

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
NORTH METRO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
101 SPADER WAY, BROOMFIELD, CO 80020**

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

Date: June 15, 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
Eileen Gomez, Human Resources Manager
Sara Farris, Public Information Officer

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Dino Ross

A. Call to Order

President Miller called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Director Nielsen

C. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

None.

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

D. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

None.

E. Presentations

1. Oath of Office for Engineer Alberto Lopez

Chief Ramos welcomed Alberto Lopez and his family for the Engineer oath of office and badge pinning and introduced him to the Board, stating that Engineer Lopez is a pleasure to work with and has high skills. He had worked eight years in Florida as a paramedic and engineer. He has

been a contributor to the hazardous materials and wildland teams. Chief Ramos administered the oath of office to Engineer Lopez. His son, Adrien, pinned his badge on him. President Miller recognized the work and commitment it takes to get promoted.

The Board took a brief recess to enjoy refreshments with Engineer Lopez.

2. New Colorado Legislation Review

Attorney Ross discussed 20 bills that were passed by the Colorado General Assembly in 2021. He also discussed Initiative 27, which may be on the state-wide ballot for the November 2021 election.

There was discussion of HB21-1085, which addresses the transport of individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Chief Daugherty noted that all patients are transported to emergency rooms. This bill seems to be directed more towards law enforcement agencies. Director Long asked if there was funding for this bill. Attorney Ross replied that local agencies would not receive funding to implement this bill.

There was discussion of SB21-293, Property Tax Classification and Assessment Rates, as a response to pending Initiative 27. SB21-293 creates a two-year reduction in the residential assessment rate to 6.95. President Miller asked if the legislature had passed similar bills to preemptively legislate around a pending initiative. Attorney Ross stated he had not seen this before and thinks that there may be a lawsuit against this bill. Director Long asked what the Special District Association's (SDA) position was on this bill. President Miller stated that the legislation moved so fast that SDA didn't have time to weigh in. President Miller asked when the District would be impacted by the temporary reduction to the residential assessment rate. Attorney Ross noted that this would affect revenue income in 2023 and 2024.

F. Staff Reports

1. Public Information Officer Presentation

PIO Farris shared recent media exposures, including media coverage and photos of the tech rescue academy. The Broomfield Veterans' Museum hosted the Flag Day ceremony this year.

2. May 31, 2021 YTD Financial Statements – General Fund

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Willis reviewed the financial statements for the month ending May 31, 2021. She highlighted the revenue needed to cover overtime for the Broomfield vaccination clinics.

Director Long asked about cyber security and ransomware issues reported in the news. Chief Ramos replied that the District is working hard on securing the District's data and systems. IT staff are proactive to keep the District safe, with warnings of potential issues.

CFO Willis reviewed a chart of projected property taxes for 2023 and 2024 based on the new legislation. This legislation results in a decrease of \$600,000 in property tax revenue in 2023 and a reduction of \$700,000 in 2024. Director Long asked if the governor had signed the bill yet. Attorney Ross replied that the governor has not signed it, but he is expected to sign it. President Miller would like to know the impact of Initiative 27, should it pass in November. Chief Ramos promised more projections later in the fall. The state is estimating a 10% decrease in revenue for special districts if Initiative 27 passes. This would be roughly a \$3 million dollar revenue decrease

for the District.

3. CO Special Districts Pool Repayment Agreement

CFO Willis noted that the District had received notification from the Colorado Special Districts Pool regarding the Colorado Firefighter Heart and Cancer Benefits Trust (Trust). The Pool is asking for a reimbursement of the premium for the Trust if the District changes insurance providers. The District has no intention of changing providers and does not think this would be a problem. Chief Ramos added that Staff recommends signing this Repayment Agreement.

4. Hiring for 2021 Firefighter Academy

Chief Ramos advised the Board that Chief Anderson and HR Manager Gomez have been working hard to facilitate the hiring of the new recruits for the Academy. The District saw 46 paramedic candidates during the assessment center. The EMTs will attend the assessment later this week. Soon thereafter the candidates will participate in the Chiefs' interview, and conditional job offers will be presented. Last year, the District hired two firefighters above the authorized line staffing of 126 to cover unplanned separations. This year, Chief Ramos would like three above the authorized 126 to combat overtime and fatigue. Chief Ramos advised the Board that the formal approval for hiring additional line personnel will be through the budget process. The Board expressed support for hiring the three additional personnel.

