

MESA COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2024

At 7:12 PM Wayne DeGesualdo called the meeting to order. Murray Thiessen, Chuck Nelson, Eric Talley and Eric Brown (by phone) were present for the board.

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. Eric Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Murray Thiessen seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Handbook Update- Chief said no progress has been made on the policy manual but will dedicate all his time on getting that complete next month. Wayne DeGesualdo offered to meet with Darrell and help him if he needs it.

EMTS Funding Program FY 2023 – Stacy Cox has submitted the reimbursement request a second time for the power cot and power lift system and is just waiting for reimbursement.

EMTS Funding Program FY 2024 – Stacy Cox has submitted the reimbursement request a second time for the Ambulance waiting on the reimbursement.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurers Report

Murray Thiessen presented the treasurer's report. Advised, as we have spoken about before, Line item 206- ambulance maintenance is already over budget for the year but it was necessary for maintenance. We are at 83.3% of the way through the year and income from tax revenue is at 106.38% from Lands Ends and 74.06% from Central Orchard Mesa. Along with the other revenue, our total is sitting at 56.95% as we are waiting on the reimbursements from the grants. Total expenses for year-to-date are at 81.08% for the year and as long as no surprises come in and insurance isn't too bad there should not be a need to do a revised budget for the year. Eric Talley made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Eric Brown seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Preliminary Budget 2025

Budget committees met on 10/7 and 10/17 and put together the best estimate of income and expenses as they could as not sure how the new Colorado legislature bill will affect the bottom line. Murray Thiessen presented the proposed 2025 budget with an estimated income at \$460,478

and total estimated expenses as \$454,390. Two changes were made, moving \$7,000 from 402 and adding \$7,000 to new line item 216 GJFP EMS SUPPORT.

Eric Brown made that motion to approve the preliminary budget for 2025 with the two noted changes; to go the vote at the November board meeting after public notice is given. Eric Talley seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Removal of Old Board Members for Bank Accounts

Murray Thiessen made a motion to remove Tim Bevan and Darrell Charlesworth as signer on all ANB Bank accounts. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Chiefs Report

Old Ambulance 53- checked with the state, there are no restrictions on selling that ambulance.

FEMA Grant for Radios- Was Denied, too many priority requests and not enough funding for them all.

EMS Coordinator- Frank may be interested but can't set a schedule, he was not accredited at MCFA once he retired, but that he been corrected.

ISO Email Refresher: Meeting on Friday- I am the only Chief who responded until three days after I did. It is a two-hour meeting with some homework. Looks like LEFPD will have an ISO rating of 8 and COMFPD will have an ISO rating of 6.

With three stations, a pumper at each station, 72 hydrates in COM district and 25 in Whitewater plus the two water tanks on water source map, it should help get a better ISO out in Whitewater. Hoping that with the new water line we can get new hydrants, which will also help.

3 EMTs waiting on their protocol meetings in November- Paulina, Breanna and Hugo.

Meeting with Dr Burket; no issues or problems on my reports. Went through my report on the call on Highway 141- said that cancelling Gateway ambulance could be a medical discussion. Chief said no, had another ambulance on the way and just reallocated resources so that it would not leave the Gateway district uncovered. Started to review homework, did not get one of the assignments done. This is the 3rd month of the 5th of the program. Almost did not get his ride-time in this month and they would not extend him more time but did get the rides in at the last minute. Was reviewing homework when Dr Burket stopped Chief and said that he did not believe his heart was in it. Chief asked him if he wanted him to show more heart. Dr. Burket responded with he should have been showing more heart from the start and ended the meeting. Chief called Wayne to advised and then sent an email to Dr Burket and ask if that means his program is over. Waiting on a clarification.

Image Trend Call Reports

Stacy Cox went over the 4 normal Image Trend Reports which included Mutual Aid (given and received), Time of Arrival, Area of Call, and Category of Call. Stacy also presented the two, two-week reports since the last board meeting of who worked, calls and who responded.

Other Matters before the Board:

Chief advised that he received the proposed contract of costs for Grand Junction Fire Department to provide support for EMS services and has sent that to the board. Wayne DeGesualdo said that he would like clarification on two points first is fire; it has always been free mutual aid when we staff a fire. Will that still be the case if they are just supporting us as it has been in the past with all fires and if not, will they pay the same when we support them on a fire. Second is once we are staffed with EMTS will they still charge us for ALS calls? Once those points are cleared up the contract needs to be sent to our attorney for review before we sign it.

Chief Charlesworth handed out a letter to all present at the board meeting, resigning as of 12/31/2024 but offering support to help with the transition. He advised there are several reasons but the main reason is to spend time with and care for his new grandson.

The board asked that a notice be placed for the chief's job so we can start the hiring process.

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment of meeting

Murray Thiessen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting is November 26, 2024 about 7:15 pm following the LEFPD meeting at 7:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Cox
Administrative Assistant
Mesa County Fire Authority



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Other Matters before the Board:

Chief advised that he received the proposed contract of order for Grand Junction Fire Department to provide support for EMS services and has sent that to the board. Wayne DeGiacomo would like clarification on two points that is fine; it has always been fire maintain staff a fire. Will that still be the case if they are just supporting us as it has been in all fires and if not, will they pay the same when we support them on a fire. Record called with EMTS will they still charge us for ALS calls? Once those points are clarified, contract needs to be sent to emergency for review before we sign it.

Chief Charlesworth handed out a letter to all present at the board meeting regarding 12112024 but offering support to help with the transition. He advised there are no reasons but the main reason is to spend time with and care for his new grandson. The board asked that a notice be placed for the chief's job so we can start the hiring process.

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment of meeting

Mayor Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Board seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting is November 26, 2024 about 7:15 pm following the LEPPD meeting at 7:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ricky Cox
Administrative Assistant
Miss County Fire Authority



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