



Durango Fire Protection District

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142 Sheppard Drive, Durango, Colorado 81303

durangofire.org

Minutes of the DFPD Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, March 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 8:03 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Kathy Morris, John Dezendorf, Tina McCallum, Karen Barger, Lyle McKnight and Steve List. Staff members included Chief Hal Doughty, Deputy Chief Mike Krupa, Deputy Chief Randy Black, Battalion Chief Rod Allen, Finance Director Eric Baker, HR Director Megan Kunch, Fire Marshal Karola Hanks, Fleet and Facilities Director Howard Smith, Community Educator John Constan and Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds. Legal Counsel Bud Smith was also in attendance.

AGENDA: Additions, Deletions, Revisions:

President Samantha Gallagher requested 4.a. – Durango 9-R Science Fair Winners to be moved before 3. – Review of Minutes. Vice President Steve List requested an add to Old Business – Firefighter Housing. *A motion was made by Karen Barger to approve the additions and revisions to the agenda, seconded by Kathy Morris. Motion carried unanimously.*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DURANGO 9-R SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS:

Community Educator John Constan announced DFPD's invitation to three of the Durango 9-R Science Fair winners as their projects pertain to fire-related subjects. Two of the three winners presented their projects to the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- February 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - March 14, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
- A motion was made by Kathy Morris to approve the February 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and the March 14, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes, seconded by Steve List. Motion carried unanimously.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

- Chief Doughty introduced Rob Farino (oncoming Board member in May 2023) to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

Downtown Station: Chief Doughty reported that DFPD and the City Manager and his staff are having differentiating thoughts concerning negotiations for a land trade of the 9-R building and River City Hall. Chief Doughty stated he'd like to further discuss details within the Executive Session (9.a.).

Firefighter Housing: Vice President Steve List wanted to continue the discussion begun in the February 28, 2023 Board Meeting. Chief Doughty explained there is not room in the 2023 budget to consider building workforce housing this year and mentioned the possibility of looking into grants and the possible use of money from the updated Impact Fee Schedule. There was discussion on who would be able to utilize the workforce housing. Secretary/Treasurer Tina McCallum asked who does DFPD's grant writing. Chief Doughty mentioned EMS Chief Scott Sholes and Mitigation Specialist Pete Stockwell writing grants for the department but that it could be beneficial to eventually getting help outside of DFPD. President Samantha Gallagher stated it would be smart to partner with another organization as workforce housing is a county-wide issue and to send out a survey to DFPD

members concerning their current housing status/difficulties. Chief Doughty asked the Board to consider possible interest in being on a Workforce Housing Committee to dive deeper into the subject.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and Possible Action on Reinvestment of Matured Investments: Finance Director Eric Baker brought up the three CDs the Board decided to reinvest in the summer and fall of 2022. These CDs are coming up to their maturity date and the Board needs to decide how to reinvest the money. There was discussion as to choose a longer or shorter-term investment. The Board decided to hold off on reinvestment decisions due to negotiations with the City concerning the Downtown Station and to revisit options in the April 25, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

Operational Discussion Concerning Structural Integrity, Avalanches, Mudslides and Flooding: Deputy Chief Mike Krupa reported on recent calls DFPD has responded to due to winter weather—gas leaks and heavy snow falling from rooftops. Due to the extreme weather La Plata County has had this winter, DFPD is upping the response north of town (near Purgatory area). Also, because of the moisture from the winter weather, mudslides, snow runoff and ground saturation are potential problems. Fire Marshal Karola Hanks stated DFPD is on the priority list for digging out hydrants and researching possible gas leaks before they happen. There was brief discussion about swift water also being a problem in the warmer months.

Service Plan Update: Deputy Chief Randy Black reported he's been updating DFPD's Service Plan which is required per Title 32 of Special District Law. Chief Black has been updating the Service Plan according to how DFPD functions, La Plata County Land Use Code and having DFPD's Special District Lawyer Allison Ulmer look over it. Board Member Kathy Morris asked how often the Service Plan needs to be updated. Chief Black stated and Legal Counsel Bud Smith reiterated the updated plan does not need to be approved unless there is a material change (does not include mill levy, inclusions, exclusions, etc.)

Public Hearing – Petitions for Inclusion: Consideration of Order of Board of Directors Approving Inclusion Petitions: Legal Counsel Bud Smith reported the Petitions for Inclusion were published in the Durango Herald. President Samantha Gallagher opened the public hearing. There was no public comment. *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve the Petitions for Inclusion, seconded by Steve List. Motion carried unanimously.*

Public Hearing – Petition for Exclusion: Consideration of Order of Board of Directors Approving petition of Exclusion of Property within the District: Legal Counsel Bud Smith reported the Petition for Exclusion was published in the Durango Herald. President Samantha Gallagher opened the public hearing. There was no public comment. *A motion was made by John Dezendorf to approve the Petition for Exclusion, seconded by Tina McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Vice President Steve List read aloud the possible executive session, inviting Chief Hal Doughty, Deputy Chief Randy Black and Legal Counsel Bud Smith: Possible Executive Session under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a) The purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest; except that no executive session shall be held for the purpose of concealing the fact that a member of the executive session shall be held for the purpose of concealing the fact that a member of the local public body has a personal interest in such purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale; and (e)(l) Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators. *A motion was made by Steve List to adjourn into Executive Session under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a), seconded by Kathy Morris. Motion carried unanimously.*

The Board adjourned into Executive Session C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a) at 9:23 a.m.

The Board returned to the Open Meeting at 10:23 a.m. *A motion was made by Kathy Morris to cancel the joint Study Session with City Council on March 30, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., seconded by Lyle McKnight. The motion passed with a 4/3 vote.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Secretary/Treasurer Tina McCallum read aloud the possible executive session, inviting Human Resources Director Megan Kunch and Legal Counsel Bud Smith. Possible Executive Session under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) For purposes of personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the Executive Session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all the employees must request an open meeting. *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to adjourn into Executive Session under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f), seconded by Karen Barger. Motion carried unanimously.*

The Board adjourned into Executive Session C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) at 10:24 a.m.

The Board returned to the Open Meeting at 11:11 a.m. President Samantha Gallagher adjourned the Regular Meeting at 11:11 a.m.



Samantha Gallagher, President

4/25/2023
Date

Attest:


Katie Pounds, Administrative Assistant

