



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EVERGREEN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Evergreen Fire Protection District was held on September 13, 2016 at the Administration/Training Building, 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen, Colorado.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER Director Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:32 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, and Dr. Jim Mosby. Jeff deDisse joined the meeting at 5:40 pm.

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: Dave Christensen

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Connell O'Brien, Frank Dearborn, Sal Christ, Doug Saba, Bill Cronk, Mason Duncan, Jeff Ashford, Bob Gottsman, Terry Wehnes, Mike Sivertson, Billy Kraft, Chief Mike Weege, and Carol Hucker. Evan Fosler joined the meeting at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Director Gregory made a motion to approve; Director Mosby seconded; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Gottsman sought clarification on how the Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements are so low and if a person is taken to the emergency room are these bills not being paid. He also expressed concern about the affordable care act and how this will increase expenses. Do we have to transport every 911 call to the emergency room or can they be taken someplace locally? He wonders if there is value in the care received. Director Anderson responded that the reimbursement rates are set by the Federal Government and is not something that we control. Mr. Gottsman questioned what happens if we transport a patient and they are not admitted to the Hospital how is our reimbursement effected. Director Mosby explained that the Federal Government has contracted with different organizations to review ambulance billing and if they feel it is legitimate it will be paid. He explained that the issue is that congress allocates the funds for Medicare / Medicaid. They set the amount of the funds many years ago and haven't really increased the funding amount. At one point Medicare was reimbursing at 70% and Medicaid was at 30% but because the allocated funds have not increased and the usage of both programs has increased the reimbursement is smaller so that the total paid is within the allocated amount. Chief Weege added that if someone is transported that should not have been then the reimbursement may be denied. Dr. Mosby noted that someone that gets transported that did not need to be hospitalized may still be a reimbursable transport based on the reason or the injury. Mr. Gottsman commented that the person transported may receive a bill for the service if they were not admitted to the hospital. He asked why people are not able to be seen locally. Director Mosby noted that there are urgent care facilities in Evergreen but they are not 24 hours. Chief Weege clarified that to be reimbursed we cannot transport to an urgent care or doctor's office. This is what community para-medicine solution is intended to allow so that people that don't need to go to the hospital can still be transported to a local office and we can legally get paid by their insurance. If the patient has Medicare/ Medicaid we are by law not allowed to bill them for the balance of the bill after Medicare/ Medicaid has paid.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- August 28, 2016 Special Board Meeting Minutes: Director Mosby made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Director deDisse seconded; motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

- July 2016 Financial Report – Still tracking overall as expected and very close to what is budgeted. We have received approximately 98% of our tax revenue. The grant for the prams is still to be received once the matching funds are approved and paid. The other grants that were planned for have not been received in 2016. EMS continues to run high as contractual write-offs and billing are both higher. Director deDisse made a motion to accept and place on file the July 2016 Financial Report; Director Mosby seconded; motion carried. Mr. Saba later in the meeting pointed out that the check register that was included in the report is from the wrong month. The report will be amended and returned to the October meeting for approval before being placed on file.

DIVISION REPORTS:

Administration / HR / IT:

- Thank you to all who participated in the 9/11 ceremonies and stair climbs in memory. Also the schools for their annual recognition of first responders and the military.
- Appreciation lunch for our LE partners is scheduled for Sept. 28, 1500-1630.
- 1st draft budgets have been collected. Scheduling meetings with the budget committee and the division managers through Sept.
- Report Management System search update
- Annual banquet October 21st. Invitations are in the mail.
- Special District Association award presentation.

Communications:

- The team has had some labor intensive calls and tasks in the past few weeks, from several wild land fires to Technical issues. Kudos to the dispatch team for their dedication, professionalism, and hard work! They manage multiple calls in multiple agencies at the same time often. This team does the job with immense talent and grace!
- Changing the training process and order.
- Danae Early has left full time and will be staying on as part time.
- Welcome Nicole Pijanowski (full time), Max Wekesser (part time) and Jaclyn Kuepper (part time) as they begin training in September.

Fire Operations:

- Big Chili was held on Saturday, September 10th. We won 2nd and 3rd place for a green and vegetarian chili overall.
- Wildland fires less than 1 acre: one has charges pending and one an unattended campfire.
- New training maze and storage box in the pit. Wiring and painting to be done.
- Access to the forest service lightening tracker should be helpful for narrowing locations.

Fire Prevention:

- Health and Safety Day Sept. 17th Pancake Breakfast 0800-1100, Safety/ Health Day 1000-1400
- King Sooper Radio Amplification system test is scheduled for 14 Sept at 1 pm.
- Cistern easement for Stanley Park has been recorded by JeffCo.

Emergency Medical Services:

- Jodi Walzer moved to Oregon and her full time position was taken by Tom Davis. Welcome Tom!
- Quatro Roderick will assume the interim EMS Coordinator office duties and the other two EMS Supervisors will continue running the day-to-day operations.