5. Station 61 Rebuild

Chief Anderson shared the construction schedule proposed by Golden Triangle Construction. Start date is set for October 13, 2021. The temporary site will be built in July and August 2021, and the firefighters will move into the trailers in September. The completion date is estimated for July/August 2022. Director Long asked about the construction site at headquarters. Chief Ramos replied that Taylor Kohrs has been chosen to develop this site.

6. Station 62 Remodel

Chief Anderson noted that the concrete and asphalt in the parking lot are being replaced. The soil engineer recommended conditioning the soil before replacing the parking lot materials, which added \$40,000 to the project. There are still a few indoor projects underway. The remodel should be completed by July 5.

7. News and Other Project Updates

Chief Ramos updated the Board on the CAD-to-CAD project. The participating agencies are working out the bugs and testing the system. There has been accelerated progress on the Broomfield side. Chief Ramos is hoping that the project will go live by the end of the year.

Chief Ramos advised the Board that Captain Steve Pelster is retiring at the end of the month. The retirement celebration for Capt. Pelster and Lt. Eulberg will take place later this summer. Facilities Manager Eric Stewart is moving to Oklahoma and will be missed. Chief Ramos promised to invite the Board to a final gathering with Facilities Manager Stewart.

G. Action Items

1. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR LONG AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR NIELSEN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- a) Approval of accounts payable checks 51484 through 51600 and online Bill Pay 2021-40 through 2021-50 for a net total of \$465,702.53.
 - b) Approval of minutes from the May 18, 2021 regular District Board meeting.
2. A MOTION TO APPROVE COLORADO SPECIAL DISTRICTS PROPERTY AND LIABILITY POOL REPAYMENT AGREEMENT WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR BILLERA AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR MURPHY. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

H. Attorneys' Report

Attorney Ross stated that he had submitted a written report and a legislative update. He had reviewed routine contracts and a personnel matter for the District this month.

I. Public Comment

Mr. Dave Feineman, resident of Skyestone, noted that the sound quality of presenters at the podium was difficult to hear tonight on Zoom. He was glad to hear the CAD-to-CAD update from Chief Ramos.

Ms. Ashley Witkovich, City Councilperson from Northglenn, appreciated the hybrid format of the Board meeting. She congratulated Engineer Lopez on his promotion. She shared that Northglenn City Council had sworn in a new Ward 4 Councilperson. She invited the Board to attend Northglenn Pride Night on June 26.

J. Directors' Reports

Director Murphy enjoyed the in-person meeting. She enjoyed the swearing in ceremony for Engineer Lopez. She also enjoyed the legislative presentation by Attorney Ross.

Director Billera congratulated Engineer Lopez. He found the legislative presentation to be informative. He also enjoyed meeting in person.

Director Long thanked Attorney Ross for reviewing the new legislation. He appreciated CFO Willis' analysis of the impact of the new Assessment Rate legislation.

Director Nielsen asked about the starting time of future Board meetings. Chief Ramos confirmed that the Board meetings will begin at 4:00 p.m. for the rest of the year. Director Nielsen extended thanks to Eric Stewart for his work at the District. Director Nielsen asked about 4th of July fireworks in Broomfield. Chief Gosselin confirmed that these will occur in the Commons this year. Director Nielsen asked about the mural sculpture for Station 61. Chief Ramos replied that this design is still in progress, with more children in the design. He will bring back the revised design to the Board at the next meeting. Director Nielsen would like to meet the new Battalion Chiefs at a future Board meeting. Chief Ramos noted that he plans to bring all of the newly promoted firefighters to meet the Board over the next few meetings.

President Miller also enjoys meeting promoted employees. President Miller will miss Eric Stewart, especially his positivity. He enjoyed meeting Engineer Lopez. He thanked CFO Willis for presenting financial data. He is excited about the Station 61 rebuild.

K. Executive Session

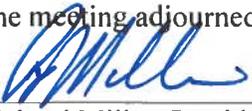
A MOTION WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR BILLERA AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR LONG TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:18 P.M. PURSUANT TO C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR NIELSEN AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR LONG TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

L. Recess/Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.



Richard Miller, President



Jenni Murphy, Secretary

I hereby attest that the Executive Session was confined to the topic authorized for discussion in Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f).



Richard Miller, President