

CDC still recommends that people whose immune systems are compromised should receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after the 2nd dose. CDC does not recommend additional doses or booster shots for any other population at this time.

The Authority still has an enhanced PPE requirement and is following CDC guidelines and recommendations.

Fire Marshal's Report

Fire Marshal Mele stated that development continues throughout the district. Buildings 12 above the Viceroy and the Snowmass Center are moving towards a 2022 start date.

Human Resources Report

HR Director Thomas stated that the strategic initiatives report is included in the Board packet. The teams have been meeting on a regular basis. As teams meet and work through things, the timelines have been adjusted. The team process was explained to the Board. Each team has six or fewer people assigned to it and is comprised of administrative, operations, and volunteer personnel.

The compensation plan recommendations were explained. Our pay philosophy is to pay at 107% of market. The minimum, market, and maximum salary ranges were explained. Some positions did fall below the 107% and need to be moved up. The spread between minimum and maximum has been 25%. We have adjusted this range to 40%. Renee does a salary survey every year in order to keep us competitive. Chief Thompson stated that each position will have a step plan to follow for advancement. We need to adjust some salaries due to salary compression between the Battalion Chiefs, Division Chiefs, and Deputy Chiefs. We added an additional 3% to the minimum salary range for both the Division and Deputy Chiefs so they start at 110% instead of 107% of market.

Finance Report

Finance Director Jennifer Thompson stated that this is the first reading of the 2022 budget. The increase in assessed valuation this year actually created a decrease in our mill levy. The assessed valuation will change again at the end of November but it will be minimal. The Gallagher adjustment won't go down but it may go up. SWFPD will transfer about \$2,400,000 to RFFRA for operations. The capital projects fund money will also be transferred to RFFRA. The debt service is collected and expensed to pay the bond. The retirement fund still allocates \$50,000 each year to sustain the fund.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Executive Session

None

Non-Agenda Items

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Director Heivly made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, it was seconded by Director Detrick and the motion carried 5 – 0. Chair William Boineau declared the meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

To Watch the Board meeting in its entirety, please click on the link below.

https://youtu.be/6JS_dYhsHoU