

## **CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **CARBONDALE FIRE HEADQUARTERS**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2017**

The Board of Directors of the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District met for their regular meeting on February 8, 2017 at the Carbondale Fire Headquarters/Training Building.

President Gene Schilling called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Directors present were Louis Eller, Carl Smith and Tom Adgate. Also present were Ron Leach, Jenny Cutright, Eric Gross, Rob Goodwin, Bill Gavette, Wes Bradish from RBC Dane Rauscher and John Colson. Vice-President Mike Kennedy was absent.

### **CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Carl Smith requested an update on ISO.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The items on the consent agenda were:

- Approve the Minutes of January 11, 2017 Regular Meeting
- Approve the Minutes of the January 25, 2017 Special Meeting
- Approve Current Bills and Balances

**MOTION:** made to approve the consent agenda as noted. It carried and passed unanimously.

### **PERSONS PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were no comments from the public.

### **DISCUSSION OF OUTSTANDING BONDS AND CURRENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE DISTRICT**

Wes Bradish from RBC Dane Rauscher attend the meeting. He said that the 2007 bonds are callable this year, with the earliest they can be refinanced as September 1.

Wes Bradish said that he has talked to specific providers about buying the District's bonds due to the small principal and short term He said that he founds a bank that is willing to lock in a 2% rate until the end of March. He said the current bonds are about 4%. He reviewed options for refinancing and the possibility of asking voters for a new bond, without increasing the debt service mill levy. He said the District could raise approximately \$10.5 million with a bond issue

this way. He also said that the District could refinance the current bonds and save approximately \$30,000 annually.

Discussion regarding followed different options followed. Wes Bradish said that the District has been very good to the constituents. He said that many districts will keep the levy the same and 'over levy' to pay the principal down sooner, but Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District has dropped the debt service mill levy whenever it is able. Further discussion followed.

Gene Schilling said that refinancing the current bonds should be done regardless. He said this will save the taxpayers money. He said that the board will need to discuss if they want to ask the voters for a bond issue.

Wes Bradish said that they will work with the District's bond counsel, Tom Peltz, to develop the parameters resolution for the board to vote on. This is the document that will direct staff to begin the refinance process as long as the specified parameters are met. Wes Bradish said that the 2% lock is the most aggressive he was able to find. He said that many providers will not do a forward refinance.

The Board of Directors directed staff to begin the process and develop a parameters resolution for a bond refinance.

Wes Bradish said that the Gallagher Amendment will realize a reduction in the residential assessment rate. He said that the total assessed valuation will not reduce, but is transferred to commercial property owners. Ron Leach said that he does not feel the shift in assessment rates will be a big threat to the district's revenues.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Marble Fuel Release Rob Goodwin said that the Town of Marble voted to signed the IGA. He said that the State of Colorado also approved the corrective action plan. Rob Goodwin said that there will be core holes drilled in the driveway, then drill holes follow on Monday. He said that samples will be taken and sent to the lab to determine how much product and how deep it is once the lab results are returned. Rob Goodwin noted that this is considered a stable release so the state of Colorado does not determine when the remediation begins. He said as long as it is done in a timely manner, it can be done in the spring.

**MOTION:** made to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Marble. Louis Eller asked if the IGA changed after it was reviewed by the Town of Marble. Rob Goodwin said there have been no changes. It carried and passed 3-0, as Tom Adgate was not in the room during the vote.

Staff Planning Meeting Update Ron Leach said that staff planning meetings have been focusing on Strategy 4, Financial resources. He said that the staff is working on the capital fund needs assessment. He said that there are many named needs, including a training ground, a

maintenance bay, ambulances and larger fire truck replacements such as Engine 82 which is a 1984 engine. He said there is at least \$10 million in needs.

Ron Leach said if there was a bond issue it could be structured to fund over time. He said if it is taken at once, it must be spent within three years.

Ron Leach added that the staff has been diligent on the master plan work.

Structure Fire Ron Leach said the district recently responded to a chimney fire. He said the fire was in the roof and it was snowing hard. He said that no one was hurt and the firefighters were brave and efficient. Ron Leach said that thanks to the direction of Rob Goodwin, the home was saved.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Pickup Carl Smith asked if there will be additional costs for the new pickup truck. Ron Leach said there would be some costs for radios.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Affordable Housing Issues Louis Eller said that with the unknowns on the 2018 finances, he would like to wait to discuss any affordable house projects.

Stryker Cot Tom Adgate asked if the District received the Stryker cot yet. Rob Goodwin said it is now in service. He said it is an amazing piece of equipment. He explained how the cot and power load system works. He noted that there are many times the ambulance is running with a short crew and sometimes there are only two people to lift a 250-pound patient. He said that this cot and power load system is a great improvement for the district.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution 2017-002, Resolution Supporting the Grant Application for a Grant from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District Ron Leach said that spring grant cycle is open and applications are due February 24. He said to apply for a grant, a resolution must be approved by the Board of Directors. Ron Leach said that the grant is for two Ward Diesel filters. Ron Leach said that Ward Diesel filters are used to filter out the carcinogens so they are not being inhaled. He said these are needed for the health and safety of our members.

**MOTION:** made to approve Resolution 2017-002, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District Supporting the Grant Application for a Grant from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District for the Purchase of Two Ward Diesel Filters. It carried and passed unanimously.

Attending Board Meetings by Telephone Gene Schilling said that last year Carl Smith called in to a 5 out of the 13 board meetings held. He said that is a significant portion of the Board meetings. Gene Schilling said that it is hard for people who are at the meeting. He said that it is hard to hear and be heard by the person on the phone. He said that ability to have board members call in is beneficial but it should be the exception, not the rule.

Louis Eller and Tom Adgate agreed calling in to board meetings is distracting. Tom Adgate suggested using call in for important issues only.

Carl Smith said that he called in once because he was on vacation, but that generally it is because he is in SEMTAC meetings all day Wednesday and Thursday which sometimes falls on the board meeting. He explained what the SEMTAC does. He said that he recognizes his calling in is a challenge but noted that he attends other meetings by telephone too. He said that there will only be two time the meetings occur on the same day as the board meeting and asked the board for their consideration on the issue.

Gene Schilling requested that board members minimize calling in unless there is something important on the agenda or a quorum is needed.

ISO Rob Goodwin said that there was as meeting with the representative from ISO. He said the staff is gathering information needed for the survey. Carl Smith asked when the ISO survey would take place. Rob Goodwin said it would be in 2017, hopefully in the first half of the year. Carl Smith requested an ISO update on the monthly agenda.

Ambulance Call Gene Schilling said that there was CPR call recently where the police Department and fire department did CPR for a significant amount of time. He said that someone called to offer kudos for the work both agencies did. He said that the citizen was very pleased with the way the situation was handled. Rob Goodwin noted that police who were on scene were outstanding.

MOTION: made to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 6:48 p.m. It carried and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jenny Cutright, Recording Secretary

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Gene Schilling, President