

Los Pinos Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting

June 14, 2021

Regular meeting called to order at 6:01p.m.

Roll Call: James Brown, Chelsea Hamilton, Preston Rea, Tom Arthur, Scot Davis, Brad Egger, Tony Harwig, Josh Lorenzen, Mark Williams, Bud Smith and Laura Rodriguez.

Guests: Jim Owens, Cassandra Witt, Kevin Griego and Ryan Mulay.

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the May 10, 2021, board meeting, seconded and approved.

A motion was made to pay the bills, seconded and approved.

No public comment.

Chief Harwig reviewed the new vacation accrual rate worksheet for the 40-hour staff with the Board. He reviewed and surveyed surrounding fire district rates which included some on the front range. This has also been discussed with the ERC committee.

Three options were presented.

A motion was made to change the vacation accrual to the third option and make this effective for the next paycheck, seconded and approved.

Chief Harwig will be meeting with the crews regarding the overpayment to FPPA and get it corrected.

A motion was made to approve the CO Special District Repayment Agreement, seconded and approved.

The Colorado Trust signature page was updated removing Kirk Becker as signer and adding Tom Arthur.

A motion was made to remove Kirk Becker, Paul Blocker and Thomas Aurnhammer as signers and add all five Board members James Brown, Chelsea Hamilton, Preston Rea, Tom Arthur, and Mark Williams to the CD with Community Banks of Colorado, seconded and approved.

A motion was made to add Tom Arthur as a signer to the Wells Fargo operating account, seconded and approved.

The last email from the tribal attorney was 30 days ago. It was a consensus of the Board to have Bud contact the tribal attorney again.

Bud explained that legislation has passed a bill regarding the Gallagher amendment which will temporarily roll it back for two years. The residential rate of assessment would go from 7.15 to 6.95. The Gallagher amendment does not matter to the District one way or the other anymore due to the way our ballot question was worded. The District can adjust that the mill levy rate to make up for any loss that would be caused by reducing that rate of assessment.

Chief Egger

The cracks in the parking lot at Station 2 have been sealed. They did miss the cracks by the sidewalk. Chief and I have been reviewing policies that we will be changing to SOPS.

Security cameras are up at Station 2 and 3 and the cameras for Station 4 and 5 will be getting installed in the next couple of days.

Deputy Chief Lorenzen

The casino is going to be opening in phases.

The CFFA committee is looking at bringing back the CFFA conference to Ignacio in October. It is a good opportunity for us to bring in some regional training. We are talking to the casino about room rates and having it at the casino.

Ty Harris has resigned his full-time position but will be staying on as a reserve. This leaves us short as far as an acting captain position. We will be having a captain testing process to build more AIC personnel. We will be doing this at the end of the month. We do have a posting out to hire a full-time position and some reserve positions.

Chief Davis

We have up to 11 volunteers. We have two that are doing ride alongs as observers.

We will be having the exterior firefighter class at the end of July and the EMR class in August. This should get this whole group of people up to a good set of basic skills to be operating on calls and on shift. We now have 4 volunteers in District.

Also, have been working on the website and developing pages for the shifts.

Fire Chiefs Report:

We are at 424 calls compared to 386 last year.

The P&L is looking great. Capital purchases were reviewed. We did get 10 radios for the volunteers.

We have ordered four thermal imaging cameras. They took our old cameras as trade ins and they came to \$21,000 and we had budgeted \$30,000.

The truck committee is reviewing the specs for the new trucks. The next meeting, we may have an amount for the truck.

The wildland crew is on a severity assignment with BIA for 14 days. Stage 1 fire restrictions will go into effect on Wednesday at 6:00 a.m.

We did get an offer from Fort Lewis Mesa Fire District for the brush truck which we are not using anymore. They are also interested in the flat bed.

We did get a bid for Station 5 which is over. They have had a hard time getting bids from the subcontractors due to material costs. We may have to make some changes to trim the cost.

The Grange has contacted us to renegotiate the contract.

Chief Harwig spoke about succession planning and he is looking at it in a more detailed way than just having someone replace him in the organization. He came up with a project program because we need succession planning throughout the whole organization. Everything that we do needs a succession plan. Everyone in the department has a role in this and can take on any project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Minutes approved by _____, President.

James Brown

**July 14, 2021, 2021 Regular board meeting at 6:00 p.m.
Station#1, 275 Browning Avenue, Ignacio, CO**