

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
NORTH METRO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**

The meeting was held electronically. Information regarding public participation in the meeting was posted on the District's website at least 24-hours in advance.

Date: March 16, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Miller, President
Peter Billera, Vice President
Tim Long, Treasurer
Jenni Murphy, Secretary
Robert Nielsen, Asst. Secretary

STAFF PRESENT:

David Ramos, Fire Chief
David Anderson, Deputy Chief, Support Services
Jeff Bybee, Deputy Chief, Operations
Lisa Willis, Chief Financial Officer
Steve Gosselin, Division Chief, Fire Prevention
Sara Farris, Public Information Officer
Mark Daugherty, EMS Chief
Ross Riley, Emergency Management Captain

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Dino Ross

A. Call to Order

President Miller called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by President Miller

C. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Chief Ramos asked to remove the Executive Session at the end of the meeting. He also wanted to add a Staff Report about the snow plan for the recent storm.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR NIELSEN AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR MURPHY TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

None.

E. Recess to Old Hire Paid Pension Board of Trustees Meeting

A MOTION TO RECESS THE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO CONVENE THE OLD HIRE PAID PENSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR MURPHY AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR BILLERA. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. Reconvene District Board Meeting

A MOTION TO RECONVENE THE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR NIELSEN AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR MURPHY. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

G. Presentations

1. Fire Prevention Division Year-End Recap

Chief Gosselin reviewed the organizational chart for the Division and its primary functions. He reviewed notable statistics for engineering services for 2020. The pandemic has not slowed down the activities of the Division. The plan review turnaround time has decreased to an average of 19.5 days. Both the City and County of Broomfield and the City of Northglenn adopted the 2018 International Fire Code in 2020. The District also approved a new fee schedule independent of the two cities. Chief Gosselin reviewed significant new construction projects of 2020. He is reimagining the future of business inspections. The Division has implemented The Compliance Engine, a software system that tracks third-party regular inspections. Chief Gosselin reviewed the fire investigation activities and a summary of the fire losses of 2020. For 2021, Chief Gosselin hopes to increase website functionality for customers, including more streamlined online payments and project tracking. High profile projects in 2021 include the Karl's Farm redevelopment, McWhinney Baseline West and East, and Verve Innovation Park.

Director Nielsen asked if the four-story homes in Baseline in Broomfield would contain an elevator. Chief Gosselin replied that they are not required to have an elevator. Director Nielsen asked if these new homes would have fire sprinklers. Chief Gosselin replied that all homes built by McWhinney to the east of Sheridan Parkway would be built with fire sprinklers. Baseline West homes are not required to be built with fire sprinklers. Chief Gosselin clarified that single family homes, duplexes and townhomes built in Broomfield are not required to have fire sprinklers.

Director Long asked for more explanation of The Compliance Engine. Chief Gosselin explained that the inspection testing and maintenance companies perform the physical inspections and enter the results data into The Compliance Engine software.

Director Murphy is proud of Chief Gosselin and the growth of the Division over the past ten years.

Director Long asked about Tax Increment Financing (TIF) on the new projects Chief Gosselin mentioned. Chief Ramos replied that the Verve project is in Jefferson County. The District has not been contacted by the County to develop a new urban renewal area. There will be no TIF for Karl's Farm.

Director Billera applauded Chief Gosselin as well.

Chief Ramos added that the Fire Prevention Division adapted well to working from home over the past year.

2. 2020 Annual Report

Public Information Officer Farris looked for feedback on the 2020 Annual Report that was shared with the Board last week. President Miller noted that the report was visually engaging. Director Murphy agreed.

PIO Farris noted that this report will be posted on the District's website, shared on social media channels, a short link in the Northglenn and Broomfield communication channels, as well as with both City Councils and executive staff.

H. Staff Reports

1. Public Information Officer Presentation

PIO Farris shared recent media exposures, including the plane engine malfunction that spread debris in Broomfield, technical rescue training, and ice rescue training.

2. February 28, 2021 YTD Financial Statements – General Fund

Chief Financial Officer Willis reviewed financial statements for the month ending February 28, 2021. The District had received its first property tax distribution of approximately \$9 million on March 10. She noted that Emergency Services Overtime is lower than budget after two months.

Director Long asked if the District had been reimbursed for wildland firefighting. CFO Willis replied that the District had received most of the reimbursement by the end of 2020, and the remaining was received in January 2021.

3. FEMA SAFER Grant

Chief Ramos updated the Board that the District had submitted a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant application. He requested nine positions this year to commit to four-person staffing at Station 67, to increase the frequency of four-person staffing on additional apparatus, and to reduce overtime and associated firefighter fatigue. The grant process is highly competitive. The Board would still have authority to approve the new positions in next year's budget. The cost of hiring the nine new firefighters totals \$3.3 million over three years. The grant would cover 100% of the salaries and benefits for three years.

4. COVID-19 Update

Chief Ramos noted that mask wearing in fire stations is still required by all firefighters. He anticipates softening restrictions in the near future.

Capt. Riley reviewed COVID-19 statistics for the state and local area. Temporary alternate care sites have been decommissioned. Positivity rate is declining, and transmission rate is slowing.

5. Station 61 Remodel

Chief Anderson noted that the District is currently in the permitting process with the City and County of Broomfield for a space to install the trailers adjacent to headquarters. The District is waiting for prequalification applications to submit a proposal.

