

RECORD OF MINUTES
Elk Creek Fire Protection District
Regular Board Meeting
April 13th, 2023 In person and via Zoom

Director Pixley called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order on April 13th, 2023 at 18:11 hours.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Greg Pixley
Kent Wagner
Sharon Woods
Melissa Baker
Chuck Newby

Also Present:

Barbara Stockton, District Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge during Pension Board meeting

AGENDA

All board members reviewed the Agenda with no additions or deletions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the March 2023 regular meeting minutes. (Director Woods seconded by Director Baker) **MOTION PASSED**

FINANCIAL MATTERS

MOTION to approve the March 2023 expenses. (Director Wagner seconded by Director Baker) **MOTION PASSED.**

CHIEF WARE'S REPORT

1. Fleet Mechanic Adam Hojnowski shared a presentation on his background and responsibilities for both Elk Creek Fire and Inter Canyon Fire. Adam has been with the Department for one year and has implemented a maintenance software program and both departments that tracks maintenance requests, expenses, and preventative maintenance. He provides service to both departments based on what is the highest priority at the time. Recently, Adam was tasked with sourcing the chipping truck. Instead of purchasing the truck locally in Colorado where prices would have been \$150,000 or more, Adam was able to find a chip truck in California for approximately \$111,000. The addition of this chipping truck removed the single point of failure in the chipping program. A quick overview of the ECFPD fleet includes three ambulances, five engines, four tenders and approximately thirty other pieces of equipment. While the equipment is still in relatively good

condition, it is aging and sourcing parts has become increasingly difficult, extending downtime for equipment.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Strategic Planning Session - The board met on March 27th to discuss a strategic plan for the department. It was agreed that four different plans would be needed to address the various potential outcomes. These would include: If the consolidation is approved or not approved, if the mill levy increase is approved or disapproved by voters. At the session, the Board decided the strategic planning discussion would be reviewed at the June Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Impacts of Shadow Mountain Bike Park Operations on the District Emergency Medical Services. **MOTION** to Develop the Means to Identify and Mitigate the EMS Impacts Due to the Shadow Mountain Bike Park Operations that Elk Creek Fire Protection District Board of Directors:
 1. Direct the assessment of the personnel, apparatus, equipment, and incident time-demands that SMBP operations will impose on the District due to its EMS demands
 2. Develop the legal, financial, and regulatory mechanisms that will require SMBP to offset the EMS demands that its operations will impose on the District thereby ensuring that District taxpayers are held harmless.
 3. Notify SMBP, Jefferson County, and the State of Colorado of the intent by the District to hold its taxpayers harmless with respect to the EMS demands resulting from SMBP operations.

(Director Newby seconded by Director Wagner).

Speaking for the motion, there was concern for the amount of injuries that would be created by the operations at the park creating an impact on the the Elk Creek EMS services and thus a burden on the taxpayers,

Speaking against the motion there was concern as to whether the assumptions about the studies provided were warranted for this particular development at this particular time and the validity of the motion. There was some discussion about potentially working with the state to determine if anything could be built into their lease, however there was concern about how to assess the personnel needed and the actual call impact. There was additional concern about how the Department would hold taxpayers harmless. There was concern about the language of the motion as it puts the board in a difficult position by making this kind of promise to the taxpayers.

Speaking against the motion, the 1st referral status of the development application and ECFPD's role during the 1st referral stage which is to determine if the development is within the district. The process has a second, third and fourth referral before it goes

before the Planning Commission and then before the County Commissioners. At this time there is not a bike park. The board reviewed the studies provided as examples for impact to the district and there was concern about the relevance of the example provided since they reference a downhill racing park and the proposed development is a recreational bike park.

Speaking for the motion, the examples relate to the demographics and uses that are currently being explored for the Shadow Mountain Bike Park. Now is the time to act a be proactive to the impacts of the development to ensure the taxpayers don't bear the burden.

MOTION AMENDMENT

Director Wagner offered to amend the motion to include legal, financial and regulatory mechanisms that will require the bike park to offset the demands, impacts and mitigate expenses to the district's budget. No second.

AMENDMENT FAILED.

MOTION FAILED.

2. Pre-consolidation IGA -

MOTION to approve. (Director Woods seconded by Director Baker)

There was discussion on the motion

Speaking in favor of the motion, this document is just an agreement between the three districts that we will produce information that indicates the voters do approve the consolidation, that that information is already together. It's not a document saying that we are going to consolidate. It's a document that says in the meantime, the districts are going to communicate with each other, information about inventory, information about real property, information about personnel.

Speaking against the motion, there was a lack of time to review the IGA and a request to defer the vote to allow more time to understand the intent of the IGA.

The board discussed that the ultimate decision for consolidation lies with the taxpayers. This is just a contingency document. It is something to guide us the departments towards putting consolidation on the ballot in November. A decision that the community will make.

Speaking in favor of the motion, because it puts in place many of the questions that citizens have, what are our resources between all the fire departments? What are our liabilities, what are the expenses of each of the departments? This agreement doesn't move us really anywhere towards consolidation. It just provides additional information.

MOTION PASSED.

3. Evergreen Fire Marshal IGA -

MOTION to approve. (Director Woods seconded by Director Wagner)

Discussion on the motion

There was a request to table the motion until the May Board of Directors meeting.

Director Pixley agreed and requested the Evergreen Fire Marshal ICA be added to the May Agenda

CITIZEN ISSUES

1. Additional concern from citizens for the Shadow Mountain Bike Park. Citizens expressed that timing is critical because now is the time to negotiate. As the development gets further in the process the Department will have less leverage for negotiations.
2. Concern for the lack of a strategic plan and an equipment replacement model, yet there was a report developed to move the district towards consolidation.
3. Citizens requested information about consolidation and were directed to the Open Houses that encourage open discussion with a questions and answer format.
4. Additional concern for the Shadow Mountain Bike Park due to safety concerns and how the bike park will impact on our current emergency medical service.
5. There was a request for an annual report, concern about insurance costs and the ISO rating, as well as concern over the spending on an additional chipping truck and the board's decisions to approve the purchase. In addition, there was frustration that only a few hundred people were able to sign up for the chipping program.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Director Woods; seconded by Director Wagner) to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting of the Board of Directors concluded at 20:24 hours

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE ELK CREEK FIRE PROTECTION**

DISTRICT

BY: /s/

Melissa Baker

Secretary of the District.