

**FORT LEWIS MESA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD of DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES  
March 8, 2022**

**Attendance:**

Directors: Debbie Lee	Others: John Lee (Fire Chief)
Ginny DeJong	Jeannine Glasby (District Admin.
Ted Stahl	Asst.)
Brent Van Den Berg	Absent: Paul Richardson (excused)

Debbie called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes Approval:**

Brent **moved** to approve the Minutes for the February 8th meeting. Ted **seconded** the motion. They were **approved**.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Chief reported on the Apparatus line percentage being higher due to some major unexpected expenses for repairing 024 and 038.
- Jeannine reported expecting the February tax deposit any day, which will bring the checking account balance to what is expected.
- Also, discussed was the need to up the Insurance and Legal, Accounting, and Consulting lines next budget cycle, and any others that are needed.

**Public Comment:**

- A donation of \$1000, was received along with a card of appreciation for the responder's hard work and dedication, from Mrs. Loretta Swapp. A donation/appreciation letter will be sent.

**Office Managers Report:**

- Jeannine presented the completed Audit Exemption Application for the Board's review and signature.
- Jeannine reported on the final billing for Marshall Fire being submitted.
- Jeannine brought to the Board the requirement for the District's website to be ADA compliant, according to Colorado's deadline for government sites, by July 2024 and a plan submitted to the state by July 1, 2022. The penalty for non-compliance is \$3,500 per violation. Jeannine has talked to and priced Streamline (\$50/mo.) and will be communicating with BCI Media, our current host, to see

whether we could be in compliance through them by then. Debbie suggested also checking Ben Sorensen at Ascent.

- Jeannine will keep an eye on the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program (provides up to 12 weeks of paid FMLI leave) as they continue to rule make. She will report back so the decision can be made to either implement it or opt out. Which is required by Jan. 1, 2023, with first payout eligible starting Jan. 1, 2024.
- Jeannine will be out due to knee surgery Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Fire Chief Report-Out:**

- Chief told the Board of the gas stolen from the tank at Station 3. They will be taking even more steps to limit the District's exposure to theft. Law Enforcement was called.
- Personnel who had been released from the roster has requested a conference with the Chief. He will meet at a future time.
- 33 calls YTD; 24 responded in the rolling quarter. 2 calls in the same day, each had seven responders.
- District Office is back at Station 1. Other items to finish are moving along.
- Asst. Chief Thorsheim is updating the members driving logs and having them accessible online.
- Colorado Fire Prevention and Control has approved the Chief's application for the mobile driving simulator for training. No cost to us. Our facilities at Station 1 were able to accommodate and help make it possible. Chief will offer unfilled seats to Mancos. He hopes to utilize it to the utmost extent.
- The no cost share, Firefighter Safety Grant for \$12,875 was approved for SCBA bottles. Chief reported it will bring the bottle count to 45; goal has been 50.
- Chief said the Grant application for Ambulance, AED, Liftcot has passed the 1<sup>st</sup> step of the process. The need is great, and he feels that we're in a good position for it. It would cost the District about \$30K. The ambulance would probably come in 2023.
- On a fatality, 4 children had to be transported. We gave aid in transport to Durango, Supporting the community.
- Jasmine Schmitt's application was approved barring anything unexpected to change that, from the background check (the site was down). Ted **motioned** for approval; Ginny **seconded** it.
- On the fuel theft at Station 3 reported earlier, Chief said there will be no more gas supply, just Diesel, there at Station 3.
- Goose, with the Southern Ute, said they would like support from FLMFPD on Severity Resource for the Wildland season.
- Wildland training at Four Corners Academy; April will be refresher training.
- State did a review of FLMFPD's Red Cards. It is being fine-tuned. Engine Boss was also reviewed.

### **Old Business:**

Action Item Review: #346 was discussed, Debbie has been in contact with 9R School District, regarding the 10-year lease of site, where we have water storage. Working toward permanent acquisition of the site, applying Eminent Domain. The Board agreed and said they thought she should pursue it. The initial **motion** and **second**, by Ginny and Ted, respectively, were amended to authorize Debbie to negotiate with no final. She will talk to Superintendent, seek a letter of engagement and legal counsel, as well, where needed. Discussed, also, was the funding for acquisition and legal fees. It was felt it could be gathered in from under used budget lines.

- Chief reminded Board of the need of asphalt repair at Station 3.
- Cabinets for the Board room came damaged. They are replacing them.
- Resumes w/documentation from Michael O'Donnell and Baylee Beals were both reviewed and discussed. Deciding factors of Board members: Brent- qualifications; Ginny- experience; Ted-seeing in action previously; Debbie said the minimum qualifications need to be met or exceeded. The Board confirmed Michael O'Donnell for the Seasonal Employee Wildland position, which has a budgeted payroll line. The position to begin end of April/beginning of May. In addition, he will be paid through Government Fires when on Severity.

### **New Business:**

- After discussion and other grants approved, Chief decided he would not seek the VFA Grant this year.

**Resolution 2022-0301:** Resolution Cancelling Election and Declaration Deeming Candidates Elected- **motioned** by Ginny; **seconded** by Debbie for adoption. **Adopted**. Signed.

### **Executive Session:**

- None

Meeting adjourned at 8:37

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannine Glasby  
Secretary to the Board  
Fort Lewis Mesa Fire Protection District