

Los Pinos Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting

May 9, 2022

Regular Board meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m.

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

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2022, board meeting, seconded and approved.

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

Public comment

No public comment.

New Business

Election Update: The election for the board of directors was last week. It looks like James Brown and Tom Arthur will be elected for a 3-year term. Misti Witt will be elected for a one-year term. We must wait until May 11th for the military votes to come in first before we can confirm results.

By-Laws: James and Laura reviewed the board by-laws and noticed that some minor updates needed to be made. The by-laws have been sent to the Board to see if any more changes need to be made.

Station 5 Update

The builder did not show up and they have been unable to get a hold of them. JITA was told we do not want to use this builder. JITA is currently looking at two builders to replace them and has spoken to a builder as well who is a general contractor but would want to take on the whole project, which we are not at that stage. One builder can be there on Monday to start. It was a consensus of the Board to have this builder start on Monday. We will ask Joel with JITA and Darren to be at the next board meeting and put this on the June agenda. We will discuss share costing for the increase in the new bid amount.

We are setting up a meeting with a Boebert rep for either June or July to see if there is any funding on the federal level. If we cover nontax federal property is there any funding that can offset that?

SUIT Tribe

Have not heard back from the SUIT.

Fire Marshal Egger

Policy update: None

It was a consensus of the Board to approve the inclusion of the property at 1123 CR 311.

A motion was made to approve the petition of inclusion, seconded and approved.

The resolution for Inclusion was approved and signed.

Chief Harwig (Lorenzen)

Personnel Update: We conducted interviews for an in-house hiring for two full-time positions. We hired Matt Fudala who has been a reservist for us for four years. He is an experienced officer with Cortez Fire Department. He started yesterday with C-shift.

Also, Mike Cochran was hired. He started off as a volunteer then was hired as a reserve. He will start full time on B-shift after he is finished working on the wildland crew.

Grants: We are just waiting for the bill for the physicals to submit for the Division of Fire Prevention and Control state grant.

EMTS grant should be out June or July.

The Medicare Supplemental payment has been submitted.

We are checking into updating our ambulance fees because our rates are low for our area. District wide there will be a 5% rate increase on the ambulance. This is the ambulance inflation rate factor. Chief Lorenzen is looking more into this.

Chief Davis

Volunteer Update: We just wrapped up Fire 1 and did JPR's last weekend. Everyone passed. Now they have to take the written exam. Our class for next Wednesday will be on CPR and AED's. One of the election judges is interested in volunteering. We will be doing live fire for 3 weeks and doing JPR's (job performance requirements) on the 30th. Then we will schedule the written exam.

Drone Update: Nothing new. The letter of declaration has been submitted to the FAA.

Met with Mr. DeKay the superintendent and talked to him about some programming. The Ignacio Schools will be going to a four-day week.

Fire Chiefs Report:

Wildland Update: We have a truck and 3-person crew in New Mexico on the Cerro Pelado fire.

Emergency Responses: We are at 300 calls.

P&L: The P&L for April was reviewed. We are at 30.03% so we are well under our projected budget.

Grants: No word on the Safer grant.

The Special District Association is having a workshop on June 27th in Durango for Board members and administrative staff. You do have to register for this workshop. They will videotape the one in Denver if you cannot make it.

We have been discussing a new statewide law with the ERC committee regarding FAMLI which is a family medical leave insurance program that will begin in January 2023. We are trying to figure out how it is going to fit in to our organization. As a local government we can refuse to participate as an employer, but the employee can participate. We will have to let the state know if we are going to opt in, opt out or partially be in it. The Board will have to vote on this. If you have over ten employees, it's matching funds for employers. Governmental entities do not have to pay the matching side of this, and the employee can choose to participate or not.

At the last State Chiefs meeting the CO property tax initiative was discussed. The State Chiefs do not support this initiative. This is to alleviate property taxes. Our budget is going to go down because of this. Bud figured out what our budget may be going down. We also got approved by the voters that if we go down, we can change our mill levy to make up for this. This is something we have to look at around budget time.

Chief Harwig will be on vacation and not be at the next meeting.

Justin Shoopman gave an update on the upgrade with Southern Ute Dispatch. Securo our IT company, has found us a server and has been working with ImageTrend to get this set up. We hope to get this implemented by this month. The next step will be to get the training set up with dispatch.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43

Minutes approved by _____, President.

James Brown

June 13, 2022, Regular board meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Station#1, 275 Browning Avenue, Ignacio, CO