



Durango Fire Protection District

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Minutes of the DFPD Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 8:00 a.m. 142 Sheppard Dr

President Samantha Gallagher called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:01 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Kathy Morris, John Dezendorf, Tina McCallum, Karen Barger and Steve List. Staff members included Chief Hal Doughty, Deputy Chief Mike Krupa, Deputy Chief Randy Black, EMS Chief Scott Sholes, Finance Director Eric Baker, HR Director Megan Kunch, Battalion Chief Randy Baker, Battalion Chief Don Woodmansee, Fire Marshal Karola Hanks, Fleet and Facilities Director Howard Smith, and Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds. Legal Counsel Bud Smith was also in attendance.

AGENDA: Additions, Deletions, Revisions:

No additions, deletions or revisions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- January 24, 2023 Regular Minutes – *A motion was made by Kathy Morris to approve the January 24, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Steve List. Motion carried unanimously.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

- Chief Doughty announced that the 2023 election of Board members was cancelled due to there being no more candidates than positions to fill on the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- One comment was made by a member of the public concerning the current Fire Code.

REPORTS:

Legal Counsel: Legal Counsel Bud Smith reported there are currently 15 properties wanting to be included in the fire district due to a notice sent from DFPD. Chief Doughty reported some property owners aren't aware they aren't included in the fire district.

Chief: Chief Hal Doughty reported DFPD hired a new Administrative Assistant for the Training Division which was the last step in the transition for the Training Division. Chief Doughty reported Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds has taken on a new role in working with Megan Kunch in Human Resources. Chief Doughty also reported the hiring of a new Maintenance Tech through the temp agency Express who may become full-time. Chief Doughty mentioned a few members are leaving DFPD due to medical issues so the department will be looking to recruit firefighters/paramedics and possibly putting a few members through paramedic school.

OLD BUSINESS


Update on Negotiation of Land Trade with the City: Chief Doughty mentioned he is still working on negotiations with the City Manager and his team in order to give the City the best deal but is also working toward a tight timeline to begin building a new downtown station. Chief Doughty explained he made a new offer to the City per the Finance Committee and suggested the Board members hold an executive session to talk about the real estate negotiations. Chief Doughty stated he'd like to reach a negotiation with the City Manager before the DFPD/City Council joint meeting on March 30. There was brief discussion concerning the subdivision of the land at River City Hall. The Board decided to calendar a Special Meeting on March 14 to talk about real estate for the downtown station.

Update on Status of Board Election: Concerning the announcement made about the cancelled election, Chief Doughty stated the onboarding for new Board member Rob Farino will begin. The current Board members are welcome to join the training if they would like.

NEW BUSINESS

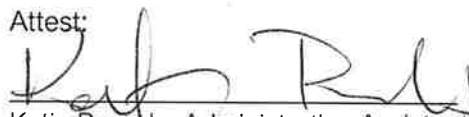
Firefighter Housing: Board member Steve List proposed the possible use of volunteer stations as a way of affordable housing for entry-level firefighter/EMTs. A few of the volunteer stations already house some volunteers with DFPD. List stated it could help with response, security of the stations and help the public feel more secure with a DFPD crew member close by. Chief Doughty stated DFPD houses members temporarily while in search of a permanent home. There was discussion of possibly building units on the land adjacent to Station 7. After the presentation of Workforce Housing put on by the Chamber of Commerce, Chief Doughty and Deputy Chief Black set up a meeting with Jack Llewellyn and Mike French to better understand AMI in order to know how to house future FF/EMTs based on income. Board member Tina McCallum asked if someone could take the responsibility for researching grants to help support this idea. Chief Doughty proposed a possible raise in the mill levy. Other board members agreed building housing attached to DFPD's current stations is the best option.

Samantha Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.



Samantha Gallagher, President

3/28/23
Date

Attest:


Katie Pounds, Administrative Assistant