Maintenance Division:

- The easement has been aligned to allow a larger footprint for the 40,000 gallon cistern capacity increase at Bear Mt. The grading plan has been completed by engineering. This allows EFR to be in control of this project top to bottom. Additionally, costs are more predictable with this detail. An RFQ is being prepared with a goal of project completion by year end, weather permitting.
- The failed generator at station 1 has been removed and an identical "used" generator has been installed. Four used generators were obtained from West Metro. The electrician is going to connect the generator making the system whole once more. Note that it only operates doors, apparatus heaters, and some lighting. Thank you FF Chris Schleaf.

Safety / Community Education:

- 4900 hours of training through end of July
- 10 School projects completed over the summer
- Foothills Inspections
- Ceremony to honor EFR and Law Enforcement Sept. 12th at Bergen Meadow and Marshdale.
- Nominated to committee for FLSE 2017 Annual Conference
- School visits starting in October and November

Strategic Planning Implementation:

- Apparatus Replacement and Strategic Capital Evaluation schedules – Evan Fosler presented the 10 year planning worksheets that are utilized to evaluate the timelines and costs of replacements. The worksheets are updated annually and repairs/ replacements are moved up or back as needed. The costs are estimated to increase at 3% per year. We enter the actual costs of repairs

or replacements once they are accomplished and evaluate future expenses based off of these actual costs where possible. Christina Griggs started this process prior to 2008 and the document has been modified through the years to better reflect the actual expenses as well as the projected expenses. For example an ambulance box can be placed on a new chassis and any other safety features, graphics, lights or equipment that need to be updated are done when the chassis is replaced. This is a significant cost savings over a new ambulance purchase. For example pumps and engines can be rebuilt to extend the life if it does not compromise safety or response but once an apparatus is no longer able to be refurbished then it is targeted for a replacement. For strategic assets the same philosophy is used. We estimate based on what specific assets such as prams/cots or computer servers and other high dollar items. For example the SCBA expenses for replacement may be reduced. The NFPA and Scott are requiring bottle replacements at specific intervals and we need to be able to have the packs compatible with the bottles. For now we replace packs and a specific quantity of bottles at intervals. Both schedules are out 30 years for long term planning and funding. Operational philosophy is to duplicate models that work well and it helps consistency for the volunteers and maintenance and it leverages economically by reducing time spent on design. Director Anderson asked if there is anything globally in theory or practice that are a weak link or call for concern. Evan replied that he feels the funding works well and even if we have to short cut the process we have a makeup plan. Putting money away for the future is important. Director deDisse commented that it looks like a big number but when you look at the overall number of buildings and equipment that we have to maintain it is not. The shortcoming is that we are not able to fund this to the savings level we used to so we aren't able to continue to fund replacement or repair as far into the future as we would like. The mechanism for evaluation is effective and important. Director Anderson asked Ms. Christ if she had gotten the answer she was asking about for why it was decided to postpone replacement for Station 1. Evan addressed that we have identified the areas that need attention and are compiling solid estimates before the end of September but for now we have estimated \$75,000 in repairs to keep the station in place. At present we have to choose trucks for this station that will fit the dimensions of the space as opposed to what will fit operational needs of the fire department.

Regionalization:

- Legal and Accounting recommendations have been made and contract negotiations have begun. Human Resources and IT applications have been received and interview committees have been formed for this hiring process.
- A far more cost effective radio link design has been discussed with Motorola for the mountain agencies but met resistance with Motorola.
- The 911 Authority has approved the funding for the microwave hop from Squaw to Green Mountain. Working with the State on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the dish on Squaw.
- A presentation on the compensation package will be made on the 14th to the EFR dispatchers.

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING TOPICS:

Topic	Initiated	Scheduled/ Completed	Recommendations / Actions
Energy Audit	April-14	TBD	Update on-going project
Budget Committee	Feb-16	TBD	Update quarterly with report by Pinnacle
Overtime Report	May-16	TBD	Update quarterly
Financial Health	Jan-16	Nov-16	

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Director DeDisse and Director Christensen – Committee will be scheduled to review the budget at the end of September once the worksheets and draft budget are ready. Meetings with the managers will be scheduled. Director Gregory will substitute for Director Christensen at these meetings until he is available to return.

