



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EVERGREEN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NOVEMBER 15, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Evergreen Fire Protection District was held on November 15, 2016 at the Administration/Training Building, 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen, Colorado.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER Director Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION: The pledge of allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE: John Anderson, Mike Gregory, Dave Christensen, and Dr. Jim Mosby.

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: Jeff deDisse.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Sal Christ, Bob Gottsman, Doug Saba, Chief Mike Weege, and Carol Hucker.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved as presented

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Gottsman congratulated the board on the outcome of the recent ballot issue. He expressed his appreciation for the great group of people and that this is a community fire department not a regional one. He expressed that he feels we are supporting the regional department and wondered about other fire departments using the classrooms and tower for training with a very expensive building. Chief Weege responded with the cost of operating the building. It was explained that the building when constructed was intended to be used by the area as a form of community building. Other fire departments do not hold meetings, classes or trainings here but do occasionally come here to train with our volunteers. It was also explained that the area nonprofit groups utilize the classrooms and auditorium with a total classroom usage of 525-530 times per year for all groups. We utilize the training tower for ladder and hose training in addition to the occasional fire. Director Anderson noted that the services we provide to other districts like fleet maintenance and dispatch are paid services. Director Christensen noted that being able to provide training here and include other departments in that training is a benefit to us. Director Anderson noted that the increase in the mill levy was presented that 1/3 of the increase would go back in to operating expenses and 2/3 will be placed into strategic savings for the future and to back fill the hole left by the recent lean years as was proposed with the ballot issue.

PUBLIC HEARING: Director Christensen made a motion to enter Public Hearing regarding the 2017 Budget; seconded by Director Mosby; motion carried. Brendan Campbell of Pinnacle Consulting presented the 2017 Budget for discussion. With the passing of the Mill Levy increase for the recent election the budget being presented was adjusted to reflect this increased revenue. The mill will increase from 7.626 to 11.126 as reflected on the General Fund Summary page increasing revenue to \$6,984,218. The Strategic Capital Reserve will be increased \$600,000 and the Apparatus Replacement Reserve will be increased \$625,000. The TABOR amendment requires that 3% be set aside as reserves by statute. Deposits to savings will put our long term planning for facility and fleet repairs and replacements back on schedule. Director Anderson noted for Mr. Gottsman that we maintain an extensive spreadsheet of scheduled expenses. Mr. Gottsman expressed that he didn't realize that we had not been able to make our savings deposits at the intended levels for the last few years. The majority of the reserves will be used to get savings back on track and take care of items that were deferred during the recent lean years. Next we looked at what areas have been cut in the past few years, if those areas needed to be restored and at what level. Areas of the budget that were determined should be returned or adjusted were training, radio equipment maintenance and replacement, SCBA replacement, frozen employee salaries/ COLA, call credit funding, purchase of 2 extractors, and increased contractual write-offs.

The budget proposes the following changes. For communications we will be adding back in the maintenance and purchase of radio equipment and radios, and a contract for maintenance. Getting our training back in line is also important. Each division saw a salary freeze and this will be taken back to a pay for performance increase and a cost of living adjustment at 3%. For the volunteer firefighters they have \$131,000 that has been budgeted for call credit since 2008 and this will be increased to \$175,000. This is divided between the 100 firefighters based on how many calls they worked and has been averaging between \$7-10 dollars per call to cover the cost of their fuel and personal vehicle and their time. Bunker

gear will be moved back to the budget from strategic capital. Funding of the FDIC for the firefighters would be restored. Fire Prevention CWPIP program has been dependent on a grant and this could be restored to funded. Also the Annual Safety Day can be restored to funding and less dependent on donations. In the administration budget professional services which are things like IT and legal support will be increased. We will need additional support for legal as we transition to Jeff Com. We have budgeted for two additional extractors to wash fire gear in. Currently we have only one extractor which holds two sets of PPE at a time and takes about an hour. Keeping it clean extends its life time and removes carcinogens that accumulate on the gear and can be transferred to skin, cars, home. We encourage the firefighters to bag their gear when they take it off and get it cleaned as soon as possible. This line item in the budget will include the plumbing and electrical hookups for installation. EMS contractual allowance, write-offs, and bad debt expense are also increased. In strategic capital we will still be replacing High Plains for e-pcr and the installation of the cistern at Bear Mountain will not get completed in 2016 as hoped. In Apparatus Reserves we will be looking at replacement of Tender 162 which is a 1974 vehicle that is getting harder to get parts for. The replacement would be a 4,000 gallon truck like the one at station 1. We try to get 25-30 years out of the trucks and this one is 42. We will offer the truck for sale once a replacement has been obtained.

Mr. Campbell addressed the Debt Service Fund Budget. The current bond was taken in 2003 to construct several stations and equipment as well as the administration and maintenance buildings. IN 2013 the bond was refinanced at substantial savings. The total bond debt payment in 2017 will be \$638,637 and this is funded by the bond revenue that is collected. The mill levy for the bond is authorized at a level sufficient to cover the debt. This decreased for the general obligation bonds from 1.36 in 2016 in to 1.355 in 2017. This debt ends in 2023. Director Christensen asked about the funding of fire prevention programs for community fire planning and what resources we would devote to this. Chief Weege explained the CWPIP program and our utilization of John Chapman to work with the neighborhoods on these plans. He is able to write about 2 per year. He has recently finished the North Turkey Creek plan with assistance from Firefighter Byrne McKenna and is working on old Hiwan now. We can fund the program for Mr. Chapman but we also are focusing on education. Two more home owner groups have come to ask for assistance. If more groups ask for assistance than Mr. Chapman can assist in one year then we will have a backup for him in order to not slow this process. This is all part of the prevention strategic plan. Both Director Christensen and Anderson stated they were willing to fund this at a greater level if more communities are willing to get involved and we can find the manpower to accomplish these CWPIP's. Director Christensen also requested that the residual funds from energy efficiency expenses in 2016 be carried over to continue the process of addressing energy efficiencies in the buildings in 2017 with an additional \$60,000. Directors Gregory and deDisse will meet with Chief Weege for one last review before the December 13th meeting. Director Christensen made a motion to close the public hearing; seconded by Director Gregory; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

DIVISION REPORTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Spending Authorization 2016-012: Ten SCBA Valves and Bottles, \$14,850.00 – Director Christensen made a motion to accept Spending Authorization 2016-012; Director Mosby seconded; motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Director Mosby: Thank you to the community for passing the ballot issue 4A to make the budget easier to work with.

Director Christensen: He appreciate the tax payer support and we will be continue to be careful and cautious with expenditures as we have been.

Director Gregory: Also thanks the community and for the opportunity as a board to show the community the high level they expect.

Director Anderson: It is an honor and a privilege to represent the public here and we take it very seriously. The community entrusted us with more of their hard earned money and for the 2 years he has been on the board we have been working to maintain the high level of service and output and we will continue to do so while being smart and effective with each dollar.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Director Christensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Director Gregory seconded; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Volunteer Pension Board Meeting Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 5:00 pm in Training Rooms A & B

Regular District Board Meeting Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 5:30 pm in Training Rooms A & B

Respectively Submitted,
Carol Hucker
Recording Secretary