Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Adams County Fire Protection District, held at the District’s Station 11, 1675 W 69th Avenue, Denver, CO 80229
February 16th, 2022

Board Members Present

Jerry Marchese          President/Chairman
Ken Ciancio            Vice President
Joe Domenico           Treasurer
Anthony Spano           Secretary
Ken Lombardi           Assistant Secretary

Also Present

Troy Patterson          Deputy Chief
Dave Baldwin            Deputy Chief
Christina Marchese      Administrative Assistant
Michelle Ferguson       District Legal Counsel

Absent

Stuart Sunderland       Fire Chief

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Anthony Spano at 5:00 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Moment of Silence

President Marchese called for a moment of silence for the fourteen fallen firefighters to date in 2022.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Marchese led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Secretary Spano made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice President Ciancio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Secretary Spano made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2022, regular meeting, as presented in the Board Packet. Vice President Ciancio seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Approval of January Financial Statement

At the time of the meeting, financials were not available to be approved. They will be presented as part of the Financial Report at the next Board meeting.

Correspondence

Chief Sunderland received a note from a student at Coal Creek Elementary School in Superior. The student wanted to express his gratitude to the District for their response to the Marshall Fire.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

None

New Business

New Hire Recognition

Deputy Chief Patterson introduced Tiffany Raya Guzman to the Board of Directors; Ms. Guzman is the new Prevention Administrative Assistant.

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Deputy Chief Baldwin swore in Fire Lieutenant Robert Haberer in front of his family, co-workers, and the Board of Directors.

Consideration of Changing Banks from North Valley to Chase Bank

Finance and Accounting Associate Ciancio presented to the Board of Directors reasons to change from North Valley Bank to Chase Bank. North Valley is still using old, outdated technology while Chase is more modern and will be able to hold a larger amount of money in the account, as opposed to North Valley. North Metro Fire Rescue District uses Chase and provided Adams County Fire with a reference, stating Chase Bank is reliable and good to work with. Finance and Accounting Associate Ciancio detailed other benefits of a move. Deputy Chief Baldwin brought up the idea of using a lock box system with Chase for EMS Billing because North Valley never would. Finance and Accounting Associate Ciancio will look into it and get back to him. Finance and Accounting Associate Ciancio informed the Board that the Board will need to adopt two Resolutions, authorizing the President and Treasurer to execute associated documents.

Assistant Secretary Lombardi made a motion for the District to change banks from North Valley Bank to Chase Bank. Secretary Spano seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Executive Chiefs' Report

Deputy Chief Patterson stated that Adcom is still trying to fill open positions.

Deputy Chief Patterson stated that the Fire Ground Safety Trailer will be here soon, and the District will get a few people trained to be instructors and will keep it in-house. The District will also make the trailer available to neighboring departments. The District will have a few trailer slots available to our neighbors to purchase for them to be able use it or they can bring in the own trainers.

Deputy Chief Patterson was asked by the Board to make sure the District stays on top of the Actuarial Studies of the Pension Fund, to ensure that any beneficiary or beneficiaries are correctly covered.

Deputy Chief Patterson mentioned that in addition to the engine discussed last month, another engine was involved in an accident this month. There was not a lot of damage to the engine. Staff is looking into a Scrubber Truck for the North Area. Deputy Chief Patterson is in contact with CDOT and use their scorpion truck if they can help with accidents on the highways, but it will have to come from legislation. Deputy Chief Patterson stated that the penalty needs to be worse for hitting emergency vehicles. Deputy Patterson is working with CDOT and Colorado State Patrol to see what they can do to assist but they are understaffed. He will also see if the State Fire Chiefs lobbyists can help with this issue.

Deputy Chief Patterson stated that the District has received a check for $28,000 for damages to Engine 11. The engine is at Diversified Body and Paint being repaired and will hopefully be back in service in May.

Deputy Chief Patterson mentioned that the old Ford Expedition sold for $9,500.00.

Deputy Chief Patterson stated the District is looking at ordering a new medic unit; the District has allocated funds in the 2022 Budget to purchase the unit, but will not receive the unit until 2023.

Deputy Chief Patterson mentioned that Station 11 held a luncheon for representatives from Adams County Sherriff's Office (ACSO) in honor of Heath Gumm. This was a great way to continue building a great relationship between ACSO and the District.

Deputy Chief Patterson updated the Board on Jon Hermann's retirement ceremony at Station 11. Retiree Kerry Furst was also able to attend. The District was able to give Retiree Furst his retirement gift since he was unable to receive it at the time of his retirement.

Deputy Chief Baldwin mentioned that Operations is working on having reserve apparatus maintained and ready to be put in service if needed. Staff will maintain a "go bag" with monitor, tablet, and garage remote to allow the unit to be put into service quickly. Reserve medic units will have an inventory of medications at-the-ready, as well.

Deputy Chief Baldwin stated that Tech Rescue is looking to have the District be a part of FEMA's Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Task Force One which operates out of West Metro Fire Protection District. Legal counsel is researching the request and will keep the Board updated.

Deputy Chief Baldwin mentioned that Fire Marshal Even has received Knox Boxes to be installed at every station. Having key access available on site will aid North Area Departments if they need to cover the District in an emergency.
Deputy Chief Baldwin and Attorney Ferguson mentioned that the contract for billing services runs through the end of March; he will look into the status of the contract and get back to Attorney Ferguson.

Attorney’s Report

At the last meeting, Chief Sunderland had been asked by Assistant Secretary Lombardi about the North Washington Old Hire Fund and whether the District can just pay out the proceeds from the fund to the remaining beneficiaries at this point. Attorney Ferguson informed the District they cannot pay out the proceeds to the remaining beneficiaries and the Fund must be kept in place until there are no more beneficiaries. Assistant Secretary Lombardi asked that the District continues to stay on top of this with the actuarial studies to ensure that the Fund remains accurate and covers the pensioners correctly.

Attorney Ferguson mentioned that the State Legislature is off and running. Her firm will monitor all the proposed legislation that could impact the District, and she will provide an update each month. There are a lot of legislative matters this session that have been introduced because of the Marshall Fire. She said the State Fire Chiefs are also monitoring various legislation.

She discussed the potential introduction of a public employee collective bargaining bill which has not yet been introduced. Based on the draft versions of the bill, it could have a significant impact on the rules related to bargaining.

Attorney Ferguson mentioned that her firm will continue to monitor the proposed legislation regarding the discrimination bill. No updates yet since the legislative session just started.

Attorney Ferguson discuss the annual retainer analysis with the Board; no increase is indicated at this time.

Attorney Ferguson was asked by Assistant Secretary Lombardi about whether a property owner in the District can vote in the upcoming Special District election. Attorney Ferguson explained a qualified elector is someone who is registered to vote in the State of Colorado and who either resides in the District or who, or whose spouse, owns property in the District. If the property is owned by a trust, corporation, or other non-person entity, that ownership does not qualify someone as an eligible elector for the District’s election. Attorney Ferguson mentioned that Sue Blair will work with the District to determine a polling place if an election is needed.

Director’s Report

President Marchese
Nothing to report
Vice President Ciancio
Stated he will be running for re-election in May
Secretary Spano
Stated he will be running for re-election in May
Treasurer Domenico
Nothing to report
Assistant Secretary Lombardi
Nothing to report

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on a Motion by Secretary Spano and a second by Vice President Ciancio at 5:48 pm, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Jerry Marchese, President
Anthony Spano, Secretary