

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

### **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **CARBONDALE FIRE HEADQUARTERS**

**JUNE 10, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District held an in-person meeting and teleconference for a special meeting on June 10, 2020.

President Gene Schilling called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. The follow directors were present in person: Mike Kennedy, Michael Hassig, Sydney Schalit. The following directors were present via teleconference: Gene Schilling, Gretchen Stock Bell. Also present in person were Rob Goodwin, Jenny Cutright, Mike Wagner and Frank Nadell. Also present via teleconference was Eric Gross.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The items on the consent agenda were:

- Approve the Minutes of the April 8, 2020 and May 13, 2020 Regular Meetings
- Approve the Minutes of the April 6, 2020, April 13, 2020, April 20, 2020, April 27, 2020, May 4, 2020, May 11, 2020 and May 18, 2020 Special Meetings
- Approve Current Bills and Balances

Director Gretchen Stock Bell lost the connection to the meeting prior to the vote.

MOTION: to approve the consent agenda as noted. It carried and passed 4-0

Director Gretchen Stock Bell joined the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

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

No members of the public were present or on the teleconference.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Chief's Report The seasonal staffing program has begun. The seasonal staff person works 10-6 daily. Discussion regarding the current weather drying pattern and the moderate to severe drought followed. It was noted in the foreseeable future, the weather predictions are for above average temperatures and below average precipitation.

The wildfires in the area have mostly been in Western Garfield and Mesa Counties. Several thousand acres have burned. If conditions continue a second patrol may be needed so there are patrols in both ends of the District.

The crews doing well. They have made a concerted effort to do more training & quality training.

Attorney's Report

The Board of Directors meetings are noticed as hybrid meetings, where people can join in person or via Zoom. The meetings need to be hybrid until it is noticed differently.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Gallagher Amendment The District is under the rules of the Gallagher and TABOR amendments. The Gallagher Amendment says that residential property pays 45% of the total tax burden. The Residential Assessment rate (RAR) changes to follow this law. When the RAR drops, it cannot be increased with a vote of the electorate because of TABOR. The current RAR is 7.15 and is expected to drop to 5.88. Based on the current revenue, CRFPD property tax will drop 10%.

The Colorado State Legislature is discussing a statewide ballot question to address the Gallagher Amendment in the November 2020 election. Historically, tax questions do not do well in a statewide election. The Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association is suggesting individual de-Gallagherizing questions for the November ballot.

If a local de-Gallagherization question is passed, if the RAR increases, the District could not receive the additional funds. CRFPD is 88% residential, a substantial RAR decrease will really hurt the District. Further discussion regarding the Gallagher Amendment and a de-Gallagherizing question followed. It was noted that the voters approved a certain amount of funding and the reduced RAR will not allow the District to fund at the level approved by taxpayers. No action was taken.

## **BOND PROJECTS**

Buildings Station 84 has construction fencing and the construction is expected to begin on Monday. The building permit should be issued today. Discussion regarding an open house after construction followed.

The final pricing for Station 83 was presented to the building committee. The pricing will be distributed to the Board of Directors for the special meeting. The costs are higher than expected, but there are some opportunities to reduce the cost that will be reviewed. Items that could be reduced in the final pricing were discussed.

Apparatus The new ambulance completion date changed because of COVID-19. It is expected to be ready on July 13. The other apparatus are on schedule for a fall completion.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Meeting Schedule The upcoming Monday special meeting is the last one scheduled. Discussion followed. It was decided to continue the regular board meeting on the second Wednesday and add a special meeting on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Elk Springs Elk Springs is working with Bill Gavette on their Firewise application. They are at a very high risk of wildfire. Discussion followed. It was noted the District is supporting them in this application.

MOTION: to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 11:54 a.m. It carried and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jenny Cutright, Recording Secretary

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Gene Schilling, President