Personnel Committee: Director Anderson and Director Mosby

401a Pension Board: Director Gregory and Director Christensen

Construction Committee: Director Gregory and Director deDisse

Financial Health Committee: Director Christensen and Director Mosby

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Community Para-medicine and Mill Levy decision: Chief Weege explained that originally this discussion was started to find an avenue for Fire/EMS services to be able to fund these services and through research and meetings with legal it was determined to be possible to get legislation that would allow us to be licensed for community para-medicine. It came about that the Special District Association had already assembled a task force on this topic and had recommended support of legislation to define community para-medicine and put it under the direction of the CDPHE for licensing/certification. Chief Weege felt this was the best course for us to follow and now that legislation is in place and the certification process has been started. The community task force that was put together to look at this topic was to bring in community input for this topic and to gauge whether or not to pursue a mill levy increase. Some of the members of this task force also participated in the strategic planning task force for consistency. There was a lot of discussion about the community para-medicine topic during the task force meetings and determined to be best for the EFPD to pursue the community para-medicine participation. Director deDisse commented that when this was being discussed the EFPD cannot set up another health district, and once the legislation came about that allows us to amend our statement of purpose so that we can perform community para-medicine then that is the direction that was best for the district to pursue. Mr. Gottsman asked if that is Highland Rescue. Director deDisse explained that yes Highland Rescue is a health services district and is not a part of Foothills Fire. They are limited in funding by sales tax revenue. It can be a strained relationship. Having EMS and Fire under one organization has been more effective. Chief Weege reiterated that legislation allows us now to perform community para-medicine in the near future as soon as we are licensed to do so. Mr. Gottsman asked for clarification of what community para-medicine means. Chief Weege explained that it will allow us to not only transport to local doctors or clinics but we will also be able to do home visits for medicines or bandage care, home care follow-ups that will reduce the number of emergency room visits or hospital readmission. Medic Wehnes spoke about a class he recently took and another coming up that will change how they evaluate the compliance of patients when they are released for at risk failures. Many agencies are already starting to hire people to perform just these functions to address the issues. The medics will continue to participate in the process by learning what they need to do for us to be in compliance. Director Anderson reiterated the question Mr. Gottsman asked earlier about where is the value in where you are transported, he wholly supports a healthy community and that we are able to get to where we need to be with the legislation and we will be able to deliver this service to the community without creating a new tax district. Our system will be able to deliver. A portion of the mill levy will go to support the issues of community para-medicine and the health of the Evergreen community. Mr. Gottsman commented that he appreciates being educated on this topic but that the overall community doesn't know this message. Director Anderson noted we have tried many angles to get the message out and reach the community and we don't know what else to try to help inform.
- Auto-Aid and Dual Response IGA: Chief Weege presented the IGA for this auto-aid and dual response to help identify parts of the district and what apparatus are available for quick response. The goal is to get the closest resource to specific areas based on driving distances. For example Walmart is in our district but Foothills Fire is closer. Evergreen would get toned out first but Foothills would also get toned as a dual response as they can get on scene more quickly. Auto-aid will allow closest agencies apparatus to arrive more quickly and will reduce insurance ratings on many properties close to the boundaries of each of the districts. Doug Saba noted some typographical errors in the IGA. Director deDisse made a motion to approve the IGA as presented pending correction of the errors; Director Mosby seconded; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolution in Support of Mill Levy: Director deDisse made a motion to place on file the resolution in support of the Mill Levy; seconded by Director Mosby; motion carried.
- Draft Resolution in Support of EPAD funding: Chief Weege noted that this draft document was a follow up to a previous conversation by Bob Walter regarding how to assist EPAD with funding. Legal has advised that we are able to financially support them as we have a like purpose and it can be added to the budget on an annual basis. This will help to offset the fundraising needed to

support this important project in the community. The program has 70 AEDs that are inspected for batteries and pads each year. This will allow them to continue into the future.

- Spending Authorization 2016-007: Pram/Cot matching funds - \$150,237.36. The conditions of the grant is that we pay for the prams in full and then we are reimbursed for 50% of the expense. Director Mosby made a motion to approve Spending Authorization 2016-007; seconded by Director Gregory; motion carried. Director deDisse was out of the room and not available to vote.
- Spending Authorization 2016-008: Station 3 roof - \$16,800.00. It was determined that the roof needs to be replaced following recent hail damage before it fails. It is the original roof for the structure and is not available for an insurance claim due to its age. Director Mosby made a motion to approve Spending Authorization 2016-008; seconded by Director Gregory; motion carried. Director deDisse was out of the room and not available to vote.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Director deDisse: Good constructive comments about what we are doing. Evan showed we are working on our plans, our medics for the community para-medicine project; Mr. Gottsman for his attendance and interest. Wishes more in the community attended to provide input.

Director Mosby: Thank you Ms. Christ for attending and writing articles that help inform the community about what we are doing. Secondly keep Director Christensen in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Director Gregory: Also prayers for Dave to be back soon. Thank you all for the great Big Chili cook-off. It was a good day and well attended.

Director Anderson: Thank you Bob Walter for his service and wish him well. Thank you Chief for your comments tonight and your efforts in working through the community para-medicine conversation and for the work with the big old spreadsheets and Evan that keep us focused on the future with it all laid out in black and white for decades in to the future for the community's protection.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Director deDisse made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Director Gregory seconded; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

401a Pension Board Meeting Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 5:00 pm in Training Rooms A & B
Regular District Board Meeting Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 5:30 pm in Training Rooms A & B

Respectively Submitted,
Carol Hucker
Recording Secretary