Chief Anderson showed a sample photo of brick art and the artistic rendition the District is proposing for the park side of the Station. Director Nielsen asked if the brick would be painted or sculpted. Chief Anderson replied that it would be sculpted. Chief Ramos asked for Board feedback on the design. Chief Anderson noted that he intends to post the original photo with an explanation inside the station. There was a discussion of the art and suggested improvements.

6. Station 62 Remodel

Chief Anderson noted that power has been activated at Station 62, and now the contractor is testing all electrical panels and using heat. He shared photos of the construction progress.

Director Murphy commented that the parking lot asphalt should be replaced in the near future. Chief Anderson replied that parking lot repairs are on the long-term capital improvements list. President Miller agreed that this project should be moved up and accomplished sooner, and the Board shared general agreement with exploring costs for replacing concrete and asphalt as part of this remodel project.

7. Snowstorm Update

Chief Bybee discussed the District's response to the recent snowstorm. This was the fourth largest snowstorm in Colorado history. There was pre-planning and regional cooperation for this storm. The District up-staffed for this storm in addition to the second Battalion Chief and the SAM Lieutenant, which provided valuable resource deployment. Emergency Manager Capt. Riley was able to coordinate city services to assist with apparatus that became stuck.

Director Nielsen asked how medic units can respond before the streets were plowed. Chief Bybee replied that the District can use brush trucks in those instances.

I. Action Items

1. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR MURPHY AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR NIELSEN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - a) Approval of accounts payable checks 51053 through 51179 and online Bill Pay 2021-14 through 2021-21 for a net total of \$650,947.95.
 - b) Approval of minutes from the February 16, 2021 regular District Board meeting.

J. Attorneys' Report

Attorney Ross stated that he had submitted a written report. He is still looking at possible reimbursements for the Training Center water line. He provided a legislative tracker for the Board to review, and highlighted for the Board several of the bills that have been introduced in the current Colorado Legislative Session. There is a bill awaiting the Governor's signature that would allow the state to purchase a Firehawk helicopter to help firefighters suppress wildfires. There is also a bill entitled Forest Health Project Financing which would permit governmental agencies to establish multi-party contracts to establish governmental authorities. Those entities would then be authorized to establish a special improvement district for the purpose of levying special assessments on property in order to finance forest health projects. Attorney Ross is worried that

this bill is too broad and ripe for unanticipated abuse. He also mentioned Senate Bill 166, which establishes a State-wide mutual aid system, divided into four quadrants of the State.

Director Long asked how the Special District Association (SDA) determines its official stance on pending legislation. Attorney Ross replied that SDA has a legislative committee which discusses the bills and forms the SDA's official position. Controversial bills are referred to the SDA Board of Directors.

Chief Ramos asked about Senate Bill 160, modification to local government election codes. Attorney Ross agreed to look at this bill more closely. It appears to be a cleanup bill with technical changes.

K. Public Comment

Mr. David Feineman, resident of Skystone neighborhood in Broomfield, asked about a new fire station on the west side of Broomfield and whether this will be installed in the Verve Innovation Park. Chief Ramos replied that Chief Gosselin is aware that, as this neighborhood evolves, the District will look for a potential location for a new fire station. This area is still being developed with roads, and Chief Ramos is not sure how quickly any decision will be made.

Mr. Feineman asked about CodeRED and wondered why residents of Skystone were notified so late about the airplane incident in Broomfield. Chief Ramos replied that there was no immediate threat after the airplane parts fell from the sky. The CodeRED alert was sent out to protect the airline property.

Mr. Feineman commented on the brick art for Station 61. He anticipated that CAD-to-CAD would be live next month. Chief Ramos replied that he hopes the CAD-to-CAD system for ADCOM, Westminster and Thornton will go live in April. He reported that Broomfield is committed to the project and is making progress with their vendor.

L. Directors' Reports

Director Billera had visited the Broomfield plane incident site, where Chief Williams thanked him for the Board's approving the new second Battalion Chief position.

Director Murphy had also thought about the Battalion Chief positions over the snowstorm weekend. She noted that the Board's decisions make a difference.

Director Nielsen asked about text notifications when receiving District emails. He would like to discuss this more at a later date. Director Nielsen complimented Chief Gosselin on his presentation.

Director Long complimented Director Billera, Chief Ramos, CFO Willis and Heather Brown for their help with the Old Hire Pension Investment Advisor selection process. Director Long asked about the permit process for the pad for the trailers adjacent to headquarters. Chief Ramos replied that the City has been a great partner. There is ongoing work to prepare for this installation.

President Miller thanked Vice President Billera for running the February Board meeting in his absence. He thanked the Board for their support over the past months.

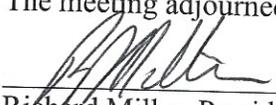
M. Executive Session

None.

N. Recess/Adjournment

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR MURPHY AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR NIELSEN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.



Richard Miller, President

Jenni Murphy, Secretary

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M. Executive Session

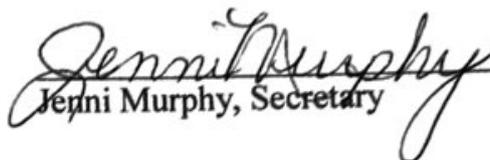
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Richard Miller, President


Jenni Murphy, Secretary