

MESA COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 25, 2024

July 2, 2024

At 7:03PM Wayne DeGesualdo called the meeting to order. Wayne DeGesualdo, Chuck Nelson, present for the board. Eric Brown was present by phone. Randy Zellner and Murray Thiessen both had an excused absence.

Also present were public members Rich Phillip, Administrative Assistant Stacy Cox and member Courtney Griffith.

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wayne DeGesualdo said an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Wayne DeGesualdo asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from the last Board Meeting. Chuck Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Tank Update- Rich advised that the tanks still need to be filled to the top so they can see if his fixes worked and if they leak. Courtney advised that there are about 6 loads in the lower tank. Wayne asked about a measuring stick. Chuck advised that he will see if his friend has some gas measuring sticks. Upper tank at the Weber place is ready to be filled all the way to the neck of the tank.

Handbook Update- Board Members did not get the copy of the handbook emailed from the Chief and is on vacation this week.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Positions:

Murray had advised Chuck that Eric Talley will come on board when and if Randy Zellner moves out of the area or steps down but is not interested in being the treasurer. Murray advised Chuck he would fill that role.

Chief/Job Description

Wayne DeGesualdo said he would like to add the phrase "This requirement may be temporarily suspended by a motion and vote of board" to the job requirement "Colorado State Certification as an Emergency Medical Technician- Basic and be on protocol." After some discussion a motion was made by Eric Brown that the requirement "Colorado State Certification as an

Emergency Medical Technician- Basic and be on protocol” have the phrase “This requirement may be temporarily suspended by a motion and vote of board and will be subject to review every quarter.” Added pending the outcome of the meeting that took place with the county. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

A meeting was held last week with the county and took place with the following people present: Chief Charlesworth, MCFA Member Courtney Griffith, Board President Wayne DeGesualdo, Andy Martizoff, County Attorney, City Manager, Under Sheriff, Deputy County Administrator, Chief Balke, and Mike Withers. Every concern that was presented, Andy had justification for it. Have not heard back from this meeting. Courtney will email the attorney to see if they will poll or survey other EMS providers in an anonymous manner so they can respond without feeling like their job or position could be compromised.

EMTS Funding Program – FY 2023

Stacy advised that she spoke with the state and found out that Mesa County Fire Authority does have to pay for the ambulance in full for \$244k and then submit for reimbursement. Advised that there is only \$104,613.35 in checking but will be getting a check from Central Orchard Mesa Fire Protect District for second quarter tax revenue that will be approximately \$80K. Chuck Nelson said that the Alpine account is not a CD but rather fluent and are able to pull money from that account without any penalties. Eric Brown made a motion to pull \$150,000 from Alpine to help pay for the ambulance and then once reimbursed replace that money into the Alpine account. Wayne DeGesualdo second the motion. All were in favor, no opposed Motion carried.

EMTS Funding Program – FY 2024

Stacy advised that she will submit for reimbursement for the 50% match on the Stryker Power Cot and Lift.

Exempt from Audit

Received approval on exempt from audit but it is noted: In "Part 6 - Capital Assets" the beginning balance of the Authority's machinery and equipment does not match the prior year ending balance. Please ensure that all current year activity for capital assets is appropriately recorded in the additions or deletions columns and that beginning and ending balances are carried forward correctly in future applications.” Stacy will follow up with our CPA to see what happened there and how to prevent it in the future.

Treasurers Report

Chuck Nelson presented the treasurers report. Advised there nothing concerning. Line item 206, as stated last month, ambulance maintenance is already over budget for the year but it was necessary for maintenance. We are at 50% through the year and income from tax revenue is at 84.48% from Lands Ends and nothing from Central Orchard Mesa yet. The ambulance income is already at 42.9% for the year but with no providers that will take a hit. We are only at 32.97% of the expenses used for the year. Chuck also noted that we have not received a bill from Grand

Junction. Rich Phillips asked when burn permits were in revenue. Stacy advised that that number is incorrect and will research it. Eric Brown made a motion to approve both treasurers' reports as written. Wayne DeGesualdo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Chiefs Report (Written by Chief Presented by Courtney)

I have started to review the Central Orchard Mesa handbook to see if there is something in it, we should incorporate into the new one.

The new ambulance is at station 53, so take a look at it. I have talked to Buds signs for an estimate to get it stripped they should be getting back to me soon. I am going to contact Superior signs to see if they can get me an estimate also. From talking to Buds Signs, it looks like it will be around \$3 to 4 thousand to get it stripped.

We had our meeting with the county powers that be, but haven't heard from them yet but I am not expecting much.

Still waiting to hear on the radio grant.

Dorie just submitted a CDFP grant for bunker gear, helmets, boots, Nomex hoods and structure gloves.

Courtney added:

In the process of removing the decals from old Ambulance 53 to prepare it for sale.

May have a buyer for the pickup truck from COMFPD, the chief truck, for \$5,000.

Currently have 19 members with 2 pending interviews.

1 EMT school is complete waiting for NREMT test

1 on Protocol

5 on Probationary EMTs trying to get on protocol.

Had 54 calls in June of which 6 were standbys.

May start having Business meetings again back as part of the training rotation each month.

Other Matters before the Board:

Wayne asked about the call reports from Image Trend. Stacy advised printed them for most of the year but stopped as they were not getting reviewed at the meetings but will print them for next month's meeting.

Stacy Cox asked if the board wanted the medical HSA payment for Chief to be paid in full for the second half of the year or if it should be \$1250 to equal one quarter due to the additional of the line to the job description. The board said the pay \$2500 and if we are unable to keep Chief due to protocol then it will be considered a severance pay.

Stacy Cox advised she would be on vacation for the next meeting and Linda Weber will be filling in for her at the July 23rd meeting.

SDA conference is coming up September 10-12 at Keystone. Advised it is \$415 for registration plus housing. Wayne suggested that it is sent to all board members and have a list of those that would like to attend by next board meeting.

Wayne asked if we need to review our bylaws and update them. Chuck Nelson and Stacy Cox both advised no, that the bylaws only have to do with the formation of MCFA and not operations.

Public Comment:

Rich Phillips said that he does not want to make matter worse but would like to voice his concerns for the way the county is treating volunteer departments. It was suggested to wait to see the outcome of the meeting they had last week and wait one to two months. It was also suggestion he could write a letter of his concerns and have residents sign the letter and send that into the commissioners. Rich said he could do that.

Adjournment of meeting

Eric Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Next Board Meeting is July 23, 2024 at 7PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Cox, Administrative Assistant

Mesa County Fire Authority



ATTEST



ATTEST